

## APHRODITE

**Occupation:** Goddess of love and beauty

**Responsibilities:** Helping mortals and immortals to fall in love

**Powers:** Causing mortals and immortals to fall in love

**Symbols:** Rose, dove, sparrow, dolphin, ram, apple, myrtle



**Weapons:** A magic girdle that inspired love

**Home:** Mount Olympus

**Parents:** Zeus and Dione

**Married to:** Hephaestus

**Hobbies:** Flirting

**Interesting Information:** Aphrodite was born in the sea and rode to shore on a shell. She is usually pictured with a mirror.

## APOLLO

**Occupation:** Sun god; god of medicine, music, poetry, dance, math, herdsman, and prophecy

**Responsibilities:** Controlling the sun's daily movement across the sky

**Powers:** Healing, inspiring learning, making the sun rise and set

**Symbols:** Laurel tree, lyre, the number 7



**Weapons:** Bow and arrow

**Home:** Mount Olympus

**Parents:** Zeus and Leto

**Married to:** Unmarried

**Hobbies:** Known for killing many mythological monsters

**Interesting Information:** Apollo is Artemis' twin.



## ARES

**Occupation:** God of war

**Responsibilities:**

Waging war

**Powers:** Inciting conflict

**Symbols:** Dog, vulture, spear, flaming torch

**Weapons:** Spear

**Home:** Mount Olympus



**Parents:** Zeus and Hera

**Married to:** Unmarried

**Hobbies:** Violence

**Interesting Information:**

Among the other gods and goddesses, only Hades, Aphrodite, and Eros would speak to Ares. He was disliked for his violent temper.

## ARTEMIS

**Occupation:** Goddess of the moon and hunting

**Responsibilities:**

Protecting women, animals, and cities

**Powers:** Changing people into animals

**Symbols:** Cypress tree, dog, deer, bird

**Weapons:** Silver bow and arrow



**Home:** Mount Olympus

**Parents:** Zeus and Leto

**Married to:** Unmarried

**Hobbies:** Punishing hunters who killed more game than they needed to eat

**Interesting Information:**

Apollo's twin, Artemis was known to be very independent.



# ATHENA

**Occupation:** Goddess of wisdom and war

**Responsibilities:** Giving wisdom, inspiring inventions, protecting Athens

**Powers:** Changing herself into other shapes and forms

**Symbols:** Owl, olive tree

**Weapons:** Lance, shield, fringed cloak

**Home:** Mount Olympus



**Parents:** Zeus and Metis, a Titaness

**Married to:** Unmarried

**Hobbies:** Patron goddess of Athens; invented math

**Interesting Information:** Athena accidentally shot her childhood friend Pallas with a bow and arrow, so she is sometimes called Pallas Athena.

# DEMETER

**Occupation:** Goddess of agriculture, guardian of marriage

**Responsibilities:** Controlling the harvest

**Powers:** Able to make plants and trees grow or die

**Symbols:** Torch, sheaf of wheat or barley

**Weapons:** None

**Home:** Mount Olympus



**Parents:** Cronos and Rhea

**Married to:** Unmarried

**Hobbies:** Disguised as an old woman, Demeter roamed the earth rewarding some cities with good harvests and punishing others with poor harvests.

**Interesting Information:** Demeter created the four seasons.



## DIONYSUS

**Occupation:** God of wine and parties

**Responsibilities:** Cupbearer to the gods

**Powers:** Creating happiness or unhappiness for mortals

**Symbols:** Grape vine, ivy wreath, rose, drinking vessel (cup)

**Weapons:** None

**Home:** Mount Olympus



**Parents:** Zeus and Semele, a mortal

**Married to:** Unmarried

**Hobbies:** Attending parties; teaching mortals how to grow grapes and make wine

**Interesting Information:** Dionysus became associated with drama. He is the youngest of the Olympian gods.

## HADES

**Occupation:** God of the dead

**Responsibilities:** Ruling the underworld; guarding the dead

**Powers:** Causing death

**Symbols:** Cornucopia

**Weapons:** cap of invisibility

**Home:** The underworld

**Parents:** Cronos and Rhea



**Married to:** Persephone

**Hobbies:** Riding in a gold chariot drawn by black horses

**Interesting Information:** He is Zeus' brother. The underworld is sometimes called Hades. Hades himself was very wealthy, as he owned all the precious stones and metals found in the earth.



