

Motherhood: It's

Every woman's approach to mothering is different and each brings a special gift to her children. *New Zealand Woman's Weekly* astrologer Franchelle Ofsoské-Wyber reveals what your star sign says about you as a mother

The Aries Mother

- The Gift of Independence

Filled with independence, the Arian mother wants to encourage these qualities in her children. Occupied with her own tasks and many interests, the Aries mother tends to raise her children as strong autonomous individuals who harbour the same self-sufficient streak as herself.

Although fiercely protective of her offspring, she prefers that they reach emotional maturity as quickly as possible and will encourage them to take care of themselves early on.

Babbling children is not for her and baby talk and coddling just aren't her style. She understands and relates to teenagers better than young children and tends to be more comfortable treating her offspring as though they are small adults.

The Aries mother doesn't enjoy a life sentence of housework and coffee mornings. There are places to go and people to see and she wants her children to experience it all. You'll see her at the gym, out jogging or engaged in a multitude of activities. She has a lot to do and she naturally expects her children to grow up adapting to her lively lifestyle and busy schedule.

The Taurus Mother

- The Gift of Stability

Down to earth, pragmatic and sensible, the Taurus mother has conventional family values and her priorities are to provide stability as well as safety and security for her children.

She raises her offspring to be both principled and ethical and believes in maintaining family traditions. In addition she demonstrates vast depths of maternal compassion and kindness and her children are often genuinely devoted to her throughout her life.

Kind-hearted and sympathetic, she can also be extremely protective, which can lead to a great deal of worry when her children start exploring the world with its inevitable perils and risks.

Although dedicated to helping her children achieve their highest potential, her main concern is giving them plenty of physical and emotional care and attention – but without over-indulging them.

The Taurus mother offers a safe haven of comfort for her offspring – she views her children through rose-coloured glasses and resolutely stands by them through whatever challenges life brings.

The Cancer Mother

- The Gift of Nurturing

She is the devoted mother of the zodiac. In her heart of hearts she may feel that taking care of children is what she is happiest doing. She usually enjoys being pregnant and derives a great sense of satisfaction from caring for her children – particularly when they are babies.

Protective by nature, she bestows the wonderful gift of nurturing on her children. She is not afraid to demonstrate her love or to teach her children how to express their feelings. She may choose to put her career on hold for motherhood or opt for the best of both worlds and choose a career where she can work from home.

The Cancer mother embodies the archetype of society's expectations of the traditional role of mother – homebaked biscuits, floury apron and the smell of dinner cooking.

The Cancer mum derives a great deal of satisfaction from doing things for her children. It is often hard for her to cope with her children becoming independent. But she often has a reputation for being the best-loved grandmother.

The Gemini Mother – *The Gift of Being Young at Heart*

Eternally young at heart, the Gemini mother has a Peter Pan quality about her. A busy bee, her life is always filled with diverse interests and activities. She naturally desires freedom and space and does not cope very well if her children are exceptionally demanding.

Likewise, she is not always in her element with baby paraphernalia such as nappies, bottles and prams. Motherhood can be enjoyable for her once she realises she doesn't have to obey the rules and conform to the myth of the perfect mother.

A real livewire, her effervescent personality, intelligence and adaptability can be mentally stimulating for her children. She enjoys young company and spending time with her offspring. Children love her fun-loving ways and often relate to her as though she was an older sibling. She understands the importance of information and knowledge and from an early age encourages her children to learn and to ask questions that will assist their education.



written in the stars

The Leo Mother

– The Gift of Confidence

This mother is confident in her own identity and her inner strength and self-assurance make her an excellent role model for her children.

A capable and strong-willed woman, she earns her children's love and respect. She has a heart of gold and supports them wholeheartedly as they explore their own special aptitudes and abilities.

Although she is genuinely devoted to her offspring and wants the very best for them, motherhood by itself is not necessarily enough for her. She may choose to limit the number of children she has in order to find time for other activities she feels passionate about.

While she is fun-loving and genuinely comfortable playing and clowning around with her children, the Leo mother is nevertheless not afraid to lay down the law and take an authoritative stance when necessary.

Underneath it all is a perceptive, loyal and compassionate woman who can be trusted to be there for her children in times of need.

The Virgo Mother

– The Gift of Integrity

Often traditional in her outlook regarding the upbringing of children, the Virgo mother takes pride in the smooth running of her home and family. She often sets impossibly high standards for herself as a mother and may worry about what people are saying about her mothering skills.

The truth is her parenting skills are usually impeccable. Her children are usually polite and well-behaved, clean, beautifully cared for and dearly loved.

Tidy and a perfectionist by nature, the Virgo mother can find it hard to cope with the real life demands of motherhood, such as a disorganised environment and the impulsive nature of children's behaviour.

She is the epitome of good taste and order and can be a stable influence on her children, encouraging them in the pursuit of excellence as they grow up.

With her integrity and honesty she instils sound moral values into her children. Her clear mind and logical rationale help her children to know the difference between right and wrong and she teaches her children the value of being sensible with money.

