

5	r Raidho	5	ᚱ Raeidh	riding	REIÐH: riding, it is said, is the worst for horses; Reginn forged the best sword. (old Norse) RAD: Riding for a hero inside the hall is soft, more strenuous when astride a great horse pounding the long mile paths. (old English)
6	k Kenaz	6	ᚔ Kaun	sore, ulcer, torch, light, "ken", "cunning"	KAUN: sore is of children a curse; grief makes a man pale. (old Norse) CEN: the Torch, familiar to the living aflame, is blinding and brilliant; it burns most often where royal folk are at rest within. (old English)
7	g Gebo			gift, giving and receiving	GYFU: Giving, to men, is an ornament displaying worth – and to every outcast without any other is substance and honour. (old English)
8	w Wunjo			joy, perfection, "wish"	WYN: Joy is for one who knows little of woe, unhampered by sorrow he will have bright fruits and bliss and buildings enough. (old English)
9	h Hagalaz	7	ᚕ Hagall	hail	HAGALL: hail is the coldest of grains; Hropt shaped the world in ancient times. (old Norse) HA EGL: Hail is whitest of grains. It whirls from the sky whipped by the gusting wind. (old English)
10	n Nauthiz	8	ᚗ Naudhr	need	NAUÐH: need makes for a difficult situation; the naked freeze in the frost. (old Norse) NYD: Need is a tight band on the breast, but it often can be turned into an omen of help, if attended to early. (old English)
11	i Isa	9	ᚖ Is	ice	ISS: ice, we call the broad bridge; the blind need to be led. (old Norse) IS: Ice is over-cold, very slippery. it glistens like glass, most like a jewel, a floor made of frost, fair to see. (old English)
12	j Jera	10	a Ar	harvest, year	ĀR: good harvest is the profit of men; I say that Froðhi was generous. (old Norse) GER: the Season is hopeful when heaven's king allows the fields to blossom forth a bright abundance for rich and poor. (old English)
13	l Eihwaz			yew, bow	EOH: Yew on the outside is an un-smooth tree, but strong and firm, the fires' guardian, upheld by deep roots, a joy to the home. (old English)
14	p Pertho			lotbox, birth, secret	PEORTH: a lively Tune means laughter and games where brave folk sit in the banquet hall, birth-giving wives blithe together. (old English)
15	z Algiz			elk's sedge	EOLH-SECG: Eel-Grass grows most often in fen, waxes in water, grimly wounds, burning with stripes of blood the one who tries to get a grip on it. (old English)
16	s Sowulo	11	᚛ Sól	sun	SØL: sun is the light of the lands; I bow to the holiness. (old Norse) SIGEL: the Sun to seafarers always means hope, when they ferry across the fishes' bath till the horse of the sea brings them to harbour. (old English)

17	t Tiwaz	12	t Tyr	Tyr, Tir	TYR: Tyr is the one-handed among the Æsir; the smith has to blow often. (old Norse) TIR: Tir is a special sign. With princes it keeps faith well, is ever on course over the night's dark; it never fails. (old English)
18	b Berkano	13	b Bjarkan	birch-twig, birch	BJARKAN: birch twig is the limb greenest with leaves; Loki brought the luck of deceit. (old Norse) BEORC: the Poplar is fruit-less, even so puts forth shoots without seeding, has shining branches high in an ornamented helmet, laden with leaves, in touch with the sky. (old English)
19	e Ehwaz			horse	EH: the Horse before peers is a princely joy stepping out proudly when spoken of by wealthy riders all around him – and to one who's unquiet he is ever a comfort. (old English)
20	m Mannaz	14	m Madhr	man/woman	MADHR: man is the increase of dust; mighty is the talon-span of the hawk. (old Norse) MAN: a Man in his gladness is dear to his kinsman; yet each must fail the friend he loves for the lord in his judgment will allot that unfortunate flesh to the earth. (old English)
21	l Laguz	15	l Logr	water, lake	LOGR: water is that which falls from the mountain; tis a force; but gold tokens are costly things. (old Norse) LAGU: Water to lands-men seems overly long if they must go on the galloping ship, and the sea-waves scare them excessively, and the horse of the sea heeds not his bridle. (old English)
22	N Ingwaz			Ing, son of, Yngvi (Frey)	ING: Ing at first was seen by folk among the East Danes, till afterwards he went over the waves, followed his wagon. thus the Hearding named this hero. (old English)
23	d Dagaz			day	DAEG: Day, God's message, is dear to men: the great lord's light means gladness and hope to rich and poor, a profit to all. (old English)
24	o Othila			estate, inherited land	ETHEL: Home is beloved of everyone human, if there he may properly and in peace enjoy in the hall a frequent harvest. (old English)
		16	R Yr	yew, bow	YR: yew is the greenest wood in Winter; there is usually, when it burns, singeing. (old Norse) YR: the Bow is a joy to princes and nobles, a reminder of worth, looks well on a steed, quick in its course, fine equipment. (old English)

