

EVERYDAY FENG SHUI

Feng Shui by Maria

July Column

Sheltering in Place – A Good Time to Fall in Love

We've been on the pandemic lockdown for over four months now, and although these are dire times with much concern, pain and sadness, as always there is a silver lining.

Couples sheltered in place together are rediscovering their relationships, singles looking for love are taking more time on video chats before dating, and those living alone are looking inward and learning to love themselves. As usual Feng Shui is here to help.

This quiet time is a great opportunity to reenergize the Love Areas in your home, whether you're looking to get closer to your mate, meeting someone on a dating site, or just learning to embrace the real you.

But, the most important Feng Shui tip at this time Pandemic related time is to discover you. Be easy on yourself. Forgive yourself. This is a hard time. You might not get it all right but it will be worth it especially if you take the time to put some key Feng Shui enhancements in place.

In Feng Shui there is the direct correlation between home and the quality of relationships. The energy in your home can help you achieve your loving relationship goals.

It is important to listen to what you need and then gladly give to yourself. When you love yourself you become open to other loving relationships. In the Feng Shui Bagua The Love and Marriage corner is dedicated to Love. But you to you can apply Feng Shui solutions for Love and Marriage in every room in your house.

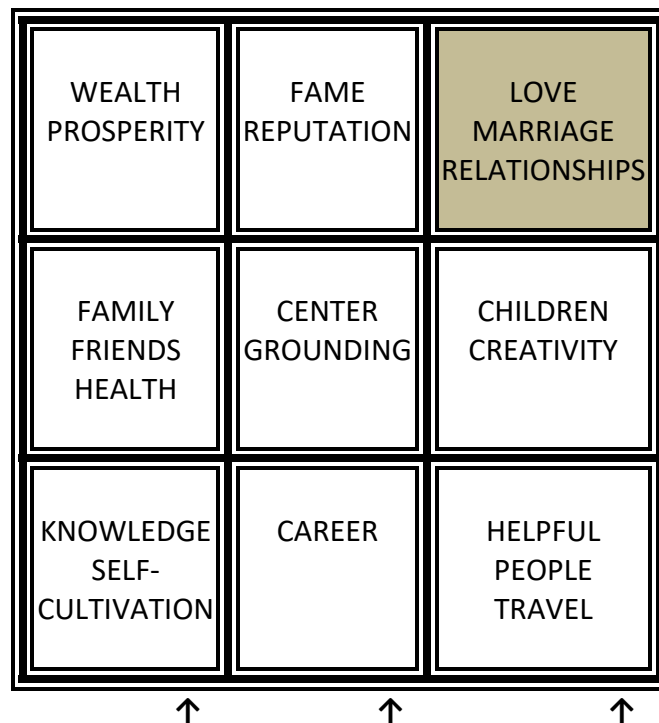
The Feng Shui Bagua (Ba-gua) Map, is represented as a grid of nine sectors. The Bagua comes from the Chinese philosophy, "The I Ching," and literally means "eight trigrams", with the center for grounding and centering.

Love and Marriage – Bagua Review

In the Bagua the Love and Marriage area is located in the back right corner of your home or office, and is particularly associated with "adaptability, devotion and unconditional support." This area of your home or business is called "Receptive Earth" meaning that to truly love another person you must love yourself, opening your heart to be totally receptive to your partner. Enhancements in this area are particularly helpful if: You want to attract a love relationship, you want to improve a relationship you are currently in, or you want to develop or improve a nurturing, healthy, happy relationship with yourself.

Applying Love and Marriage Enhancements to Other Rooms:

If creating a healthy loving relationship with yourself and another is important to you, you can further energize your home for romance by enhancing the Love and Marriage corner of every room in your home. Remember to start with the Love and Marriage area of your home first and then you can make similar enhancements in every room. This is especially important if you are missing the Love corner from your home.



ENTRANCE QUADRANT

Regardless of the room the actual enhancements for Love and Marriage are the same. The element for this area is Fire, and the colors are red, pink or white. Representations of this element can be used inside and outside of your home or business, as well as in the right back corner of every room. Enhancements include:

- * Photos, paintings, or figures depicting your significant other
- * Pairs of items (lovers, doves, hearts, candles, vases, figurines etc)
- * Art with a romantic theme
- * Quotes, affirmations and sayings pertaining to love and marriage
- * Items that have a personal association to love and marriage (romantic vacations/honeymoon mementos)

To add supplementary enhancements to other rooms, pick a room and stand at the entrance to the room facing in. This may not necessarily be in the same direction as the front door of your home. Locate the back right corner and place one or more enhancement mentioned above in the space. For example a picture of you and your partner, red/pink orchid with two stems, red/pink candles, a pair of love birds, and romantic art.

Examples of Love Enhancements for Various Rooms:

Kitchen – If the right back corner is by the sink you can add two romantic figurines. If its' by the stove you can hang a small romantic picture near it. For fun, I also have a red toaster and blender in the corner.

Dining Room – Add a set of romantic salt and pepper shakers, two rose colored candles in beautiful candlesticks or a picture of you and your significant other.

Bathroom – Hang pictures of romantic vacations, a pair of matching candles, or a beautiful flower arrangement in the red spectrum.

Office – Display a picture of you and your significant other, or two paperweights.

Bedrooms:

I'm setting this room apart because it's one of most important rooms to add Feng Shui Love and Marriage enhancements regardless of the location of this room in your house. The ideal location for a master bedroom is the far back right corner; unfortunately not all homes are built this way. As you decorate your bedroom it is always important to incorporate some of the red spectrum to bring in fire, pairs of items and romantic representations.

If you are single and looking for a relationship, you should design the room as if two people are already living there. For example, make sure to use two nightstands, two lamps, and leave room in the closet. This signifies the intent that you want to share your life with your soul mate. Walls should be any of the colors of natural skin tones; from light cream, pinks, peaches, to warm reds and dark browns. Because the feeling should evoke warmth, coziness and fire, blues, greens, whites, grey and black are too cool for bedroom walls.

Affirmations and Inner Work:

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 are already happening are very important. Examples or affirmations for the "Love and Marriage" area: *"I attract, joy, love and intimacy into my life", "I love, respect and honor myself", "My perfect love partner and I are connected in during shelter in place."*

Feng Shui at Work:

I've heard friends say that they are quarantined with their best friend. I feel that way. My husband and I have gotten much closer during this time. Here are some tips that work for us:

1. Make a plan to spend meaningful time together - We love to make one night a week restaurant takeout food and game night. Every evening we take a one mile walk together and sit in the spa at the end of the day.
2. Don't expect your partner to be your everything – My husband is working from home so we spend time in different rooms during most of the day, and we each take time to Zoom or talk to our friends.
3. If there is a disagreement, pause to make an appointment to discuss it – We make time during each day to discuss issues and verbalize appreciation for each other.

One of my clients was in an unhappy relationship that was stuck and going nowhere. In our consultation we focused on her bedroom, which was painted a cool green and featured many pictures of landscapes and water. Nothing signified romance, passion or warmth. She changed the pictures to romantic art, added candles by the bedside tables, and spruced up the room with red tone accents. Shortly after, she and her boyfriend broke up. This may sound like a bad thing but Feng Shui works at giving you what you need in life, not necessarily what you think you want. After getting out of the relationship, she was free to meet the right man. In her new house she followed the lessons she learned in our consultation. She now has a wonderful man in her life and they are expecting their first baby. She couldn't be happier!

While you're sheltering in place create a space in your home and life for a perfect relationship with your perfect mate. Enlist the energy in your environment to help you achieve your goals.

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 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.”