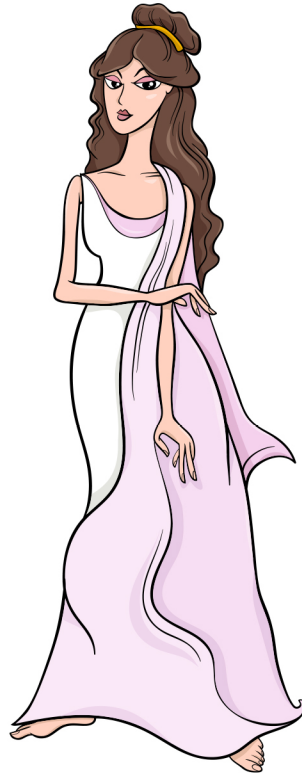


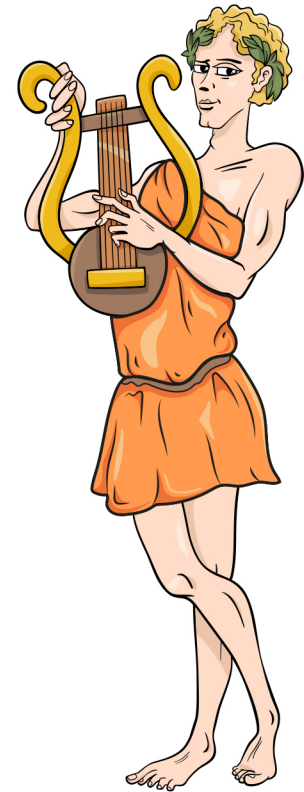
## Aphrodite

Aphrodite was the goddess of love and beauty. She rode a chariot through the skies and owned a girdle that would make people fall in love with whoever was wearing it. Some people said that she was the daughter of Zeus and Dione, although some believed that she emerged from the sea on a giant scallop. An argument she had with two other goddesses started the Trojan War. She was married to Hephaestus – the god of blacksmiths and metal working.



## Apollo

Apollo was the son of Zeus and Leto, and the twin brother of Artemis – the goddess of hunting. He was the god of music, healing and medicine, light and truth. Apollo also had the ability to see into the future. Every day he rode a chariot pulled by swans and moved the Sun across the sky. He was also known as 'the archer' because of his skill in using his silver bow. His holy tree was the laurel and his holy animal was the dolphin.



## Ares

Ares was the son of Zeus and Hera. He was the god of war and violence, whose chariot was pulled by four fire-breathing horses. When he was very young, he was kidnapped by giants, who held him captive in a bronze jar until he was rescued by Hermes. It was said that Ares was cruel, cowardly and bloodthirsty. He didn't care who won wars as long as people were fighting and killing each other. His symbols were a helmet, spear, dog, vulture and boar.



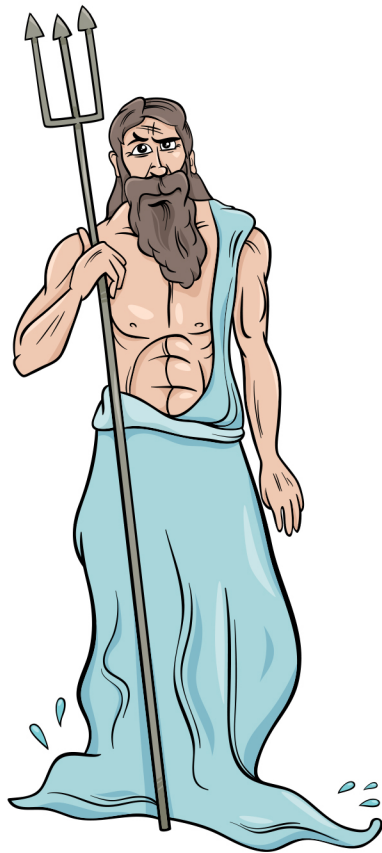
## Eirene

Eirene was the daughter of Zeus and Themis. She was the goddess of peace and spring. She usually appeared with an olive branch in her right hand and a cornucopia (a cup or horn overflowing with corn, fresh fruits and vegetables) in her left hand. She was also shown carrying the infant Plutus, the god of wealth. Eirene and her sisters Eunomia (Good Order) and Dike (Justice) were known together as Horai, the goddesses of the seasons and keepers of the gates to heaven.



