

7 Things That Are Called Feng Shui - But Are Actually Not!



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What Is Feng Shui

Feng Shui literally means '*wind and water*'.

Traditionally in ancient China a house site was considered fortunate if it was sheltered from the attack of strong winds and rough waters; and if a gentle breeze and beautiful water enhanced the building.

Feng Shui is about how your home or work space affect you.

The purpose of Feng Shui is to create houses and landscapes that are not only beautiful, but also enhance the success and happiness of you and all the people who live and work in them.

When the Feng Shui of a house is wrong, you will experience a more difficult life.

There are two aspects to Feng Shui that have to be applied **together** for maximum effect:

1. **Forms:** the selection of favourable physical features inside and outside a building;
2. Harmonising a space with the **subtle, invisible influences** that are unique to each building.

Feng Shui masters have discovered and devised Feng Shui formulas that help us describe these influences.

The art of Feng Shui is to arrange the physical features of landscapes and buildings in such a way as to take full advantage of its life enhancing influences, and to avoid or minimise potentially harmful effects.

With the laws of Feng Shui properly applied to your home and work space, you will live in harmony with their environment and with the laws of nature.

You are supported and can more easily attain success and happiness in life.

Feng Shui works; - and if correctly understood and applied, it produces an accurate analysis and measurable results for any building.

What Feng Shui is Not

Chinese philosophy considers three separate influences on your life:

- **Earth Luck** (Feng Shui) is a study of how the environment affects you.
- **Heaven Luck** is your destiny (this is the realm of astrology).
- **Human Luck** is your thoughts, attitudes, actions and behaviour patterns.

Heaven Luck is beyond our control. You have to live with it. It is addressed in Astrology and has nothing to do with Feng Shui.

However, *Earth Luck* and *Human Luck* are in your control.

In terms of **Human Luck**, happiness has to do with achieving of your personal goals and being honest and productive in life. It is the realm of personal development or mental practice.

Human Luck is important. It is in, fact, the most important influence on your life and future. However, *Human Luck* is not Feng Shui either.

Feng Shui has only to do with *Earth Luck*, the optimum arrangement of the factors of the physical universe (matter, energy, space & time).

Symbols

The use of symbols can be a wonderful tool. You can use it to remind yourself of what you want to create in life.

There is a story of an Olympian athlete who had a picture of a gold medal placed on her mirror in such a way that when she looked into the mirror in the morning, she would see herself with a gold medal around her neck.

Even when she felt down, she was reminded of her goal.

This enabled her to pull herself together, to raise her spirit and go through her daily training practice, even on days when she would have rather stayed in bed.

She went on to win a medal in Athens.

You can be your own worst enemy by entertaining thoughts of loss and inadequacy.

And you can be your best friend. If you can control your own negative thoughts, ignore distractions and stay focused on your goals, and take steps to achieve them, you have a very good chance of reaching any goal you set.

Symbols (like the gold medal) can help you do this.

The important thing to know, however, is that it was not the symbol that somehow magically got the Olympian the gold medal, but **her own mental focus and tremendous physical effort**.

She was the one who imbued the medal on her mirror with meaning, and only this made it a powerful reminder of her aspiration.

To someone else this medal on the mirror would have meant nothing; and they would not have achieved the fame of an Olympic medallist just by having a medal on their mirror.

Symbols have been used extensively in Chinese Feng Shui and in western Feng Shui books. Erroneously, Feng Shui is considered by many largely to be symbolism.

There are cultural meanings assigned to dragons, frogs, ducks, ingots (see picture), numbers and coins. Frogs and coins have been rumoured to bring about wealth and happiness.

People are made to think that it is the frog that brings wealth, rather than their own focus and effort towards their goal.

This is a naïve interpretation and can even serve the purpose of keeping a person inactive; and thereby be detrimental to their aspirations.

Feng Shui symbols are not powerful objects in their own right. They can only ever represent what you instil in them.

You need to know that you are the causative agent here, not the symbol.

However, you can use symbols to reinforce your intentions. Be creative with them (like the athlete); they don't have to be the agreed upon Chinese ones.

Whatever you do, make sure you know that it is you who creates the outcomes of your life, not the frog or the coin under your doormat.

The power of symbols has to do with the power of your own mind.

It falls into the realm of *Human Luck!* It has nothing to do with creating an environment in harmony with the tangible and intangible forces of nature; therefore, **it is not Feng Shui.**



Golden Ingots

7 Things That Are Not Feng Shui

1. The Wealth Corner is in the Southeast or the Far Left Corner of the House

This is simply not true; there is no generalised location for the wealth corner.

