

DRIVING YOUR SIGN: HOW CARS & HOROSCOPES CONNECT

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JT: Let's start with the four elements – fire, air, earth and water. As elements, fire is zippy and energetic, air is moveable, light and interesting, earth is solid and practical, and water is emotional, sensitive and reactive. So let's go to each category. Fire signs. In general, do any cars feel zippy and energetic?

CRC: *Well, there's a variety of cars that are energetic: sports cars, Corvettes, Aston Martins, BMWs, Dodge Vipers, Ferraris, Lamborghini's, Chrysler Hemis, Nisan 2X and of course the Porsches, and a whole host of European cars.*

Are they zippy and energetic because of their engines, or because of how they appeal or seem to people?

When I think of zippy, I think of power. A lot of sharp looking cars don't have big engines, so while they may be zippy, perhaps, as far as handling goes, they lack big engines and power. A perfect example is the Mazda Miata.

Power! Well, that's actually an important fire-sign word. So power is the thing for the fire signs – “zippy and energetic”. The next category is air; that's light, restless, curious, interesting, social...any cars come to mind?

Well, light and social make you think of convertibles (although actually convertibles are heavier cars than regular ones). Social? Maybe a Volkswagen Bug convertible. Chrysler makes a convertible, as do almost all the manufacturers. Light? There's a whole new variety like the Mini-Cooper, Honda Fit, Toyota Yaris and the Mini Nissan Versa, that are peppy...

...And the Mini-Cooper can also zig in and out of places.

The Mini Cooper is a very peppy car. Any small car is very good for zipping in and out of places, like Volkswagen Jettas (they're starting to get bigger, though – they used to be smaller), the old Triumph convertibles, the MGs, the new cars from GM – Saturn Skye and Pontiac Solstice – which aren't powerful but are peppy, maneuverable, and people wave to you in those kind of cars. And people are attracted to them because they're new and stimulate curiosity.

And cars that fit in a lot of people are sociable. Think of all the SUV's that are out there.

Then you have the whole class of Caravans and minivans that hold a lot of people. Back in the Hippie days, there were the Volkswagen buses.

Okay, then another category just generally is earth. Earth colors include khaki or taupe. Earth is the very solid workhorse, very practical vehicle, one that doesn't necessarily have frills but is just reliable, and utilitarian.

Then you're looking at something like trucks, vans, pickups. Strong, useful for work. Most of them don't have a lot of speed but they aren't designed for that; they're designed more for torque, more of a workmanlike vehicle. Or for holding a lot of material as for construction, or for hauling. You also have the Buicks, Chevy, Toyota, Ford and other sedans that are more designed for families.

Then there are the water signs, which always represents something emotional, responsive, sensitive, reactive, moody...or even psychic – which may not apply to any car!

Sensitive or moody? I think of cars like the Jaguar, which are very emotional, or the Ferraris, Lamborghinis, which are very temperamental.

And people buy them for emotional reasons.

Yes. Corvettes. Any kind of car with that kind of flair and design is a very emotional car. As a matter of fact, General Motors and Ford are heading in that direction because they realize that the boxy and nondescript cars they've been building aren't selling, and that they want to get back to their heydays of the Fifties and Sixties...

When people fell in love with their cars!

... And when there was always something new and refreshed and exciting. Back in the '50s and '60s, it was a big deal when all the new cars would arrive in the Fall. The dealers would soap up their window (with just a few peepholes) to build up excitement and anticipation. Nowadays, cars rarely change from model year to model year.

Let's go through each of the twelve signs and their keywords. Aries is first – a masculine fire sign ruled by Mars, God of War, meaning it's very assertive, impulsive and action-oriented. One of its colors is red. It's pioneering, not necessarily practical.

Those are several different categories. Masculine are the muscle and pony cars, like Dodge Daytonas, Cameros, Firebirds, Chevy Impala SS with super-sport engines, Chrysler with Hemi engines, brought back in the latest Chrysler 300C and Dodge Magnum. In talking about innovation, now some cars have cameras in the rear bumpers so you can see where you're backing up, or new features such as adaptive cruise control where if you get too close to a car in front of you, it automatically slows down, then speeds up again. Many, many years ago the Tucker had a headlight that turned and now some manufacturers are bringing back an updated version of it.

And how about the warrior aspect?

The Humvee would probably be the best example of that. Also the Range Rover, Tahoe, Dodge Ram. And maybe hot rods.