The fonts used above: The elder futhark: "Old Germanic Runes" by Dan Smith
(<http://www.geocities.com/fontmaster.geo/runes/germrune.htm>)

The younger futhark: "Runar" by Per Olof Rizell which is the Swedish variant
(<http://www.hit.uib.no/Runefonter/OtherFonts.html>)

Learn More: Books

Bauchatz, Paul, *The Well and the Tree: World and Time in Early Germanic Culture*, University of Massachusetts Press; Amherst

Elliot, R.W.V. *Runes*, Manchester University Press, Manchester, England

Flowers, Stephen *Galdrabok : An Icelandic Grimoire*, Samuel Weiser, York Beach, Maine

Page, R.I. *An Introduction to English Runes*, Methuen and Co., London

Websites (in no particular order):

A Look at the Known Rune Poems (KEWEL RISTAR'S LOREBOK):

<http://members.tripod.com/~kewelristar/tru/poems.html> - Source of the translations quoted above.

Arild Hauge's Runes and Viking Page: <http://www.arild-hauge.com/eindex.htm> - Covers development of regional variants, discussion and photographs of inscriptions, photos of 1328 Gotland Runic Calendar, Odin's Galder Songs, English translations of various sagas and other primary sources, and more.

Sagnanet: <http://saga.library.cornell.edu/> - Icelandic medieval literature: Images of manuscripts and books published before 1901

Runstenar / Ingrid and Urban's Viking age Rune stones: <http://www.canit.se/~griffon/diverse/runes/> - Uppland rune stones and futhark variants

Kalle Runrístare (Kalle, the Rune stone carver): <http://www.runrístare.se/english/index.html> - Gallery of modern day runestone carver (the big memorial stones, not the little single rune tiles), also contains photos of old runestones. There is a section only in Swedish on "how to carve your own runestone".

Drakkar: Viking Photogallery: <http://www.mar-de-cristal.com/drakkar/photo.htm> - One of the sections has some runestone photos, especially good for seeing the artwork that went along with the runic inscriptions

Ragnar's Ragweed Forge (Viking Page): <http://www.ragweedforge.com/vik.html> - This SCAdian reviews viking, rune, and viking pagan pages. The various rune poems are reproduced at this site as well

Ravensgard Viking Age Runes page: <http://www.ravensgard.org/gerekr/runic.html> - a good brief history. Also a runic bibliography and more at <http://www.ravensgard.org/gerekr/norse.html#rune> (Ravensgard is SCAdian)

The Runic Journey by Jennifer Smith (Runesmith): <http://www.tarahill.com/runes/index.html> - A very attractive site introduces history, meanings, divination and magic. She also has an excellent reading list page (see below).

Runic Reading List (Jennifer Smith/Runesmith): <http://home.ica.net/~runesmith/bibliogr/bib.html>

Some Thoughts on the Origin of the Futhark by Steve Pollington:

<http://www.kami.demon.co.uk/gesithas/runes/origins.html> - Summarizes origin theories and presents its own.

