



# Astro-Online Read Me

## What is Astro-Online?

Astro-Online is an open source web based astrology program. It is a pure (100%) Java solution, running on any platform. Astro-Online uses servlet technology. The lay-out of the web pages can be designed with FreeMarker templates. Chart services are provided through Flash animations. Chart services and content are included for non-commercial use.

## Licensing

Astro-Online consists of source code, content and documentation. The source code and documentation are open source and may be copied and modified under the terms mentioned in the license agreement. The content is provided for non-commercial use only. Furthermore, the usage of the content is restricted to other terms as mentioned in the license agreement.

Please, check the license for more information.

## ACS Atlas Database

Astro-Online uses the ACS atlas data for location calculations. The ACS atlas data is subject to a server license. Astro Share maintains such a license for its server. Through web services provided as part of the Astro-Online software, this data can be accessed from remote Astro-Online installations, without the need to maintain the ACS atlas data locally. This allows small Astro-Online installations to use our software and services, without the need to make large investments. However, please be aware that we cannot provide this service for Astro-Online installations maintaining a lot of traffic. In cases where Astro-Online installations are using our ACS atlas data too heavily, we will ask you to buy your own server license. Eventually, Astro Share might disconnect users in case of continuous high volumes of traffic.

Having your own ACS Atlas Database offers advantages. A query on a local database will be much less time consuming than a query on a remote database. Besides, remote queries tend to have a higher change of running into errors. Having your own local ACS Atlas Database, therefore offers performance advantages, leads to a better usage of resources, and decrease the change of error.

We support your initiative to build your own astrology site, by providing as much resources as possible for free. However, we strongly advise you to buy your own ACS Atlas Database, once your astrology website is live and making good progress. We respect your view, we hope you'll respect ours.

## **Documentation**

Documentation is available at:

<http://docs.astro-share.com/astro-online/index.html>.

## **Installation**

The installation of Astro-Online is described in two versions:

1. a quick installation,

Please, check Astro-Online Quick Install for more information.

2. and a detailed installation guide.

Please, check the installation guide for more information.

## **Requirements**

Please, check the system requirements for more information.

## **Known Limitations**

Under Windows you might every now and then see some lines in your log file, indicating that the connection to the MySQL database was lost. This (time-out issue) seems to appear under Windows only. As a work-around we have added a pool recovery mechanism to the exception handling of the getConnection method in class Pool. This mechanism takes care of rebuilding the connection pool when the connection is lost.

If you run Astro-Online on another OS than Windows, you can basically remove this code although it doesn't do any harm when you just leave it there. This issue is only of importance if you leave the entry AstroOnlineDatabase in the web.xml to its initial value POOL, which indicates the usage of the class Pool for connection pooling. You can also accomplish pooling through JNDI, which is described in the administrators guide.

## **Project status and downloads**

<http://www.astro-share.com/>

More information about the project status can be found on:

<http://sourceforge.net/projects/astro-online/>

Please check the SourceForge site regularly for updates and new releases.

### **Other astrology services**

Besides Astro-Online, Astro Share offers other on-line as well as off-line astrological services. More information can be found at:

<http://www.astro-share.com/>

Please visit us every now and then!

Good luck and have fun!  
Peter Schulz, Astro Share