Some positive keywords for Aries are “leadership”, “strength”, “self confidence”...

You think of leadership, that’s CEOs, heads of corporations, self-made entrepreneurs. Years ago the standard used to be Cadillac and Buick, but these days, Mercedes, BMW, Maybachs, high-end Jaguars, of course you can’t forget the Rolls Royces and the Bentleys.

...”courage”, “assertiveness”, “fighting spirit”.

Hummers, off-roaders, four-by-fours. Vehicles that can traverse off road conditions, go over mountains. Jeep Cherokee, all the Jeeps. They were some of the first of that type.

Are there any special features that are lending themselves to these keywords: “energetic”, “trail-blazing”, “taking the initiative”, “being physical”?

There are whole new generations of transmissions that are six-speed but smoother, where you don’t really feel the gear shifts as much, even though they’re automatic. They’re going back to a concept that was pioneered by Cadillac in the Seventies, where these engines are eight cylinder engines, but because of the high cost of fuel, once they get up and running, they shut off four of the cylinders, and actually run on only four cylinders. And then when you need more power, you step on the accelerator and it kicks in. They also have automatic transmissions with paddles on the steering wheel that allow you to shift through the gears.

Some more words would be: “bold”, “eager”, and “individualistic”.

A Dodge Viper is certainly an over-the-top, very bold vehicle – a lot of power, and “Hey, look at me!” kind of thing. And very expensive as well. The Pontiac Aztec, which was bold and innovative in its own right, but such a weird design that it didn’t appeal to almost anybody.

So they pushed the envelope too far. All the signs have negative keywords too. So still on Aries, “self-centered”, “reckless”, “impatient”, “noisy”.

Two-seater sports cars are selfish cars. They bring lots of attention to their owners. For noisy, not so much today, but back in the Sixties when they had the glass-packed mufflers.

Junkers are noisy! How about these words: “arrogant”, “egotistical”, “domineering”.

Arrogant would be the original Hummer, which takes over the road and doesn’t care about its miserable fuel mileage. Same with some of the bigger vehicles like the Lincoln Navigator or the Ford Expedition. These were all huge gas guzzlers, hard to park. The Mercedes M Class, BMW’s, and Cadillacs also come to mind.

More negative Aries keywords: “clumsy”, “me-first”, “can’t relax”, “demanding”.

All the big ones are hard to steer.

How about a keyword, “competitive”? All the racing cars would fit into that category.

Yes, but the whole automotive industry is very competitive. They’re coming out with new models all the time. Years ago, you just had the Big Three, for the most part, and maybe the sporadic Volkswagen on the road. Now there’s an incredible amount of cars coming into this country. Besides the so-called domestic ones, of which a lot of the parts are made overseas. You’ve had the Japanese for a long time, and now you have the Korean Hyundai’s and the Kias, and down the road the Chinese will be coming here with cheaper models.

So “competitive” won’t be a bad word; for us it will be a good word.

So now because of the fuel prices, Toyota is making the Yaris, Honda has the Fit; Mazda has the Versa. And now Daimler-Chrysler is importing the Smart vehicle, some only 8 feet long for just 2 people, but they get tremendous gas mileage.

Okay, let’s move onto another sign – Taurus, an earth sign. Taurus is ruled by Venus, which is “attractive” and “luxurious”. It’s “stubborn” but “kind”, “materialistic”, “practical”, “reliable” and “patient”. Do any of those words call anything to mind?

Some of those things are oxymoronic, just as “practical” and “luxurious”. The luxurious cars are the Rolls-Royces and the Bentleys, Audi A-8’s.

Also, you could think of “your father’s car.” Those big, stately and sedate cars.

The big Buick sedans, the Oldsmobiles, the Cadillacs, the Crown Victorians, the Lincoln Towncars, and the Chrysler Imperials.

How about a car that’s very “enduring”, that “persists” and “doesn’t change a lot” over the years?

The cars that don’t really change a lot over the years are some of the high-end Mercedes – the S Class, the E Class, the Rolls’, and the Bentleys. All cars change over time, but some just don’t change that much. Or they change gradually over longer periods of time. A car that didn’t change for eons for the most part is the Volkswagen Beetle. And then they reintroduced it – it’s been quite a while since they did – and once again, they’ve hardly changed it since they reintroduced it. Rather than changes, they refined them instead.

Are there any features inside of cars now – or ever – that would be considered “enduring luxury”, “comfort”, and something that felt “rich”?