Northvegr: <http://www.northvegr.org/> - Although a Heathen site, this is a major source of dozens of primary texts. It also has detailed reviews of books in the Leidstjarna: Journal of the Northern Star section.

Old Norse for Beginners by Haukur Þorgeirsson and Óskar Guðlaugsson: <http://www.hi.is/%7Ehaukurth/norse/>

Mal Vikinga: Course in Runic Swedish by Peter Pettersson: <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/1327/>

Runes: Alphabet of Mystery: <http://www.sunnyway.com/runes/> - Sunny provides a number of articles, including such topics as runic tattoos, and annotated lists of runic websites.

Kids' Runes: <http://members.aol.com/theforum/jordsvin/kidsrunes.htm> -written at a level kids can understand.

Asatru/Heathenry (With these sources, you will find information on runes, but with a modern religious agenda attached, and a need for much chaff-sifting if you are interested purely in historical accuracy.)

Books:

Aswynn, Freya *Northern Mysteries and Magic*, Llewellyn, St. Paul, MN (formerly Leaves of Yggdrasil)

Gundarsson, KveldúlfR, *Teutonic Magic*, Llewellyn, St. Paul, MN

Peschel, Lisa. *A Practical Guide to the Runes: Their Uses in Divination and Magick*, Llewellyn, St. Paul, MN

Thorsson, Edred, *At the Well of Wyrd: A Handbook of Runic Divination*, Runa-Raven, Austin, TX

Thorsson, Edred, *Futhark: A Handbook of Rune Magic*, Runa-Raven, Austin, TX

Thorsson, Edred, *Runelore*, Runa Raven, Austin, TX

Websites (just a sampling; there are zillions out there; no particular order):

Our Troth: <http://www.thetroth.org/resources/ourtroth/index.html> - *Our Troth* is a book written by many Troth members, including KveldúlfR Gundarson, several years ago. Gods and Goddesses and rituals.

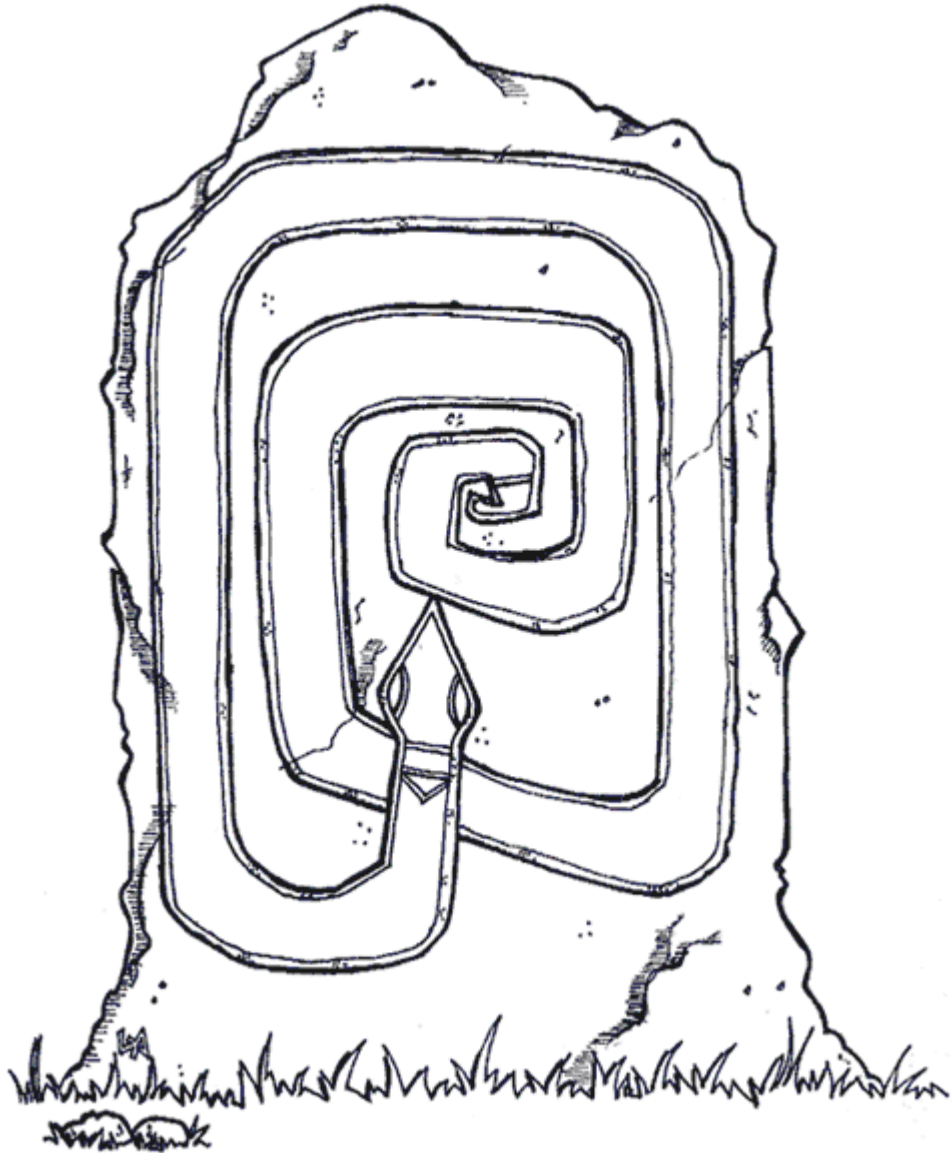
Hrafnar: www.hrafnar.org/ - This is Diana L. Paxson's (you might recognize her name from SCA history) religious community, and there are a ton of articles on goddesses and seidr especially.

