

The 12 Main Greek Gods and Goddesses

Greek **Zeus** / **Jupiter** Roman



- King of the gods and ruler of mankind
- Known for having many affairs with women and the tricks he plays to hide his infidelity from his wife
- Never helps liars or those who break their oaths

EAGLE



**OAK
TREE**



**THUNDER
BOLT**



Greek **APHRODITE** / **VENUS** Roman



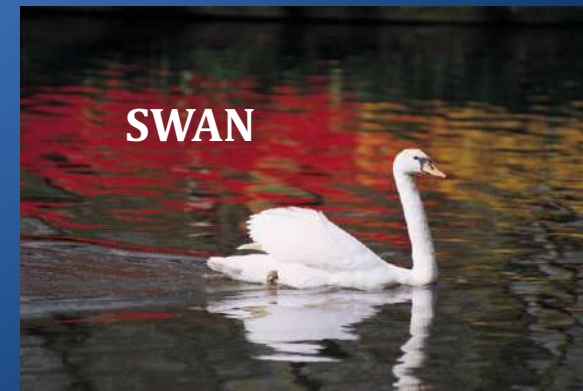
Known for her love and beauty, she loves laughter and even mocked those who her ruses had conquered. Without her there is no joy.

In later poems she is said to have sprung from the foam of the sea. The winds and storm clouds flee before her. Most mortals do not fear her, but later she shows to have destructive power over men.

MYRTLE



DOVE



SWAN

Greek **HERMES** / **MERCURY** Roman



- ~Winged sandals and hat
- ~Magic wand
- ~Tortoise

Known as the messenger god, he is also the shrewdest and most cunning. He gave Apollo his invention, the lyre, after stealing Apollo's herd. He is the God of Commerce and the Market which may have come about due to this trade.

He is the solemn guide of the dead, leading souls down to their last home. He appears oftener in mythology than any other god.

Greek **Hades** / **Pluto** Roman



**3-HEADED
DOG**

**CAP OF
INVISIBILITY**



Ruler of the underworld also know as the God of Wealth of the precious metals hidden in the earth.

He was not a welcomed visitor, but not an evil god.

He carried his wife, Persephone, away from the earth and made her Queen of the Lower World.

Greek **POSEIDON** / **NEPTUNE** Roman

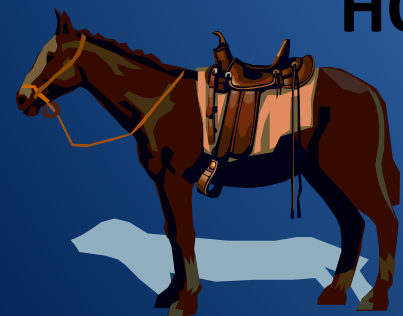


Ruler of
the Sea

Zeus' brother and second only to him in importance. He has a splendid place beneath the sea, but is often in Mt. Olympus.

He gave the first horse to man and is often connected with the bull, as were many other gods throughout poetry.

HORSE



BULL

TRIDENT



Greek **Apollō** / **Apollō** Roman

God of Light and Truth



CROW



LAUREL

He is the son of Zeus and Leto, called the most Greek of all the gods. He is beautiful and a master musician in playing the golden lyre. He is also known as the one who first taught man the healing art. No false word ever falls from his lips.



DOLPHIN

Greek **Hera** / **Juno** Roman

**Goddess of Marriage,
Protector of Women**



PEACOCK



COW

She is the wife and sister of Zeus and is a jealous goddess! She punished most women Zeus fell in love with, no matter how innocent they were. The Trojan War would have ended in peace has it not been for her hatred for a Trojan who judged another goddess lovelier than her. Nevertheless, she is the one married women turn to for help.

Greek **Hephaestus** / **Vulcan** Roman



God of Fire

ANVIL

He is the son of Hera and Zeus, the rulers of Mount Olympus. Some say possibly bore in retaliation for Zeus bringing forth Athena. He is known as the ugliest god, yet he is married to Aphrodite! He is kind, peace-loving and popular on earth and in heaven.

In later poetry his forge is used under volcanos to cause eruptions.



Greek **Ares** / **Mars** Roman

God of War and Son of Zeus and Hera, Ares is hated by his parents. Known as the most ruthless god, he is also the a coward who runs away when he is wounded.

He was not as hated in the Roman culture as with the Greeks.

He has no distinct personality and no cities where he is worshiped.



VULTURE

DOG



Greek **Artemis** / **Diana** Roman

Goddess of the Hunt and Wild and twin sister of Apollo, she is known as the “Lady of the Wild Things” and protector of the young. At times she was known to be fierce and revengeful but when a woman died a swift and painless death, she was said to be slain by Artemis silver arrows.



Deer



Cypress Tree



Greek **Athena** / **Minerva** Roman

Goddess of Wisdom and War only to defend the state and the home from enemies.

She sprang from the head of Zeus and has no mother and Zeus' favorite child.

She was chief of the virgin goddesses and later she is the embodiment of wisdom, reason, and purity.



OLIVE TREE

OWL



Greek **Hestia** / **Vesta** Roman

Goddess of the Hearth which is a sign of the home. Every newborn would be carried around the hearth before received into a home.

She is Zeus's sister. She has no distinct personality and she plays no part in myths.

In cities, there was a public hearth where a fire burn continuously scared to Hestia.