Certainly, getting air conditioning was once considered as something only for the rich, and appeals to comfort – although nowadays that’s almost standard in most cars. Extra padding, extra insulation, reduction of road noise, steel, ergonomic seats, even the ergonomics of the exterior that allows the car to slip through the wind. Some of the high-end sedans now have air conditioned seats, seats that can massage the driver, even rear seats that recline.

What brand names are most enduring?

Ford, Chevrolet, Buick, Mercedes, BMW have all been around for a long time. And European names such as Lancia, Fiat, Citroen, Opel, Alfa Romeo, and Volvo.

Here are some negative keywords for Taurean features: “self-indulgent”, “boringly static”, or “lacking in flexibility.”

The Volkswagen Bugs are pretty static – they don’t change that much. Self-indulgent would be very expensive, high-end vehicles like the Hummers.

Features that might not be practical but just for show... “wasteful”?

Like the Viper. Some of them get miserable gas mileage.

“Unoriginal”, “slow reflexes”. Any cars fit something like that?

Ponderous? Some of the Cadillacs and Buicks, the Imperial in its day, which were designed for a real soft, spongy, cushion-y ride. The steering didn’t give much feedback to the driver. There was too much power steering, and cars seemed to drift because they didn’t have that precise rack and pinion steering. Of course, the minivans and trucks are not the most nimble vehicles on the road, and are kind of clumsy, but that’s not what they’re designed for.

Okay, that fits Taurus. Now we have a different sign – an air sign – Gemini. This is also a masculine sign, and has a lot to do with the shoulders, arms, ears, hands, and the nervous system. And communications. So it’s very “versatile”, “agile”, “adaptable”, and “flexible.”

Some of the minivans, while they’re not so much flexible in driving, they way you can configure the seats to put plywood, surfboards or big-screen TVs in them, or you can put the seats up and then fit 6 or 7 people in these vehicles. Or you can use them for taking the kids and all their sports equipment to games. Or for car-pooling. The PT Cruisers even have a table in the rear you can set up for tailgating. The new Chevy HHR also is extremely versatile.

Other adjectives are “sophisticated”, “witty”, and “unemotional”.

When you think of the BMWs and the Mercedes – they're kind of unemotional. The Scion is designed more for kids and very flexible but not sophisticated. Same with the Honda Element. Nowadays they come with numerous ways that you can customize your car so that it's practically one-of-a-kind.

How about “doing two or more things at once”, and “showing variety”?

The Scion XB and Honda Element have been promoted as the dorm-on-wheels, where you can sleep in them, go off-roading, and hang out in them. They have optional sound systems, some of them have X-Boxes...

Communications signs such as Gemini like the sound systems!

...TVs, DVDs. It's phenomenal what they can have. Cell phones are hooked up. There are ports for I-Pods. Nowadays you can get an option in your car that's built into the rearview mirror where you can hook your cell phone up to the speaker of the car radio. And another innovation is the GPS system, which is becoming more and more standard. The new Dodge Caliper has the option of rear speakers folding down.

Here are some negative Gemini keywords: “changeable”, “restless”, “tense”, “easily bored”. Are there any cars that exhibit that “antsy” quality? Any features of cars that are constantly changing?

No, they don't change too much. They're evolving rather than constantly changing because it's too costly. They have to find a market for cars. When they come out with new designs, like the Honda Element or the Scion, that was a different look. They created a whole new car company, basically to fulfill the kids' needs (although ironically adults and senior citizens buy almost as many of them as the kids do).

Are there any cars that have “split personalities”?

There are many cars that are very powerful, very fast and loaded with luxury, and yet they're good for hauling a lot of kids, equipment and supplies. Examples would be the BMW X-5 and the Porsche Cayenne.

Do any cars fit the category of being “trendy”?

There are certain automotive trends through the years – front wheel drive, cab forward – that have come into play for awhile. Convertibles aren't necessarily trendy, but for awhile almost no one was making them. 1976 was the last year an American manufacturer (Cadillac) made a convertible, but then it became a collector's item for a short time. But then Chrysler came back with the LeBaron convertible about 10 years ago – and now every car company is making one. So it's not a new trend, but a trend that comes and goes. Another thing: now the trend is to rear-wheel drive, whereas for years it was front-wheel drive, because they find that rear-wheel drive cars are much better cars for drivers. The power is smoother, and the steering is easier.

