

# Feng Shui



The practice of Feng Shui is becoming more popular with more people adopting the Chinese perspective of viewing the universe in terms of Yin and Yang. Feng Shui is concerned with harnessing the invisible energy all around us, known as Chi or the Dragon's cosmic breath. To create balance indoors may involve where you place furniture, so that personal energies are in harmony and symmetry with living and work spaces.

Outside, Feng Shui is concerned with the immediate environment, the contours and elevations of the land, the trees and plants, water features, lights and structures.

## The Five Elements

Auspicious energies (good Feng Shui) is the creation and movement of energy that can be interpreted and manipulated according to the cycles of the five elements.

The five elements represent everything in the universe of which there are two cycles, the productive and the destructive cycle.

## Yin and Yang

Yin and Yang are opposite to each other yet they compliment and give existence to each other. Yin is dark and passive, the female energy. Yang is light and active, the male energy.

Yin and Yang intertwine, there is a bit of Yang in the Yin area and together are said to constitute the eternal union of heaven and earth, which becomes the universe, whose breath is Chi.

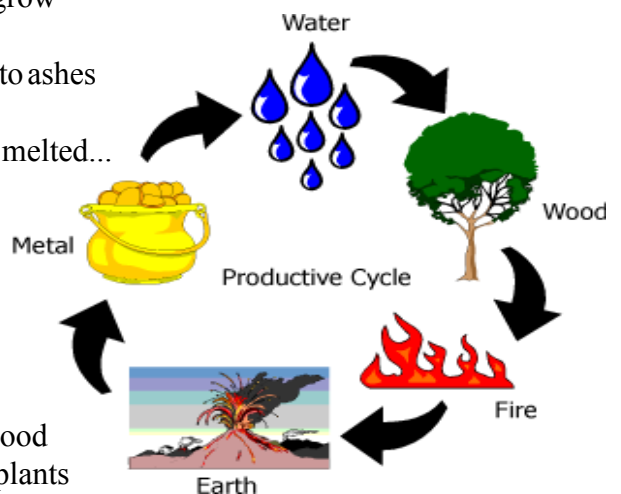


Feng Shui principles offer methods of ensuring that the balance of Yin and Yang is at its optimum. A happy balance of Yin and Yang creates Chi that is auspicious.

**Productive Cycle**, these elements support one another

- Water (or liquid) - produces wood by making plants grow
- Wood - wood is a fuel that produces fire
- Fire - produces earth by reducing things to ashes
- Earth - produces metal
- Metal - produces water or liquid when it is melted...

and the cycle continues



**Destructive Cycle**, these elements react against each other

- Water (or liquid) - controls fire by putting it out
- Fire - controls metal by melting it
- Metal - metal tools such as axes control wood
- Wood - controls earth with the roots of its plants
- Earth - controls the direction and flow of water...

and the cycle continues

## Water Element

The use of water as an ornamental feature has long been utilised by the Chinese as a crucial component of Feng Shui, particularly if you wish to activate the potential for wealth and prosperity. Excessive water will turn the elements against you so it is vital not to have too much water, with Feng Shui balance is everything. To attract auspicious luck you must keep your water feature clean, there is nothing worse in Feng Shui terms than a pool of stale water.

## Garden

A pond is an excellent Feng Shui feature in any garden, as long as it is healthy and full of life. A murky, lifeless pond will create bad luck. A pond attracts animals and birds and their Yang energy into the garden and is a good balance with the Yin energy of the water.

In the present time period the North, East and Southeast areas are the recommended areas of the garden to place a garden pond. However, water Feng Shui becomes extremely accurate if formulas are applied from Feng Shui masters who can recommend the exact location which offers the best luck.

Your pond can be constructed in any way you like, a waterfall, a fountain or a natural cascade. It can be formal and raised, or sunken and surrounded by plants. None of the design features have any specific Feng Shui implications. What is important is the shape and dimensions of the pond with the ideal depth being 78-83cm. Rounded, oval, or circular shapes are always auspicious, while shapes that have edges and sharp corners are not because they can inadvertently create negative energy or bad Chi.

Round ponds are particularly good for attracting prosperity because its shape is associated with metal, which symbolises wealth.

The size of the pond should also be considered as you must ensure that it fits naturally into its environment and not be so large as to dominate.

## Waterfalls

One of the best ways of creating Sheng Chi (good fortune) is to have a waterfall in your garden. Water should fall toward the home but not be placed directly in front of, or facing a main door. Waterfalls are best located toward the left-hand side of the main door when inside the house looking out and the water flowing inward will bring great opportunities for business, career prospects and financial security. A waterfall that is too large will overwhelm the house with too much Chi, and if rocks and boulders are used for decoration they should not resemble anything hostile or threatening that could create poison arrows (negative chi).

## Fountains

Fountains are great for enhancing Feng Shui, particularly if it bubbles, since this implies the flow of life-giving Chi. Any design can be effective as long as it does not appear threatening in any way. The best place for a fountain is in the front garden and at least 6m away from, and in full view of the front door.

## Fish for the Feng Shui Garden Pond

Feng Shui experts advise that there should always be nine goldfish in a pond - eight red or gold and a single black fish. It is believed that the black fish absorbs negative Chi that may be generated. If any of the fish should die simply replace as this fish has succeeded in warding off any bad luck destined for the resident such as petty theft or some minor accident.

As the water needs to be kept clean a proper filtration system should be installed to keep your fish healthy and so the water does not stagnate.

## Aquarium

Having an aquarium is suppose to be extremely good Feng Shui. It is especially good for retail businesses, particularly restaurants and catering businesses. The size of the aquarium is not critical but to attract auspicious luck, it is important to keep the aquarium clean and not allow the water quality to deteriorate.

## Fish for the Feng Shui Aquarium

The Arowana is know in Asia as the Feng Shui fish because it attracts good fortune and prosperity to its owner. As the Arowana grows if the scales change colour from the original silver to either gold or pinkish red, it is believed that it is a clear indication that the millions are coming your way. Unfortunately the Arowana is not available in Australia but a good substitute is the Saratoga. As the Saratoga grows very large it is recommended that only one be kept in a large indoor tropical aquarium and a single Saratoga is all you need to activate beneficial Chi.

Another favourite fish for Feng Shui is the Guppy for tropical aquariums and the Goldfish for coldwater aquariums.

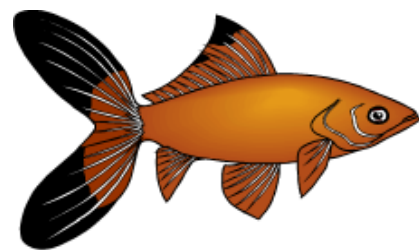
The number of fish should be nine with eight gold or red and a single black fish.

As mentioned with the goldfish for outdoor ponds, black fish absorb negative Chi and if any of the fish should die, simply replace as this fish has succeeded in warding off any bad luck destined for the resident, such as petty theft or some minor accident.

## Tortoises

One of the most auspicious water features to have is a tortoise pond or aquarium. As the tortoise grows it is believed that Sheng Chi (good fortune) and luck grow as well.

If you don't want tortoise pond or aquarium, then an ornament of a tortoise placed next to a garden pond or aquarium is sufficient as a symbolic presence of Sheng Chi.



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