## Poseidon

Poseidon was the son of Cronus and Rhea, and the brother of Zeus, Hades, Hestia, Hera and Demeter. He was the god of the sea, earthquakes, floods, drought and horses. Poseidon carried a trident and rode in a chariot pulled by four fish-tailed horses. Poseidon helped his brothers and sisters to kill his cruel father Cronus and won the sea as his kingdom.



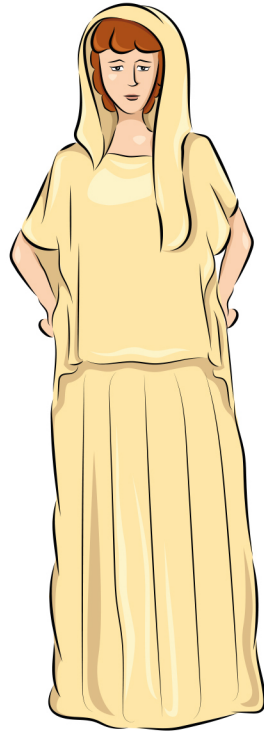
## Hades

Hades was the son of Cronus and Rhea, and the brother of Zeus, Poseidon, Hera, Hestia and Demeter. After his father, Cronus, was killed, Hades took control of the underworld. He became ruler of the dead and god of wealth. Hades rarely left the underworld. His weapon was a pitchfork that he sometimes used to create earthquakes. When Hades wore his special helmet, it made him invisible. He was married to Persephone.



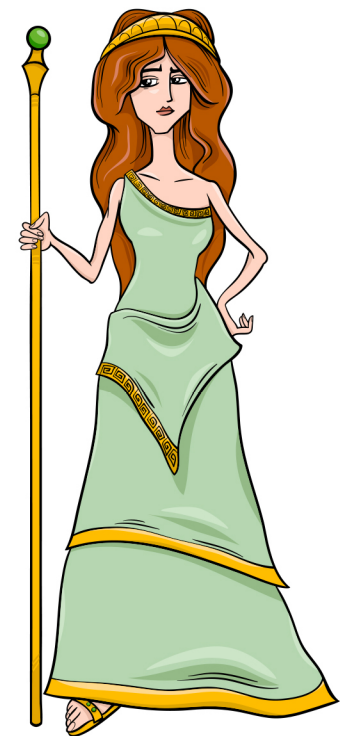
## Hestia

Hestia was the first child of Cronus and Rhea, and the sister of Zeus, Poseidon, Hades, Hera and Demeter. She vowed never to marry and was given the duty to look after and nurture the family and the home. She was also the goddess of sacrificial fire. When families gave sacrifices to the gods, Hestia always received the first offerings of food and wine. Hestia was the goddess of the hearth. The fire in every house was not allowed to go out, as a sign of respect to Hestia.



## Hera

Hera was the daughter of Cronus and Rhea, and the sister of Zeus, Poseidon, Hades, Hestia and Demeter. She was the queen of the gods and goddess of marriage, women, the sky and stars. Hera is usually shown wearing a crown, holding a sceptre and accompanied by a lion, cuckoo or hawk. She is said to have helped Jason and the Argonauts in their search for the Golden Fleece.



## Demeter

Demeter was the daughter of Cronus and Rhea, and the sister of Zeus, Poseidon, Hades, Hestia and Hera. She was the goddess of the harvest, earth and agriculture. It was believed that she made the crops grow and the first loaf of bread made from the harvest was offered to her. Demeter's daughter Persephone was queen of the underworld. Demeter missed Persephone terribly when she was away in the underworld, and would forget to tend the crops. She would leave the world untouched for months on end and winter would arrive.



## Hebe

Hebe was the daughter of Zeus and Hera. She was the goddess of youth and forgiveness, and the cupbearer of the gods and goddesses, serving them ambrosia and nectar, the food and drink of the gods. She was often shown holding a chalice (cup) in her left hand, and a large pitcher (jug) in her right hand. She is also sometimes pictured with an eagle. Hebe could restore youth and beauty to anyone who no longer had them.