So it might be that trends come and go, sometimes for good reasons, but trendy people would be the ones who jumped on the latest trends.

Yes, young trendoids would buy the new Pontiac Solstice, Saturn Skye and now the VW Eros, or people with money would buy the latest high end offerings. And they pay the price, too, because when the latest new cars come out, a lot of times the dealers put a premium on these cars (which people pay), and then a year later, or even less, when the newness wears off, that money is wasted.

What do you think is a trendy thing right now, if anything, that fits that category?

Back in the mid-50's Ford came out with a convertible with a folding hard top. Now Volvo, Pontiac, Mitsubishi, Cadillac and Volkswagen have them. Right now, some people are paying a premium for the Pontiac Solstice or the Saturn Skye. Years ago, Toyota came out with the MR-2, or when the PT Cruiser came out. It was the same thing. Or when a new model comes out, people will get on a waiting list. Almost any new car, looking at the statistics, they sell a lot the first year and then after they've been out for awhile, the sales dramatically taper off.

Moving on to a new sign, a water sign, Cancer, its characteristics are “feminine”, “very emotional”, “mothering”, “protective” and “sentimental”. Also, “family-oriented”.

Mothering makes me think of cars like Volvo, known for their safety, like their station wagons and SUVs or all minivans, made by almost all carmakers, which make you think of soccer moms. A car that's considered very female-oriented is the Volkswagen convertible Bugs. They seem to attract women by their shapes, and are known (politically-incorrectly) as “chick cars”.

I'm thinking also of cars with steel beams in the doors as well as air bags, especially side air bags, and “curtain” airbags over the side windows, as protective.

That's pretty standard now. Although Volvo pioneered much of that.

This sign doesn't have to be pioneering. It just has to “embrace and help” you. Cancer needs “security”, so the car has to “hold its value”. And it has to appeal to “sentiment”. Are there any cars that have that “See the USA in your Chevrolet” “American-apple pie” thing?

Cars that hold their value a lot are Toyotas, BMWs, and Hondas.

Here are some negative Cancerian traits: “easily hurt”, “vulnerable”. So what cars would not be that well shielded?

Any small cars, like a MiniCooper, the new generation Honda Fit, the SmartCar, or the Toyota Yaris, get great mileage because of their smallness but are not as safe. The

smaller the car, the less safe. (Although the Mini is supposed to be pretty safe.) And convertibles, if they don't have a rollover bar, aren't safe either.

Another negative keyword for Cancer is “being passive”. Can you think of any cars that are particularly subject to being dominated on the road, or not making their presence well known?

A lot of cars are not much noticed. Almost every manufacturer has an entry-level model – not too many features, lacking in style and design, what's called “econo-boxes”. There are a lot of those on the road, and you don't even see them because there's nothing memorable about them. There is a whole new generation of small, fuel efficient vehicles that will generate a lot of attention but are not very fast and powerful.

Now let's do Leo, a fire sign having to do with the ego. It's a sign that's full of “confidence”, “energy” and “pride”, and is the “show-biz”-y sign. Can you think of anything that fits that?

A lot of show biz people, like Paris Hilton, are drawn to the Bentley. Maybachs are big. Conversely, a lot of movie stars drive the Toyota Prius. But for the most part, cars with confidence are the big Mercedes, Rolls Royces, BMW 7-Series.

I'm thinking of a limo.

Well, limos are not owned so much as being chauffeured in one.

But that certainly speaks of being noticed.

With a lot of the Maybachs and Bentley S-Class, people have chauffeurs driving them. So they're regular cars but they can be chauffeur-driven too.

Other Leo traits are: “honest”, “creative”, “optimistic” and “dignified”.

For “dignified” you think of Rolls and Mercedes and Bentleys. And Cadillacs and even Buicks.

“Showy”, “theatrical” and “dramatic”?

Nothing beats the look of the Ferraris, Lamborghinis and Jaguars for drama. All the convertibles are showy. Pimp-mobiles. Custom cars with all the pin-striping and fancy wheel covers. Those are theatrical.

What features in the car would be considered very “showy” and “dramatic”?

I would say sound systems and electronics, like X-Boxes and subwoofers. The Excalibur when you open up the hatch. Sun roofs that open almost the entire roof.

Anything come to mind for a negative Leo keyword, “frivolous”?

