

## **Magic 9 Square + Five Elements**

I'm often asked, "Why do we need to use the yearly "cures" if the building has had a basic Feng Shui consultation?"

Because a basic consultation is just that – basic! It looks at the architectural features, where the different types of rooms are located, (i.e. bedrooms, kitchen, etc.), what the correct elemental energy for each room should be, the flow created by furniture arrangement, where the front and back doors are located, what influence the placement of your neighbors' houses have on your home, your landscaping, and so much more.

Many people think if the building has been evaluated once, you don't need to do it again. The reality is, you move furniture around, you change floor coverings by adding rugs or removing one material for another, and you bring in new accessories.

Plus, you change! You grow. You desire new areas of achievement. Your knowledge grows. Your world expands. You need a home that grows and expands with you.

One way to adapt to how you have changed and how the world has changed around you is to incorporate the new energies associated with the New Year. Especially the Chinese New Year with the new elemental energies the Chinese Zodiac Animal brings.

For instance, this year is the Metal Rat whereas last year was the Earth Pig. The difference in how each area of your home interacted with last year's elemental energies as compared to this year's energies is completely unique.

Each direction has an element associated with it according to many ancient cultures. Several schools of Feng Shui use what is known as the Ba-Gua, or the Magic 9 Square, to help locate these elements. The Magic 9 Square is a 3 by 3 square "map" that overlays the building's floor plan and is placed on it according to the compass directions.

If the right element is present in the corresponding location, there is balance. If the element is not present in the directional area, the space will be off, or outof-balance.







The elements associated with each direction are as follows:

North = Water

Northeast = Earth

East = Wood

Southeast = Wood

South = Fire

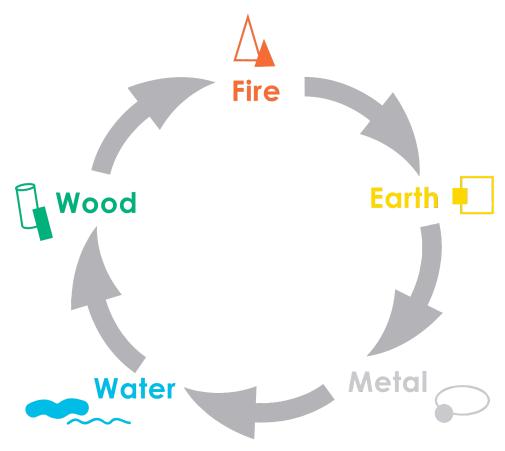
Southwest = Earth

West = Metal

Northwest = Metal

Center = Earth

In an ideal world if you have the above element in that direction, your home and your life will feel in balance. The Five Elements in a constructive order, or creative cycle, are: Wood, Fire, Earth, Metal, Water and then back to Wood. Here is a diagram showing the "constructive Cycle of the Elements:



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In the previous diagram you will see the Five Elements, the color, and the shape associated with it. They are: green/rectangle/column for Wood, red/triangle/pyramid for Fire, yellow/square/cube for Earth, gray/circle/ball for Metal, blue/wavy/freeform for Water.

If we were only dealing with the Magic 9 Square, having the predominate element in the room would create a balanced room. That, in turn, would support a balanced life. We could have the element in the space through the shape, color or actual element, like wood furniture in a wood sector.

The challenge is – each year we have a new animal with a new element associated with it. This brings new energy to each location. One way this is shown is through the Flying Star pattern. It is said it represents the movement of the planets "flying" through the Solar System.

Here is a diagram showing the Main Element for each direction around the outside of the Magic 9 Square plus the "Flying Star" numbers and elements for each direction during the 2020 Yang Metal Rat Year:









Without getting into too much detail, let me briefly explain how this new yearly energy works, or doesn't work, with the stationary element from the Magic 9 Square.

A quick example would be Fire, which is located in the South. If the Yearly Flying Star element that is Fire "flies," or lands, in this area, they are the same. Hence, they are compatible.

If, for instance, the Yearly Flying Star element that is Water "flies" into the Fire area, it would put out the Fire. It's as though you poured Water on the Fire putting it out. If this is your career or money-earning sector, you could be demoted or lose your job because the Fire element was put out by water, thus greatly reducing your energy to earn money.

Or if the Yearly Flying Star element were Wood and lands in the Fire sector, it would grow the Fire. Wood is the fuel that grows Fire. If your relationship area is in the Fire sector, by adding wood to the Fire you might start having "heated" discussions or arguments.

Yet, one more thing might occur. If in the example I shared first where the Magic 9 Square element is Fire and the Flying Star element is Fire – having the location be a DOUBLE Fire – it could be too much Fire, way out of proportion to the other sections. It could be like a big oilrig explosion – so powerful in a negative way one's whole life explodes, going up in smoke.

In short, we want to create **balance** as much as possible according to the elements. We want each directional area to be as equal in strength as possible to its neighbor. We may need to add a color or object to increase the energy. We may need to remove something in order to bring it into balance. There are times when the elemental energies are so out-of-whack they suggest SEVERAL items or to have a protector present in the area.

Sometimes due to the interaction of the two elements, it might be prudent to raise your consciousness to a Higher Level. When that is the situation, the Yearly Animal guidelines often suggest using something spiritual, like a Quan Yin, angel, or Buddha. All these can be done in a supportive way using your own belief system and personal style.







Other times the interaction is on a more basic, practical or, as is sometimes stated, a mundane level. For instance, the area may be associated with money or finances. Putting something that relates to money would be the guideline, like a Piggy Bank or actual money.

And REMEMBER, when setting out the elemental objects, it is best if you have a positive, life affirming mental state. KNOWING you are placing these objects with an INTENTION for the HIGHEST GOOD.

This is a short overview of why it is advised to work with the Yearly Animal's energy **each year** to bring a FRESH START into your home and your life.



