

EVERYDAY FENG SHUI

Feng Shui by Maria
February Column 2019

The Year of the Yin Earth Pig: A Joyous Year of Abundance and Lightness

With its Yang energy, the past Year of the Earth Dog was tough on many of us; a time for taking care of business, forcing resolutions and creating numerous lifestyle changes. Did you feel the stress? Are you ready for a year of rest and rejuvenation? I certainly am!

Beginning on February 4th, we will be moving into the Year of the Pig, for a year full of joy, friendships and love. This will be an auspicious year because Pig, who represents wealth and generosity, attracts success in all spheres of your life. Following the Chinese calendar, which rotates in 60-year cycles based on 12 animals and five element years, 2019 is the Year of the Yin Earth Pig. Earth is a stabilizing and conserving force, but unlike the forceful Yang energy of the Dog, the Yin Earth energy of the pig will be softer, calmer and more stabilizing.

Pig energy is jovial, happy, ethical and idealistic. His personality is more reasonable and robust than his animal peers, the Earth Pig manages to make his projects into reality thanks to his strategic vision and business skills. Happy and responsible, greatly attached to his family, the Pig doesn't count time or energy when it comes to feeding and protecting his family. It is expected to be a very good year, without any bad periods and full of achievements.

The fun-loving Earth Pig is easy going, enjoys life, fun. To him life is a banquet, take your time and enjoy. This is a period of joy and relaxation. According to the Chinese calendar, the next 12 months will be largely shaped by the pig traits of being – not doing. Pigs love relaxing and they always search for loyal and trusting friends

This year will be seen growing the grade of social awareness and stability.

The people born under this sign in the years 1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007, 2019 are often reserved, but once you get to know someone born under this sign, you'll find an amazing friend and an excellent business partner. All other signs will feel some of this as well. Predictions for the lunar New Year are not one size fits all. Each of the 12 lunar signs may be affected differently in this year of the Pig.

Here are some ways other signs are affected in 2019:

Rat - A year full of happiness and prosperity!

Ox - A good year for Ox. A time with good opportunities to make money.

Tiger – A great year for you!! Time to step out and get your dream done but avoid carelessness.

Rabbit - An excellent year is waiting for you! You will easily get things done.

Dragon - For you, the impact of the Pig's calmness will mean a year of reconsiderations.

Snake – Could be challenging. You'll have to be combative, persuasive and expect delays.

Horse - The year of the Pig 2019 is going to be more auspicious than the Dog Year 2018! But be could still be challenging if not cautious to double check everything.

Goat/Sheep – An auspicious year, when all your ambitions will be fulfilled.

Monkey - A year under the influence of chance! Go with the flow.

Rooster – Challenging, this year you need to pay attention to the quality of your relationships

Dog – A good year! Count on your own efforts in order to succeed.

Pig - The year 2019 is yours, right? Start by setting your priorities and then get to work: once you start moving, you will start seeing results.

Note that if you're a sign with a possibly challenging year, those challenges don't have to define you. Be aware, cautious and don't set yourself up. For extra protection display an image of the Pig's special friend the Tiger to be seen in your home or at work.

Love, Relationships and Family:

Winds of change will blow into your love life. Whatever your current romantic situation, you'll see a marked improvement. If single, it's time to venture out, have fun - you will possibly meet your soulmate. Avoid staying lonely this year by keeping friends and family nearby. Yet this can be a time to finally decide to put an end to toxic relationships.

Society and Politics:

This is a year where past deficiencies are filled. Specific sources of tension which used to lead to conflict are losing momentum and disappearing. Giving and receiving become an integral part of daily life however, it is important to stay on the alert of malicious individuals who may be excited to get rich off benevolent people. In politics subterranean and progressive changes take place in the management of governments around the world. We can count on committed and passionate minds to devote their energies to guarantee the well-being and prosperity of their communities.

Career:

This will be a defining year for your career and business. It will be now or never to accomplish the transformation of your dreams which you've help for a long time but have not had the courage to carry through. Go for it! Your professional future looks promising. A year of promise for construction, real estate, manufacturers, teachers, artisans, social workers and researchers; all professions which lay the foundation for the future.

Health:

All the 12 signs of the Zodiac will take care of their health in 2019. During this year, healthy choices are favored among adopting a healthy lifestyle, quitting smoking, practicing a sport and adopting a healthy diet.

Preparing for the Year of the Earth Pig

- 1) To prepare yourself and your home for the year of the Earth Pig, 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 nurturing, creative spirit of the Earth Pig. By enhancing the Center Earth area of your home with the following sample enhancements, you will experience feelings of being grounded, balanced, and nurtured.

The Bagua

The Feng Shui Bagua (Ba-gua) Map, 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 being for centering and grounding.

WEALTH AND PROSPERITY	FAME AND REPUTATION	LOVE AND RELATIONSHIP
HEALTH, FAMILY AND FRIENDS	CENTER AND GROUNDING	CHILDREN AND CREATIVITY
KNOWLEDGE AND SELF- CULTIVATION	CAREER	HELPFUL PEOPLE AND TRAVEL
↑	↑	↑

ENTRANCE QUADRANT

Center Area (Earth Element)

- * Art and items in the yellow color spectrum depicting earthy landscapes of deserts or fields.
- * Square or rectangular shapes
- * Items made of adobe, brick and tile, ceramics or earthenware objects

Since the Earth Pig will affect Health, Family and Love it is recommended that these areas of your home also be enhanced during this year.

Love Area (Fire Element)

- * Items in the colors red and pink
- * Art that depicts pairs of people, animals or romantic representations
- * Shapes such as triangles, pyramids or cones

Health/Family/Friends (Wood Element)

- * Items in the colors blue, green
- * Art that depicts pictures of family, friends or flowers
- * Column shapes

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.

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 Pig: *"I am healthy and thriving."* *"My relationships are meaningful and loving."*

Feng Shui at Work/Classes:

I will be teaching a series of three classes, "Feng Shui for Prosperity" through Acalanes Adult Ed: Tuesdays March 12- 26 1:00-3:00 pm

You can register on line at acalanes.k12.ca.us/adulted (Participants will receive \$40 off a home consultation.)

The Year of the Pig is set to bring you success, more rest and the deliciousness of a peaceful life. Enjoy the fun ride!

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 and learn more enhancement ideas), 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.

Maria McCullough

Maria McCullough, a Benicia resident, is the owner / founder of Feng Shui by Maria (www.fengshuibymaria.com) and is a speaker and educator with over 20 years of experience. She specializes in residential, landscape and business consultations. 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 including "The Western Guide to Feng Shui."