Edsel, which was more hubris than frivolous. Through the years, there were cars that were designed without taking into consideration the market for them. More recently, there's been the Volkswagen Phaeton, where they tried to come out with this high-end car, but it was a Volkswagen. And people who would spend \$60,000 to \$80,000 on a car are the kind of people that want a name to go with it. And even though the car was as good as the other ones in that price range, it didn't have the cachet.

Well, that fits being “impractical” and “uneconomical” for the negative Leo keywords.

And sometimes you can have cars that are ahead of their time, like back in the Thirties with the Chrysler Airstream (which went the way of more aerodynamic designs) but they weren't ready for it. Or through the years, there's been the Tucker, which had a lot of features that they're now putting on some high-end cars, like headlights that turn when you turn the steering wheel. But at the time they just weren't accepted. The first Hummers certainly weren't economical.

Well, there's a sign that that will fit under – the sign of Aquarius.

Or the DeLorean too, for that matter.

Some other Leo negative keywords are: “arrogant”, “pompous”, “show-off”, and “needs attention”.

Pompous makes you think especially of Rolls Royce and Bentley.

How about, say, in the old days when the cars had big fins...

Well that was a trend; everyone bought cars with fins. That look was part and parcel of the jet and space age.

Maybe that was just America being show-off-y then.

Well, we tend to think of America as the world. I don't know much about European design. Sometimes their design was way out compared to us. Think of the Citrons from the '50's and '60's, the tiny cars which open from the front. Some had only three wheels.

Now we have the earth sign of Virgo. Virgo, associated with small animals and pets, is “very practical” and “perfectionist”, “orderly”, “purist”, “detail oriented”.

What comes to mind are the Volvos, the German cars, the Japanese cars. They're all known for being very detail oriented, efficient, well designed. You expect those cars to last and everything to work, to be relatively problem free.

Provide the service and not focus on the look. Some other words would be “cautious”, “quiet”, “modest”, “and fastidious”.

Well, cautious and quiet makes you think of the middle of the road cars like the Honda Civic or the Nissan Sentra. These were the lesser models, not showy or with many features but highly reliable and practical, but almost invisible.

Which is what some people are. Some negative Virgo words or ideas are “feelings of inadequacy”, “holding yourself to impossibly high standards” and “being critical”.

You could think of the current Volkswagen commercial where the guy in a Rolls Royce — with the girl pushing her hair back....or those cars where the guy says, “My father didn’t love me.” Small sports cars where you’re compensating to increase your masculinity...or conversely the muscle cars like Camaro, Mustang, and current ones like the Viper.

Well the Passat is going for a Virgo type that doesn’t want to be noticed or egotistical but wants ...

It has all those performance features without calling attention to itself. It has German engineering, etc., but doesn’t have the “Hey, look at me!” attitude.

Another air sign is Libra, which has to do with “romance”, “diplomacy”, “sociability” and “fashion”. It has to be classy but not too trendy.

The Mercedes convertibles all have premium materials such as leather seats and wool carpets. They’re romantic because they’re shown with young couples driving around having fun. The big European sedans all reek diplomacy.

What are certain things that would be very “fashionable”? Interior features, styling. Libra is big on “style”. That Azera we saw might be an example.

You mean something with a drop dead interior?

It doesn’t have to be drop dead, just beautiful.

Actually the Audis are known for their stunning and beautiful interiors.

What makes them beautiful?

The arc of the dashboard, the fine woods, the leathers they use, the way they integrate the sound systems, the dials, the feel of the dial, when you twist the dial you can feel the quality in it. Tactile...

Well, let’s use that word for Taurus. More about styling — what about the exteriors of the cars? Are there any cars you would consider particularly “beautiful”?

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. However, the Bentley is certainly a beautiful car. And who could deny the beauty of the great Italian Marquees?

Didn't you show me something where the roofline was really nice?

That was a Mercedes, a stunningly beautiful car. However, the swoop of the roofline cut into the rear headroom.

Some Libra negatives would be “dominating”, “disliking hard work”, “indecisive”.

Then you're looking at cars which you would never dream of taking off-road. For dominating, you'd think of a Hummer but you can go off-road with a Hummer — you can go to war with a Hummer!

The Hummer is too masculine and assertive to be Libran. What is a beautiful car which isn't a workhorse? A car which said beauty but was not expected to do much of anything?

Jaguar! A Jaguar convertible. Beautiful and graceful, but not practical. No room for anything even...any Jaguar actually, except maybe the X series. You wouldn't dream of getting the high end Jaguar dirty. But it takes a lot of hard work to own a Jag.

