**Dark Moon Magic**

These are the two or three days when the sky is dark and you cannot see the moon at all, hence the term ‘dark.’ Often considered to be part of the new moon phase, but I like to keep them separate. I think the dark moon has magic all its own.

The moon is facing fully the sun, showing its dark side to the earth (must be a Darth Vader joke here somewhere).

This phase has also been referred to as the ‘dead moon.’ This phrase is represented as the crone aspect of the goddess. The wise woman full of knowledge and magical mystery. The dark moon provides an opportunity for introspection and inner work. It also allies nicely with shadow work.

Some choose not to work magic on the dark moon, but I have found it to be very successful especially if it focuses on personal growth and insight. Look to divination and mediation for insight into your inner self. Take time to really see yourself how others do and to take stock of how you treat other people and yourself. Why do you act and react as you do?

**Dark Moon energy**

Contemplation, inner work, planning, plotting, and looking ahead. This is really ‘you’ time, make the most of looking after and doing things for yourself.

Good for addictions, change, divorce, enemies, justice, obstacles, quarrels, removal, separation, stopping stalkers and theft. Universal love of self and others. Draws love to you and removes sorrows and past hurts. Calming, protective, serene. Improve relationships.

Also, a good time for divination.

When the last quarter of the moon has disappeared write the name of something you wish to decrease on to the side of a black candle and burn it every night until the new moon. (Be careful here, you might want to state ‘and harm none’).

Leave your altar bare of flowers currently.

Burn only dark colored candles or none.

Use somber incense such as myrrh and patchouli.

Raise energy by slow drumming or changing or keeping your rites low key.

Call on the wisdom of the crone goddesses.

Use this time to eliminate or banish bad habits.

You may feel more like meditating and being alone. Clear spaces of all descriptions and make endings. Some people favor scrying and meditation with the Dark Moon because it is a more inward time. The insights you glean now will have a deeper more insightful quality, whereas like Full Moon they may be more obviously creative.

**Dark Moon colors**

Black, dark purple, dark blue

**Dark Moon Crystals**

Obsidian, Apache tears, rainbow obsidian, chrysocolla, fluorite, jet, labradorite, red jasper, selenite, snow quartz, zircon.

**Dark Moon herbs, oils & incense ingredients**

Myrrh, bay, frankincense, jasmine, rose, elder, damiana, angelica, sage, borage, cinnamon, marigold, mugwort, rowan, saffron, star anise, thyme, camphor, dandelion, pomegranate, patchouli, and yarrow.

**Dark Moon oil recipe:**

* Seven drops jasmine essential oil.
* Three drops of patchouli essential oil
* One drop sandalwood essential oil.

Add to a base oil such as sweet almond or grape seed (about 15mls of carrier oil should be about right).

**Dark Moon incense recipe:**

* 1-part dried jasmine flowers
* 1-part myrrh resin
* 1-part dried rose petals
* ½ part dried elder leaves
* A few drops of myrrh essential oil

**Dark Moon Spell to Protect Your House**

This one is seriously easy and will place your home in a protective shell.

The only item you need for this spell is your own power. Sit quietly in the center of your home, relax, and center yourself. Get a visualization of your house into your mind, take in all the details then drawing on energy from Mother Earth see a ring of powerful white protective light come up from the earth around the boundaries of your property, watch as it grows upwards and forms a protective bubble around your home.

The protective shield is now in place around your house, every so often when you have a moment just sit and strengthen the shield with your mind and the power of Mother Earth energy.

**Dark Moon Spell to Move Forward**

Life lessons can occasionally leave us floundering and wondering how to pick up the pieces and move on with life, this spell should help.

What you need:

A photograph of your ex (if a person was involved or an image of the situation that caused your life to fall apart)

A cauldron or fireproof dish

A sprig of leaves or herbs of your choice

A small pouch or bag (I use the little wedding favor bags you can pick up easily from craft stores or a small pouch made from felt)

Set light to the corner of the photograph and drop it into the cauldron to burn. Watch the flame and visualize all the pain, hurt, and anguish you have experienced being released from you. Keep visualizing the smoke from the flame taking those negative energies away. When you are ready take the sprig of herbs/leaves and hold them in your hands, send whatever negative energies you have remaining into those herbs then bring your hands up to your forehead and visualize happy and joyful images replacing the hurtful and negative ones.

End by putting the herbs and ashes of the photograph into the pouch or bag, take it away from your house and bury it (I also find that throwing it in the dustbin the day the bins are emptied works too, as the dustbin truck takes care of removing it for me!).

When you dispose of the pouch take a minute or two to remember the good times you had before trouble set in.