

EVERYDAY FENG SHUI

Feng Shui by Maria
February Column 2025

The Year of the Yin Wood Snake

We have just left the Lunar Year of the Dragon behind which brought us confidence, power, ambition, courage, tenacity, and intelligence. It was a year of challenges, and risk taking. Are you ready for a rest?

Beginning on January 29, we moved into the year of the Yin Wood Snake. Be ready to heal past wounds and reclaim emotional and personal power. This is a year to cultivate emotional resilience, and channel compassion into meaningful transformation. Time to manifest your goals or dreams by integrating emotional insight with practical action. The transformative Wood Snake encourages a harmonious flow of deep healing, and empowerment, offering opportunities to transform your relationship with yourself and others.

The Snake symbolizes wisdom, associated with intelligence, intuition, and insight. The snake's ability to shed its skin represents renewal, transformation, and continuous growth. Snakes are practical visionaries, good leaders, and great thinkers, and are associated with wisdom, charm, and elegance. People born in the year of the Snake (1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001, 2013, 2025) are believed to be intuitive, strategic, and intelligent. with characteristics such as being selfless, cordial, ambitious, righteous, and foresighted.

This is a year of ambition, adaptability, adventure, and efficiency for people born in the Year of the Snake, but all can benefit from this powerful transformation.

Here are some ways other signs are affected in 2025

Zodiac signs with harmonious relationships with the Snake are the Rooster, Ox, Monkey, and Horse, who will have good social relationships and excellent interpersonal connections in 2025.

Rat - Sunny days and new opportunities are coming.

Ox – Excellent opportunities for collaboration, wealth and personal growth.

Tiger – Will experience prosperity in many forms.

Rabbit - Will experience growth, strength, and joyful times.

Dragon - You will have trust, companionship, and good learning experiences.

Snake – You will face strong competition or form a cooperative partnership.

Horse – You will build courage, confidence, and reputation from heartfelt friendships.

Goat/Sheep – You will be blessed, aided by benefactors, and have abundant opportunities.

Monkey - Expect great achievements and upcoming career opportunities.

Rooster – You will be enchanted by love, and everything will go well as desired.

Dog – You will receive guidance from mentors, leading to a promising future.

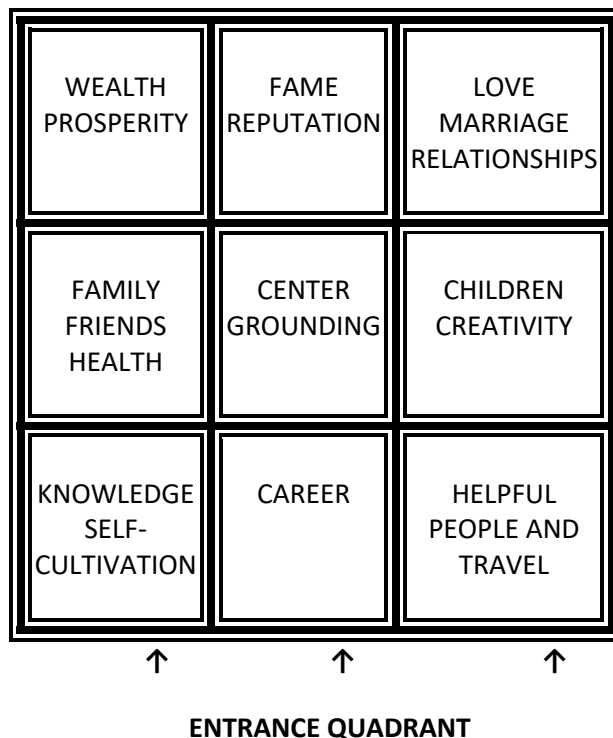
Pig - Enthusiasm, hope, and wealth are on the horizon.

Preparing for the Year of the Wood Snake

- 1) To prepare yourself and your home for the year of the Wood Snake, begin by tidying up your home and office. Clean your entry to welcome all the good luck that will come into your home and place of business; make this area clean, well lit, and inviting.
- 2) Add beautiful flowers to welcome the New Year! It's fortunate to add plants, flowers, and healthy bamboo to your home and workplace to increase abundance.
- 3) Take time to meditate and do a good deed daily.
- 4) This is a perfect time for Feng Shui to help you imbue the Wood Snake. By enhancing the wood areas of your home (Knowledge and Health) with the following sample enhancements, you will experience feelings of growth, good health and friendly relationships.