This popular notion has been spread by a very simplified, recently invented system of Feng Shui – it's handy, as it is easy to put in a book!

This system has also invented fixed locations for the career, marriage, fame, and other corners. It has nothing to do with authentic Feng Shui in its application.

My experience with this form of Feng Shui is that it does not actually work, and if so, it is accidental.

There is, however, a location in every building, which can help prosperity and wealth. It is the area that contains the most radiant life force. But unfortunately, this enters a building from any of the eight compass directions.

There are also genuine areas conducive for relationships and various other activities. However, locations for these are different in each building.

The location of the wealth energy and other fortunate locations are only established through individually applied advanced Feng Shui formulas.

2. A Toad Can Bring You Wealth

This like many other Feng Shui objects is a symbolic cure.

If it works, it is because you imbue it with your intention. By itself it does nothing. You are causative here, not the toad.

The use of symbols comes under the classification of Human Luck, it is not Feng Shui.

And for this reason it does not matter which way the toad faces, how many coins it has in its mouth or where you put it. Frogs are not a part of authentic Feng Shui.



3. A Dragon in the East or in the Office Will Bring You Luck

A picture or statue of a dragon is also a symbolic cure that has been imbued with meaning by the Chinese people. By itself it does nothing.

If you like the look of a dragon and you want to use it to represent some of your intentions, by all means do so. But know that any other symbol could serve the same purpose, and that it is the power of your intentions and your actions that create favourable outcomes.

The Feng Shui classics are written in poetic language. They speak of a water dragon and a mountain dragon.

These however refer to the invisible energies present in an environment - the real mountains and lakes that have an effect on you.

Water is responsible for wealth and mountains support people – this is a true Feng Shui principle.

However, Feng Shui principles such as these are cloaked in a poetic language that tends to conceal their real meaning – real understanding has traditionally been left to the few Feng Shui masters.

The real power of Feng Shui is to bring physical features in harmony with the invisible influences of a building. When this is achieved, you will have a radiant building that supports you.

It is not the picture of a dragon that produces the effects.

Putting a picture of a dragon on your wall is as useful as a picture of a rainbow with a pot of gold. It may have aesthetic value or symbolise what you want or hope for, but it is not part of authentic Feng Shui.



4. There is Marriage Trouble because the Relationship Corner is in the Toilet or Missing

This is not true. Firstly, the best area for relationships is not usually in the Southwest or far right corner of the house as commonly assumed (see point #1).

Therefore having a toilet in that area, in most cases would not affect your relationships.

Each house, however, has an area that supports relationships and good communication if properly activated. This is different in each house and there is no general rule where this is located.

Secondly, it is true that, in general, a balanced rectangular shape brings more stability than irregular house shapes.

Yet, irregular house shapes are not necessarily bad. I find that they generally fit our dynamic modern lives.

Some areas of a house (determined by an individual Feng Shui analysis) do have some unfavourable potential. If corners with such energy are missing, this is actually a good thing.

If corners with good potential are missing, on the other hand, this is not so desirable.

To find out what type of energy is missing from an irregular shaped house you need an individual analysis of the building.

5. A Water Feature in the North will Make you Wealthy

Here the same mistake is made as in earlier points. In Feng Shui we determine the influence and interplay of many types of heavenly, earthly and time-related influences.

The 'water in the North theory' only takes the static influences of the earth into account. In reality this is often superseded by the other influences.

The analogy would be of serving food on the most beautiful plate while the food on the plate is disgusting and makes you sick.

The food here represents all the other influences that this principle does not take into account. In Feng Shui you can't just focus on one dimension, the 'plate', but need to analyse other influences as well.

In many situations water in the North can in actual fact be extremely detrimental, causing difficult relationships, health problems as well as difficulty with money.

However, each house has an area that when activated with a big enough water feature, will support the wealth and prosperity of the people.

This can be in any of the compass directions and only a Feng Shui analysis can reveal its location.

Water features are very powerful, for the good or for the bad, and they should be installed only after a professional analysis has revealed where they should be placed.



6. Mirrors are powerful weapons against bad energy coming at your house

A mirror only reflects the light falling onto its surface. It is not a magic cure against all sorts of negative energy and has, in actual fact, only a very limited use in Feng Shui.

You don't need a mirror to have good Feng Shui.

In simple Feng Shui a mirror is often used as a cure-all and people are afraid when they feel they don't have their mirror in the right place. This is nonsense.

For example, the negative effects of an oncoming road are not remedied by a mirror. My teacher, Master Joseph Yu, used to chuckle when he told us that the only effects such a mirror may have is that it may blind the drivers and cause them to crash.