They exist for the beauty and style, to be seen.

To the manor driven! Also, you talked before about trends that come and go, and one of those is gas mileage. That is now becoming very popular and important again. Another trend is four-wheel drive for more and more cars now, in addition to just the trucks which always had that feature.

Scorpio is a water sign, which is “devil- or angel-focused”, “subtle”, “sexy”, “passionate”, often clad in black, associated with the mysteries of birth and death. I'm thinking of a hearse!

When I think of passion, I think of the Italian cars —the Maseratis, the Lamborghinis, or especially the Quattro Porte, with the beautiful leather interiors and seductive curves and lines. That's trendy. The Saturn Sky has the curvy, sexy, European look.

Is there anything that's “sleek” and/or “stealthy”?

Well, the sleek one is the Jaguar, the convertible. Jags are always sleek. Ford came out with a — we saw it at the car show — like a GT — very sexy, sleek. Sleek is a Ferrari, a Lamborghini.

More words are “intense”, “powerful”, “magnetic”.

Unfortunately, not too many American cars can be considered sleek. The sports cars – the Mustangs, the Corvettes, the Vipers, they're more power than sleek.

Viper is a Scorpionic word. Another word for Scorpio is “reborn”. Is there any car that died off or lost favor and then was “re-energized” in a new form or was transformed”...?

There are several examples of that. The Ford Thunderbird died off years ago and was resurrected, although it's not selling that well. The same thing with the Chevy Impala. That was a very popular model that was dropped. Now it's come back again and is a pretty good seller for Chevy. There are others...you could say the Oldsmobile has died out but I wouldn't be surprised if someday that comes back. Same thing for the Volkswagen Bug. They stopped making that in this country but continued to make it in the old style in Mexico but didn't sell them in the U.S. Then they were reintroduced as the new Bug. Also, the stylings of the Chrysler PT Cruiser and the Chevy HHR both harken back to a different era.

So they “regenerated”. Okay, some negative key words for Scorpio are “vindictive”, “jealous”, “vengeful”.

Those are more human characteristics.

Now we have a fire sign, Sagittarius. Sag is the archer and has to do with large animals – horses especially – and “adventure”, “sports” and “gambling”. It's very “extroverted”.

You could think of the Land Rovers and Land Cruisers for adventure. Almost any SUV has Sag qualities. When I think of extroversion I think of the hey-look-at-me quality, and a Ferrari or Lamborghini would fit there. Also the Vipers and Corvettes.

“Easygoing”, “outgoing”, “outdoors”, “loves to travel”.

Loves to travel...well I guess RV's!

Negative key words would be “gypsyish”, “nontraditional”, “scattered”.

The Pontiac Aztec is certainly a nontraditional car. Others would be the Saab and the Subaru.

There are cars with “horse” names in them and those are all related to Sagittarius, like Mustang...what else?

Well, the Mustang and Pinto and Camino had horse's names.

Capricorn is an earth sign which has to do with “status”, “achievement”, “honor”. It's “persistent”, “responsible”, “ambitious”. I would say that a Capricorn car would be “classy” but “not ostentatious”.

How about some of the Lexus, Infiniti, and BMW lines? They would be the high end that the Buicks and Cadillacs used to be. Most of those designs are luxurious but not ostentatious.

Capricorn likes “practical”, “value”, “good organization”, “good bones”, or “good structure”. Is there anything about any car that can make you think it “gets younger as it gets older”?

Some cars get more valuable as they get older....cars of the ‘60’s. A lot of Baby Boomers are buying the cars of their youth which they wanted but couldn’t afford back then. Thunderbirds, Camaros, even some of the Chevelles are going for high 5 or even 6 figures. The more popular cars are the ‘50’s and ‘60’s, the convertibles. Those are becoming very valuable as they get older. One car that was not very popular at the time but now is the expensive Dodge Challenger, and especially so the convertible version.

Some negative words for Capricorn are “cautious”, “slow to accept change”, “unoriginal”, “dreary”.

You can think of GM cars...Oldsmobile is now gone. For years, all their divisions had basically the same boring look. The same goes for the Chrysler “K” cars.

“Stuffy”.

There are lots of cars which are now gone because they just didn’t keep up. All of Oldsmobile, Cadillac has dropped a lot of car names in favor of others, like CTS, DTS, STS.

