

DON'T DO ANYTHING.....without reading business astrologer Ashleigh D. Johnson's map of the month ahead

Etc.
Horoscope

Johnson's weekly e-mails are free a month. She also offers a \$500 "business clarity session" including a consultation on how to get the most for your investment. ashleighdjohnson.com

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May 9 is Lost Sock Memorial Day, according to the Internet. But don't mourn too long. Justin Berkowitz, Bloomingdale's men's fashion director, suggests playing not just with color, but also with texture when it comes to office-appropriate socks. He recommends:

- Cole Haan** Pique-knit sock (\$12.50)
- Paul Smith** crew-sock sock (\$25)
- Stance** Invisi-Moon liner sock (\$12)
- White Striped** London expedition sock (\$24)

All available at bloomingdales.com

TAKE IT EASY IN THE FIRST COUPLE WEEKS OF MAY.

With Jupiter, Mercury, Mars, and Saturn in retrograde at the start of the month, now is the time to keep current clients happy, not chase new ones. Things will start to open up around the 6th, when a new moon in Taurus prompts you to start reassessing your resources—both personal and material. If that's making you glum, hang on until the 9th, when risk-loving Jupiter exits the house of penny-pinching, detail-oriented Virgo. Armed with self-knowledge and with lucky Jupiter on your side, you should take advantage of this great time to make a play for the corner office or nail a pitch meeting. That said, with Mars, the planet of action and forward motion, in retrograde until July, Q2 isn't the best time to launch something unless you're comfortable with it backfiring or just gradually losing steam. To make matters even more complicated, Jupiter faces off with Saturn, the planet of hard work and responsibility, on the 26th. When luck and discipline are at odds with each other, the stock market is bound to take a hit, so keep an eye on your portfolio until June 18, when the planets disengage. On the bright side, this may also help you realize weaknesses in your and your company's positions. What doesn't kill you makes you stronger.

Retrograde adj., in planetary motion, when a body appears to be moving backward, an illusion caused when earth passes slower planets in their orbits, causes chaos and confusion.

When the planets are in retrograde: **Jupiter**, every 13 months; **Mercury**, three times a year; **Saturn**, once a year; **Mars**, every 26 months

There have been noteworthy crashes in May, including the panics of 1837 and 1901 and the 2010 "flash crash," when the Dow Jones industrial average plunged almost 1,000 points in five minutes. Conventional wisdom says, "Sell in May and go away," describing how bankers disappear to their Hamptons houses and trading slows. Either way, most current market signals are decidedly bearish.

Shuart Friedman, whose CreatorPro app gives real-time feedback on presentations, says even seasoned presenters sometimes think they're beyond having to practice. Not true, he says: "Did you see the Warriors? They didn't win 73 games in a season because they stopped getting coached."

Flash Crash: May 6, 2010

1 p.m. 2 p.m. 3 p.m. 4 p.m.

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Erica Russo, Bloomingdale's fashion director for accessories and beauty, suggests:

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