Negative oncoming energy needs to be cured, but what cure is best used needs to be determined in each individual situation.

7. Form School alone can create good Feng Shui

There is a form school principle that a building should have a mountain at the back and openness at the front. This is referred to as the black turtle, the dragon, the tiger and the red phoenix.

This is also a generalisation that represents an ideal situation.

In reality it is only true for a quarter of all buildings. In these cases its invisible influences support this generalised picture.

In some of the other scenarios a mountain may even be needed at the front and water at the back in order to allow wealth energy into the building or to support relationships.

The form school is only one half of the whole system of Feng Shui. By itself it can create problems and can be misleading. It needs to be combined with an individual analysis of the invisible forces affecting a building.



The Power of Feng Shui

Having separated out what Feng Shui is not, we can now look at what Feng Shui really is and what it can do.

Feng Shui can determine the best location for your bedroom, your kitchen or your lounge in your individual building. It can also locate the real wealth corner, a good position for your door, an office or specialised activities.

Each building has areas that innately support activity and while others support rest, relationships and communication, or both.

Sleep can be disturbed and relationships can be troubled in areas better suited for activity, while business can go to sleep when placed in areas suitable for rest.

Feng Shui can further support you by activating existent positive energies and by eliminating any harmful influences through right colour and décor.

To do this however, an individual analysis of your building is required. It is not possible to put effective generalised solutions into a book.

Only Feng Shui consultants who consider the changing influence of time on a building can deliver all the desirable outcomes available in Feng Shui.

This form of Feng Shui is called the Flying Star Feng Shui. It requires professional study to learn, a great deal of experience to master and is not acquired over night. (The term "Flying Star" has nothing to do with stars. Like the word "dragon" it is a poetic reference to the subtle influences that the masters discovered and described in authentic Feng Shui.)

Problems You Can Experience with Bad Feng Shui

If the Feng Shui in a building is not correct, you can experience problems like this:

- You may not be able to sleep well;
- Your health can suffer or your relationship may go rocky;
- Your work may be slow, your thinking fuzzy, your business sleepy and unproductive;
- You may have arguments, be stressed or have your children playing up;
- Income can be slow for no apparent reason with 'Murphy's law' may be at work in your life.

If the cause of these problems lies in bad Feng Shui, then appropriate Feng Shui improvements can handle the troubles, often very dramatically and rapidly.

If the cause of the problems has nothing to do with Feng Shui or only partially relates to bad Feng Shui, then you also need to address the correct cause of the problem, in order to achieve lasting and satisfying results.

Good Feng Shui makes a house feel right

A building with good Feng Shui feels good and supports its occupants.

Living life, making right decisions and taking positive actions, becomes easier if you don't have to wrestle against negative influences of the environment.

Good Feng Shui can create a building that is radiant, that is conducive to business and communication.

It can create a bedroom that is conducive to health and good relationship that supports your personal wellbeing.

What Happened to a Sydney Advertising Company After They Moved into a New Building:

(This company had moved into a new space because their business had been doing well and was expanding!) After the move, their business turned sour suddenly, with loss of contracts, lay-off of staff and internal conflicts.

'Luck' seemingly had turned against them. Their new space felt heavy and personal relationships were under stress.

A Feng Shui analysis of their old, successful space revealed a predominant theme of creativity and achievement, while at the new space it indicated loss of money and arguments – sadly reflecting what was going on there.

Feng Shui cures here lay in the rearrangement of people flows and the changing of colour schemes to stabilise the situation.

How a Room Can Be Detrimental to Sleep and Health

A family had allocated one of the bedrooms for their children in their new home.

A Feng Shui analysis of this bedroom revealed that, though a good office or playroom, it would be very detrimental to health to sleep.

A better sleeping place for the children was found.

I found out later that the man, who had lived in this house before and had slept in that room for 16 years, had developed serious cancer.

How a House Can Contribute to Marital Stress and Breakdown

After moving into a new home, a couple in a very happy and loving relationship developed marital problems, almost overnight.

Their relationship exploded and they were fighting. They had begun to constantly pick on each concerning things that had never mattered previously.

The Feng Shui analysis revealed the theme of relationship breakdown that was carried through their whole house. This was cured with straightforward Feng Shui adjustments.

FENG SHUI HELP

For more information please refer to my website: www.soulspace.info.

To find a system or practitioner of Feng Shui that can produce good results, check out my 30 page e-book: *How to Choose a System of Feng Shui that Works*.

If you would like to create a harmonious home or vibrant office, please contact me through my website or by phone.



Warm regards and good Feng Shui

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