Aquarius is all about “freedom”, “electricity”, “progress”, “inventiveness”, “technology”, “science”. Its colors are neon, such as electric blue.

So many of the high end cars today are – like the BMW7 series — so new they came out with a system called the I-drive with an instructional booklet so thick and complicated that people couldn’t operate the car. The most expensive Mercedes, the BMW. That’s the trend but they’re getting too...

They’re getting “ahead” of themselves?

And they’re no longer fun to drive; they’re too hard to drive. They’re not intuitive. It’s like an athlete who can’t react when he has to think too much.

“Forward thinking”, “ingenious”, “individualistic”.

Well, the Maybach is individualistic because they’re custom-made. You pick out what you want. It has a wine cooler; the seats are air conditioned as well as heated, they’ll massage you.

Are there any cars or car features that can be called “humanitarian” or “earth friendly”?

The Prius, the Honda Insight, the Honda Fit, the Nissan Versa. These are all designed for great fuel mileage, to save the planet with low emissions. And they’re working on this; this is the future for all these cars, alternative fuels...

Some negative key words for Aquarius are “rebellious”, “inflexible”, “cold”, “unpredictable”.

Cold makes me think of certain Mercedes, German cars. Some of them are austere. They are very mechanical and efficient in their design.

I think of a Porsche.

Their raison d’etre is the driving experience, the luxury. You look at the dashes in those cars and they’re not the most warming. But they are full of passion.

Any cars or features that you would consider “unpredictable”?

What I would consider unpredictable is the first year of most car designs. When a new model comes out it hasn’t had the benefit of real world driving. Usually after the first year or two, the manufacturers iron out the bugs.

How about the GPS? The woman just told us about the GPS telling her sixteen hours when it was really eleven hours.

But I don’t think that many people have that yet. The Italian cars with the electronics were always unpredictable. English cars too.

Are there any cars or features which could be considered “controversial”?

Well, there’s this whole thing now about the hybrids where they have electric motors as well as batteries. They don’t get as good gas mileage as you would think, and yet they’re so expensive that even if they got somewhat better mileage it would take years and years, if ever, to recoup the extra money you have to pay for these things. And when and if gas prices come back down you’ll never recoup your money. But the reducing dependency on imported oil can be a reward in itself.

Now we have the last sign, the water sign of Pisces. It’s “mystical”, about “fantasy” and “dreams”, it’s a car that’s “psychic”, where you “need to be alone”. It’s a sign that has to do with “spiritual” things and “art”. Anything fit? Those hippie buses ...drugs... ”otherworldly”...?

Well, the SUV’s tout their off-road capabilities where you can get away from it all. And it’s certainly a fantasy for some people to think of driving a Porsche, Ferrari or Lamborghini.

Such as a “dream” and “fantasy” where it’s not really a practical car?

Something from a movie...cars that fly...Harry Potter’s car...Herbie cars...Flubber...

Negative Pisces is “lazy”, “gullible”, “impressionable”, “unrealistic”, “not good at handling money”...Anything where the price is pumped up?

Cadillacs are like that. Their values plummet quite a bit after a while.

Used cars!

A lot of people could be said to be unrealistic or too emotional about their cars! But for all their high price for gas and maintenance, cars allow such freedom, and sure beat the horse and buggy! You know, looking at cars this way is fun, and makes a lot of sense.

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JT & CRC: We hope you enjoyed our attempt to discover cars and their characteristics that fit each horoscope sign. Every sign has its positives and negatives, but it doesn’t mean that you are these... maybe your car has its own personality, expressing a trait that has nothing to do with you! However, since it can’t hurt to know the good and bad distinctions of your sign (knowledge is power, after all), here’s a listing you can use to avoid your Zodiac’s sign’s particular pitfalls. Remember in “driving your sign” to always have fun and be safe. We’d love to hear readers’ thoughts on what else fits each category.