Using the Feng Shui Bagua for Better Wood Snake Energy

The Feng Shui Bagua, is represented as a grid of nine sectors. The Bagua comes from the Chinese philosophy, “The I Ching,” and literally means “eight trigrams”, with the center for centering and grounding. When placed over the layout of your home, you can easily find the location of the treasures in your life and even identify trouble spots.



When using the Bagua map, be sure that all areas are clean with no clutter. Keep a clear path to your aspirations. Make sure that the first thing seen in each room is beautiful and inspiring. You do not want to see a pile of paperwork or any type of mess. If an area in your life is not working, locate the corresponding area in your home, declutter it and nourish it with some of the following enhancements.

Career Area (Water Element)

- * Items in black or very dark colors, glass/crystal items
- * Water features, (fountains, waterfalls or aquariums)
- * Art depicting water scenes

Knowledge and Self Cultivation Area (Wood Element)

- * Items in wood, the colors of blues, greens, or black and in the shape of columns or stripes
- * Healthy plants with rounded soft leaves
- * Art depicting nature scenes

Friends/Family/Health Area (Wood Element)

- * Healthy floral arrangements or art depicting vibrant flowers
- * Photos of family, friends or representing perfect health
- * Items in wood and the colors of blues, greens, or black

Wealth Area (Fire Element)

- * Opulent items in the purple color spectrum
- * Art representing wealth such as luxurious vacation spots, stunning architectural homes etc.
- * Healthy, round leaf plants

Fame Area (Fire Element)

- * Photos or art representing achievements or inspiration
- * Items in the colors red
- * Items representing the fire element with candles and lighting

Love and Marriage Area (Fire Element)

- * Pairs of items (candles, love birds, vases)
- * Art or photos depicting romance
- * Colors of reds, pinks and white

Children and Creativity Area (Metal Element)

- * Photos of children or items made by children
- * Items in metal and the colors of white and pastels
- * Whimsical art

Helpful People and Travel Area (Metal Element)

- * Art or figures pertaining to spiritual guides, helpful people, places where you have traveled or want to
- * Items in metal and colors of white, black or grey

Center Area (Earth Element)

- * Items in ceramics, the colors yellow, earth tones, and rectangle shapes
- * Art depicting earth tone scenes such as fields, deserts, sunflowers etc.

Affirmations:

Remember that in Feng Shui, intent plays a significant role in enhancing any area of your home or business. That's why all enhancements need to be made with intentionality; written or stated affirmations expressed as if they have already happened are very important. Examples while you're in the year of the Wood Snake: *"My new job is going so well."* *"We are experiencing a rebirth of our relationship."* *"My creativity is thriving. Ideas are flowing in."*

Feng Shui at Work:

A client wanted to improve the relationship with her husband. She created a romantic boudoir in their bedroom with many pictures of them on their happy travels, shades of reds and pairs of items. She purchased a set of "Romance Cards" which give each person loving tasks to show their love. Some examples are: "Take your partner on a romantic walk, write a love note, buy a small surprise gift" etc. The two of them have embraced pulling a card weekly; doing something nice for each other and have in turn embraced each other. Her resolution has become a reality.

A client wanted to lose weight and begin a running regime. She wrote an affirmation that she was running three miles a day and had lost 10 pounds and placed it on a vision board surrounded by flowers in her Health Area. She placed a picture of herself when she was thin, and a picture of healthy runners. She watched her diet and began by running half a mile. She added a few more steps every day. She charted her mileage and weight loss. She surpassed both goals and just ran her first 5K race. She is glowing!

Let the year of the Wood Snake lead the way to your positive transformation, shedding the past, and helping you find solutions to any of issues which may be troubling you.

My book is now available for purchase on my website and makes a great gift.

For questions or home consultations email at mtmccull@aol.com and put "Feng Shui" on the subject line, or visit my website at www.fengshuibymaria.com, (where you can read past columns), or Facebook "Feng Shui by Maria", where I post pictures as examples to enhancements.

* **Check out my BLOG** – Just go to the website and click on "Blog": You can view many pictures and, I will respond to your questions quickly.

Until then...Blessings!

Maria McCullough is the owner / founder of **Feng Shui by Maria** (www.fengshuibymaria.com) and is a speaker and educator with over 20 years of experience, and now author of the book, **"Empower Your Life Through Feng Shui – An Easy Eight Step Guide to achieving Your Goals."** She is a graduate of the Western School of Feng Shui and has personally trained with Terah Kathryn Collins, founder of the Western School of Feng Shui, specializing in Essential Feng Shui® and author of numerous books. Maria specializes in residential, landscape and business consultations. She offers virtual consultations nationally and internationally, as well as in person local

