

# Feng shui for the year of the Dog

Organise your home for luck and good fortune

By MEERA MURUGESAN

## Love and Relationships

"For love and relationships, we normally look at star number one," says Kerby Kuek, "and this year this star is in the east sector, which has a wood element."

But the relationship star is water in nature, and wood (in the east sector) will drain away the energy of water so we need more water to produce and maintain this energy.

To enhance and strengthen your relationship with your spouse or partner, Kuek recommends that we place water plants in the east sector of our home.

"Any plant will do, as long as it is in a bowl or pot of water and doesn't have thorns," he says.

Alternatively, we can place a cup of clean water in the east sector of the house, but the cup must be refilled everyday.

## Career

"IN our career, we also need relationships, especially if our job involves dealing with people," says Kuek, so the relationship star is also important here.

Once again, we need water plants in the east sector to enhance our work relationships. We also need to place eight white stones in the northwest sector of the home or office, says Kuek.

These can be any white pebbles. They need not be expensive feng shui items," says Kuek.

Place them out of sight, advises Kuek, for example under the sofa in the house or under the desk in the office, as long as they are in the northwest sector.

The number eight represents the earth element which provides support. Water governs relationships, so we need synergy between these two, says Kuek.

The eight stones provide a sort of artificial mountain that can give you support, says Kuek.

## Promotion

THERE are two stars which are critical for promotions and these are the number eight and number nine stars, says Kuek.

We need to treat the number eight star nicely, he says, and this year it falls in the north sector. To enhance it, we should place nine red roses (thorns removed) in a bowl of water in the north sector.

Nine roses are needed because both the number nine and the colour red represent fire. Any flower will do, says Kuek, as long as it is red.

"This will help to enhance your luck during interviews or promotions," says Kuek.

Star number nine, on the other hand, is the star of celebration and we need to enhance this star so we can have something to celebrate.

This year, it is in the southwest sector so we need to place items in red in this sector says Kuek.

For example, red curtains, red banners or red ornaments would do, as number nine is a fire star and we need red to enhance it.

## Education

THE number four star, which governs this theme, is in the north west sector, says Kuek.

Ideally, your children's bedrooms

should be in this sector of the house, says Kuek but since we can't change the layout of our house, there is something else we can do.

Place four wooden calligraphy pens, which symbolise writing, learning and knowledge, in the northwest sector of your children's bedrooms, he says.

"This number four star helps you to concentrate on your studies, so contrary to popular belief the number four is not a bad number for the Chinese after all," says Kuek.

## Health

THIS year is a strong fire year, says Kuek, and the Dog represents dry earth, and fire combined with dry earth can create problems with the stomach, digestive system and can also cause skin diseases.

We also need to be wary of disease outbreaks like dengue which may occur more than usual, especially in May, June and July.

To protect ourselves from illness, Kuek recommends that we place six bronze coins, or a metal plate which is 15cm in length, in the southeast and west sectors of the home where the illness stars are.

"You can also place a music box or a bell in these sectors, as the sound will help to drain the bad energy. But you have to ensure that the sound is made frequently," says Kuek.

Ideally, your bedroom, your front door and your kitchen doors should not meet these illness stars, so they should not be located in the southeast or west sectors of your home.



FENG SHUI MASTER: Kerby Kuek offers some tips for a good year of the Dog

## Enhancing your luck

AS the Chinese calendar approaches a new year, it's time once again to put into place certain dos and don'ts to ensure a prosperous, stable and healthy life in the Year of the Dog.

Feng shui consultant Kerby Kuek, who's based in Hong Kong, says this year can pose some challenges, especially in terms of health, and it's generally better to wait until 2007 before acquiring a new property.

Kuek offers some tips to ensure you have a smooth "ride" this year in various areas of your life.