SIGN	POSITIVE KEYWORD	NEGATIVE KEYWORD
ARIES	Leadership; strong, courageous, self-reliant, energetic, confident, assertive; trail-blazing; idea person; bold, eager, individualistic, spunky, ardent, competitive, speedy, spirited; action-oriented; (head, face)	Self-centered; impatient; reckless; noisy; arrogant; domineering; clumsy; egotistic; can't relax; "me first"; demanding; no patience to finish things; lose interest fast; opinionated; competitive; headaches or head injuries
TAURUS	Security-seeking, persevering, luxury-loving, contented, sensual, steady, kind, gentle, tenacious, trustworthy, enduring, practical, caring, composed; money-minded; stamina; (neck, throat)	Bullheaded; long-suffering; need true values; possessive; greedy; jealous; fear of loss; inflexible; acquisitive; extravagant; hoarding; indulgent; lacking detachment; conservative; gluttonous.
GEMINI	Curious, communicative,	Easily bored; changeable;

	witty, sociable, versatile, logical, adaptable, agile, glib, sophisticated, busy; multi-tasking; skillful, perceptive, analytical, diverse; (arms, hands, ears, chest, lungs)	scattered; restless; superficial; tense, neurotic; dislike routine; fickle; split personalities; dislike binding ties; dual; nervous; two-faced.
CANCER	Sensitive; family bonding; nurturing, protective, sentimental, tenacious; homebody; emotional; collectors instinct; domesticity; (breasts, stomach)	Passive; moody; elusive; side-stepping; easily hurt; lazy; self-centered, selfish; clams up.
LEO	Noble, creative, loyal, courageous; vitality; high energy; aristocratic, dignified, proud, honest, optimistic, talented; warm, affectionate; (heart, spine, upper back)	Won't delegate authority; egotistical; hard to be detached; arrogant; need stroking, flattery; vain; flashy, flamboyant; show-offs; rose-colored glasses; braggart; snobbish
VIRGO	Health-conscious, analytical, service-oriented, detail-conscious; purist; high standards; patient, orderly, thorough, modest, practical, hard working, fastidious, gentle, conscientious; (bowels, intestines)	Feel inferior; jittery; hypochondriacs; critical; feel inadequate; fault-finding; impossibly high standards.
LIBRA	Gracious, peace-loving, romantic, artistic; good at partnering; diplomatic, sweet, cooperative, outgoing, sociable, tactful, just, fashionable; balance-seeking; musical, fair-minded; (kidneys, ovaries, lower back)	Secretive; iron fist in velvet glove; dominating; self-willed; anything to be liked; dislike hard work; indecisive.
SCORPIO	Sexy, deep, probing, concentrated, strong, subtle, resourceful, passionate, magnetic, powerful, psychic; able to transform self; (sexual organs, eliminative organs)	Battle within self; vindictive, vengeful; sarcastic; jealous; resentful; stubborn; proud; don't get mad, get even!; problems in relationships; extremist; secretive.

SAGITTARIUS	Adventurous, philosophical, easy-going, extroverted, cheerful, optimistic, independent, spiritual, humanitarian, direct, athletic, intuitive, expansive, lucky, idealistic, honest, humorous, free; excelling at selling or counseling; reasonable; (hips, thighs)	Scattered; unorganized; undisciplined; superficial; glib; con artists; tactless; gamblers; hard to pin down; gypsyish; won't settle down; hucksters; non-traditional; procrastinators; the bachelor sign.
CAPRICORN	Entrepreneurial, organized, responsible, cautious, dutiful; leadership; ambitious, conscientious, persistent, patient, strong, dedicated, humble, structured, loyal, realistic, efficient, dependable; hard working; late bloomer; corporate; administrative; managerial, prudent; (knees, shins)	Worrier; cautious; fearful, insecure; slow to accept change; stifles originality; repressive; unsentimental; embarrassed by emotion; shy; cold; calculating; selfish; stickler for rules; false pride; materialistic; disciplinarian; "street angel, house devil"; pessimistic; social climber; dreary; opportunistic; seek power, control freak
AQUARIUS	Innovative, humanitarian, friendly, ingenious, magnanimous, individualistic, scientific, progressive, intellectual, sociable, curious, logical, inventive, fair, egalitarian; (ankles, legs, calves)	Rebellious; problems with intimacy and in marriage; inflexible; critical; demanding; cold, detached; unpredictable; impersonal; outrageous; stubborn; non-committal; controversial.
PISCES	Psychic, imaginative, spiritual, introspective, sensitive, sensual, compassionate, self-sacrificing, sympathetic, artistic, romantic, dreamy, mystical, gentle; (feet)	Moody; escapist; feel inferior, unworthy; self-indulgent; lazy; overworked; alcoholic or drug-prone; martyrs; gullible; impressionable; unrealistic; suffer through empathy; deep suffering; dependent; daydreamer; can't handle money well or drugs, alcohol; self-pity.

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