

GREEK AND ROMAN GODS AND GODDESSES

NAME	FUNCTION	ANIMAL(S) AND PLANTS	ASSOCIATED SYMBOLS IN ART	ROMAN EQUIVALENT
Zeus	King of the Gods Father of men; Sky God; Lightning and Thunder	Eagle	Usually bearded; may hold a thunderbolt	Jupiter
Hera (Here)	Queen of the Gods; i/c married women, childbirth		sometimes matronly- looking; may wear the polos (pill-box headdress)	Juno
Hades	King of the Underworld		Bearded, older	Pluto
Poseidon	King of the sea	Various sea creatures	Bearded, older. Usually has a trident	Neptune
Hephaistos	Blacksmith of the gods; i/c crafts and technology		Sometimes has the tools of his trade - hammer, anvil, tongs.	Vulcan
Aphrodite	Sexual love	Dove;	Nothing special; in later art she is naked or nearly so. (NB married to Hephaistos, had an affair with Ares - and others)	Venus
Apollo	Archery, prophecy, healing (and plague) music esp. the lyre		Portrayed as young, usually has a bow, sometimes a lyre.	Apollo
Artemis	Hunting	Hunting dogs	Portrayed as young, usually with a bow. Often has skirt hitched up to knees and hunting boots. NB sister of Apollo; a virgin	Diana
Athena (Athene)	Wisdom; womanly crafts; war.	Owl; olive tree	Wears helmet, aegis (short fringed cloak), breastplate (or shield) with gorgon head. NB a virgin.	Minerva
Hermes	Messenger of the gods, guides souls to Hades; i/c luck, merchants, thieves.		Usually wears a round hat with brim; winged sandals; special wand (rhabdos)	Mercury
Dionysos	Fertility, wine	Large cats (tiger, panther), ivy, vine, myrtle.	Youthful; usually depicted with vines or ivy; sometimes has thyrsos (wand tipped with ivy or myrtle).	Bacchus
Demeter	Fertility	Corn	Nothing special	Ceres
Hestia	The hearth and home.		NB a virgin.	Vesta