The Libra Mother

– The Gift of Poise

The Libra mother demonstrates an inner equilibrium and possesses a calm and poised manner. She has the ability to remain unruffled and even in the midst of challenging or chaotic situations – she manages to represent an ocean of calm to her children.

She unconsciously teaches them how to remain unfazed by stressful situations. Her social skills are usually finely developed and she has a great love of all that is graceful and refined. She takes great pains to teach her children to appreciate and value the good things of life.

The Libra mother is helpful and responsible, sweet and loving and wants to do her best for her children. However, she may experience some difficulty with babies and their unavoidable noise and distractions. Peace-loving by nature, she can be at a loss when it comes to coping with sibling conflicts and avoids discipline for the sake of peace and quiet. If the more humdrum tasks of motherhood are not her cup of tea, she shouldn't feel guilty about taking advantage of nanny or childcare services.

The Scorpio Mother

– The Gift of Wisdom

A woman with strong principles and powerful feelings, the Scorpio mother always tries to do her best for her children. She is very efficient in her approach to motherhood and can have unrealistically high expectations of herself – even giving herself unnecessary grief by wanting to be the perfect mother.

She likes to handle everything herself and seldom tolerates any interference, no matter how well-meaning. Scorpio mothers can feel quite protective, even possessive of their young offspring and rarely appreciate adoring grandparents or other relations expressing unsolicited views about the upbringing or welfare of their children.

The Scorpio mother spends much time encouraging her children towards higher aspirations and is willing to provide any support they need in the process. She teaches her children strength of purpose and an abiding sense of loyalty towards what they believe in.

Her wisdom and perceptive insight concerning the true nature of people and situations teaches her children how to see beyond surface appearances.



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The Sagittarius Mother

– The Gift of Vision

This is a real free spirit who takes to motherhood relatively easily. She usually derives a great deal of pleasure from parenthood. Possessing a fairly relaxed attitude, she rarely frets over trivialities and is seldom found going into a crisis or questioning her abilities as a parent.

She needs her freedom and likes to bring up her children in her own individual way. Possessing a delightful child-like optimism, she has a natural ability to relate well to children. She helps her children to realise the value of expanding their understanding and awareness of the world through study, exploring the unknown and being open to different world views and cultures.

While ensuring they receive the best schooling possible, she also values her children's physical and emotional development. This mother encourages her children to take up sports and other physical activities, from fishing to drama.

Being an excellent motivator, she instils a feeling of competence in her children. She recognises the wisdom of giving them the freedom to form their own opinions – understanding that each child is an individual.

The Capricorn Mother

– The Gift of Values

She is a serious, practical and organised parent who has traditional beliefs and strong principles – and runs her life accordingly.

Systems and structures work well for her and she teaches her children both personal accountability and the importance of law and order in their lives.

She has a strong sense of personal values. While giving them the best of everything, she also instils in her offspring a responsible attitude towards money and material possessions.

The Capricorn mother expresses her parental love in a down-to-earth and practical manner.

She does all she can to ensure her children get the best start in the world – ensuring they have access to the best education possible.

Her relationship with her children is often more friendly than maternal. She aims to assist her children's growth – in a personal and professional capacity – to ensure they fulfil their potential as they grow older.

She is supportive when her children excel in their activities and she delights in their achievements.

The Aquarius Mother

– The Gift of Truth

The Aquarian mother is unconventional.

She is a usually a fairly open-minded parent who is not into punishments or fixed rules and beliefs. Instead she teaches her children to seek truth and clarity through cultivating an objective, broad-minded, almost detached approach to the circumstances and experiences they encounter in life.

An intelligent individualist, she is spontaneous and values her freedom. She is also capable and conscientious and will work hard to fulfil her responsibilities to her children. Forward-thinking she encourages her children's individuality and will often teach them to become independent from an early age.

Highly perceptive, she is aware of the physical needs of her children when they are young and their emotional needs when they grow older.

She has the knack of being able to guide her offspring without pressuring them and is sympathetic to their problems and tolerant of juvenile mistakes.

The Aquarian mother knows how to make her children feel loved – for who and what they are – rather than for what others might like them to be.

THE PISCES MOTHER – The Gift of Magic

She is an emotional, compassionate and loving mother who has a vast capacity for love. The Pisces mum has a natural affinity with children and gets a great deal of pleasure from sharing their childhood world of wide-eyed wonder and enchantment.

She shares the gift of magic, marvelling with them over the miracles of brightly coloured butterflies, bedtime stories of angels, fairies and iridescent rainbows with pots of gleaming gold at the end.

An idealistic dreamer at heart, she also teaches her children the value and importance of creative and imaginative endeavours. She manages to refrain from setting impossibly high standards for her children yet at the same time she encourages them to reach for the stars while keeping their feet firmly on the ground.

Her natural intuitive abilities help her understand how her children think and feel and she always knows if they are tense or experiencing difficulty. She can feel quite insecure about her parenting skills, mistakenly feeling that other mothers somehow have it all together, while she struggles from one crisis to another.

