



Feng Shui: What Kind of Year Can You Expect? Looking at the Energies of 2009

by Maureen Calamia | posted February 2009

According to Chinese philosophy, you are born into the world in a time when a specific natural energy predominates. This energy is represented by an animal and one of the five Chinese elements (Wood, Fire, Earth, Metal and Water). If you had a child born in 2008 (that is, February 7, 2008 through January 25, 2009), your child's energy is best represented by the Earth Rat (2008 being the Year of the Earth Rat). Sounds rather unappealing, doesn't it?

Actually the Rat in Chinese culture is a very diligent creature. According to *The Practical Encyclopedia of Feng Shui* (Lorenz, 1999), by Gill Hale, "The rat is an opportunist with an eye for a bargain. Rats . . . are devoted to their families, particularly their children."

The Year of the Earth Rat is one to start new ventures, a good time to inaugurate a new president. But it was one of financial concerns, at the very least!

As we approach the Chinese New Year on January 26, we are entering the Year of the Earth Ox. Oxen are known for their solidity and dependability. The natural element of the Ox is Earth. So, 2009 should be a foundation year, good for moving forward with caution, but don't expect much excitement. The Ox is loyal and dependable; so, 2009 will be a conservative year.

Considering what's been going on, it makes sense that we enter this year with caution and a solid work ethic.

Your Personal Year

Overall, 2009 is the Year of the Earth Ox, but according to 9 Star Ki Astrology, a system used by many Feng Shui consultants, you are also within a cycle of energy that starts at birth. Probably the oldest astrological system in the world, 9 Star Ki uses the numbers one through nine to illustrate the energies of the cosmos.

In a few short steps you can determine what your personal energy is for 2009:

Step 1: Determine your Primary Number (the energy of the year you were born), by finding your birth year in the chart below. Note the Primary Number.

Note: According to this system, if you were born between January 1 and February 3, you are considered to be born the previous year. The year begins on February 4.

9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017

Step 2: Determine your energy for 2009, see chart below:

Primary Number	Energy of 2009 Year
1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	1
6	2
7	3
8	4
9	5

Example:

My Primary Number is 1, which is the Water Element. My energy for 2009 is a "6" energy.

Step 3: Read below to see how what you can expect and how your energy will best be channeled in 2009:

Energy Number	Description
1	A slow year. "Winter." Time for reflection, meditation and research. Time to plan. There can be difficulties with finances, may be some moodiness. Not a time to take action
2	"Early Spring." Slow progress, but finally time to take some steps to go forward on something you've been researching in your "1" year. Great time to create relationships, network, make new friends. Have patience. Things are building.
3	"Spring." Full growth. Things are really moving now! Great time to start new projects. Be careful with impetuosity. Be sure to follow through. Sudden changes possible.
4	"Late Spring." Strong growth, but not on solid foundation. Can fall flat on your face if you are not cautious. Do not change direction, although you may be tempted with new things. You can be distracted. Travel and steady work on your path can lead to great results. May meet influential people.
5	Time of great beginnings and endings. Projects come to fruition. You get results. Anything you start now has deep roots. Be careful what you choose. Very changeable energy. Extremes - huge success, terrible loss possible. Relationships can be in question. Try to remain centered and calm.
6	"Early Autumn." Beginning of harvest. You may become known for your knowledge, ability, skills. You may get a promotion or retire. Ambitions are fulfilled in some way. Caution about becoming arrogant or creating jealousy among others.
7	"Late Autumn." Great joy! Abundance, smooth sailing. Very productive time. Things come easily. Money may come from unexpected source. Opportunities for socializing are great. Travel, pleasure, spending money. Be cautious about over-spending, or exhaustion.
8	Image of the Mountain. Stillness, calm, reflection. May be an uncomfortable time, dealing with difficult feelings. Can be a transformational time. Full of emotion. Deal with these difficult emotions and you can come out great leaps ahead of where you were. Watch for miscommunication in relationships. Stay still.
9	"Summer." Peak year of the nine-year cycle. Expansion, rapid development. A very bright, positive time. More energy and enthusiasm for life. You may get new job offers or start a new relationship. You have an opportunity to close out old issues before you start the cycle again. Things may end. Let go of baggage as you don't want to carry it forward to the new cycle.

Example:

I am moving into a 6 year, which may bring me opportunities in career and further my ambitions!

I hope this simple, ancient tool will help you to make the best of 2009. If you would like to read more about 9 Star Ki Astrology, I recommend *Feng Shui Astrology: Using 9 Star Ki to Achieve Harmony & Happiness in Your Life* (Ballantine, 1997), by Jon Sandifer.

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