Irmisul Aettir Asatru: <http://www.irmisul.org/> - Has catalog of Asatru FAQs, links, mailing lists, etc. from all over the net. Also collects links on Rune FAQs, fonts, mailing lists, rune sets and artwork, and so forth.

Thaet Angelseaxisce Ealdriht: <http://www.ealdriht.org/> - Check here for a focus on the Anglo-Saxon variant. The page *Anglo-Saxon Galdors, Runes, Seiðr, Spæ* is full of good stuff.

Freya Aswynn's Home Page: <http://www.aswynn.co.uk/> - Besides being one of the authors mentioned above, from her site some out of print books as e-books (such as Gundarsson's) can be acquired.

Frigga's Web: <http://www.friggasweb.org/> - Frigga's Web is an organization established to honor the goddess Frigga, one of the deities of the religion called Ásatrú, Heathenism, or Germanic/Teutonic Paganism.



To transcribe anything into runes first write it down in normal English. Then go through the words and change them to a phonetic form. Suppose we want to transcribe HAVE A HAPPY BIRTHDAY RINGO into runes. Start by writing the sentence phonetically: HAV A HAPY BIR(th)DAY RI(ng)O.

Remove the silent E from the end of HAVE. No need to transcribe silent letters since they have no sound value. Reduce the double P to a single letter in happy. So far as the sound of the word is concerned, the second P is quite superfluous. Put the TH of BIRTHDAY in brackets because we know they are going to become a single rune when we transcribe. Nasals before dentals are generally not written; thus "md" or "nd" is written "d", and "mt" and "nt" are written "t".

For c, use the rune-stave corresponding to k or s depending on the sound. For q, use the sound, such as k or kw. For x, use z or ks depending on how it sounds. In the chart below, "r" is the r sound at the beginning or middle of a word, and "R" is the r sound at the end of a word.

a	b	d	e	f	g	h	i	l	j	k	l	m	n	N	o	p	r	z	s	t	T	u	w	w	j	z
a	b	t	e	f	g	h	i	ai	j	k	l	m	n	g	o	p	r	R	s	t	d	u	v	u	y	R
a	b	d	e	f	g	h	i	ei	j	k	l	m	n	ng	o	p	r	R	s	t	th	u	v	w	y	z