## HEPHAESTUS

**Occupation:** God of blacksmiths, craftsmen, and fire

**Responsibilities:** Granting power to blacksmiths; helping mortals to create useful items

**Powers:** Able to create objects with magical properties

**Symbols:** Axe, tongs

**Weapons:** Blacksmith tongs, hammer

**Home:** Mount Olympus, but his forge is in the crater of Mount Aetna, a volcano in Sicily



**Parents:** Zeus and Hera

**Married to:** Aphrodite

**Hobbies:** Famous creations include Achilles' weapons, Odysseus' weapons, Heracles' shield, Agamemnon's scepter, and Harmonia's necklace

**Interesting Information:** Because he was born ugly, his mother threw him from Mount Olympus. He lived in the sea for nine years.

## HERA

**Occupation:** Queen of the gods; goddess of women and motherhood

**Responsibilities:** Watching over women

**Powers:** Commanding the winds

**Symbols:** Peacock, pomegranate

**Weapons:** Trickery, deceit

**Home:** Mount Olympus

**Parents:** Cronos and Rhea



**Married to:** Zeus

**Hobbies:** Punishing the goddesses and mortal women that Zeus pursued, punishing their children, ordering other gods to help her inflict her punishments

**Interesting Information:** Hera spends much of her time chasing after Zeus, his lovers, and their children. Thus, she travels frequently throughout the world.



## HERMES

**Occupation:** Messenger of the gods; god of dreams, commerce, treaties, inventions, science, art, and oratory

**Responsibilities:** Patron of voyagers and thieves; delivers the gods' messages; escorts the dead to the underworld

**Powers:** Traveling anywhere instantly

**Symbols:** The number 4, a staff with wings, the caduceus

**Weapons:** None; Hermes' staff bore a white ribbon,



which marked his neutrality in any conflict.

**Home:** Mount Olympus

**Parents:** Zeus and Maia, a Titaness

**Married to:** Unmarried

**Hobbies:** Creating mischief; As an infant, Hermes stole Apollo's cattle but Apollo forgave him when Hermes invented the lyre for him.

**Interesting Information:** "Hermes" means hastener.

## HESTIA

**Occupation:** Goddess of the hearth and marriage

**Responsibilities:** Protector of orphans and the home

**Powers:** None, although she held great influence with the other gods and goddesses

**Symbols:** None, but almost every home had a shrine to her

**Weapons:** None

**Home:** Mount Olympus



**Parents:** Cronos and Rhea

**Married to:** Unmarried

**Hobbies:** Protecting homes

**Interesting Information:** As the most sacred of the Olympians, Hestia was considered too good for gossip. She eventually gave up her throne to Dionysus to tend the palace hearth.



## POSEIDON

**Occupation:** God of the sea

**Responsibilities:** Overseeing the oceans and navigation

**Powers:** Causing and quelling earthquakes, storms; rousing sea monsters

**Symbols:** Horse, dolphin, pine tree

**Weapons:** The trident, a three-pronged spear



**Home:** Mount Olympus and all bodies of water

**Parents:** Cronos and Rhea

**Married to:** Amphitrite

**Hobbies:** Riding a gold chariot with white horses

**Interesting Information:** He was Zeus' brother. He invented the horse and the dolphin.

## ZEUS

**Occupation:** King of the gods

**Responsibilities:** Ruler of Mount Olympus, Earth, and sky; ruler of all mortals and immortals

**Powers:** Can change himself into any form; can banish others to the underworld or bestow immortality

**Symbols:** Eagle, oak tree

**Weapons:** Thunderbolts, lightning



**Home:** Mount Olympus

**Parents:** Cronos and Rhea

**Married to:** Hera

**Hobbies:** Courting goddesses and mortal women; hiding from Hera; administering justice among mortals and immortals

**Interesting Information:** Zeus led the new gods, many of whom were his siblings, to victory over the Titans. He built the palace on Mount Olympus.