

e-lesson: Life Groups

Are You an East Group or West Group Person? Find your favorable and unfavorable directions.

The school, in which the personal direction concept comes from, is the Eight Mansions or sometimes referred to as the East/West System. The Chinese name is Ba Zhai or Ba Yun, and it is still one of the most popular forms of feng shui practiced by the masses in Asia. According to one Chinese Feng Shui Master, a book entitled "Eight House, Bright Mirror" is the number one bestseller on Feng Shui in Asia.

In the East/West system, it is understood that everyone has four (4) lucky or favorable directions and four (4) unlucky or unfavorable directions. This is based on the science of magnetic directional energy and the environment. Receiving your favorable directional energy is the idea, and at the same time avoiding when possible, the unlucky directions. The most important application is the house facing and the door facing. Also, in important rooms, like bedrooms, kitchens, home offices, or living rooms. The Ba Zhai system also uses location as well as direction.

The East/West system is applicable for structures (homes) and for people. In this article we will only discuss the directional energy for people, as reviewing the entire system would create a book. The Ba Zhai or East/West system is a fairly easy school of Feng Shui. This is why it is extremely popular; it does not require learning complex formulas as required in more advanced schools of Feng Shui. However, it is an informative and valid form of Feng Shui having deep roots in the classical studies.

Here are the simple rules for calculating your personal Ming Gua or Trigram: Note: (If you were born between Jan. 1 to Feb. 3, go to the previous year of your birth. This applies to both males and females. The Chinese calendar runs Feb. to Feb., instead of Jan. to December)

FORMULA FOR MALES: Add the last two digits of your birth year. If your answer is greater than a 9, add again to get a single digit. Now Subtract 10.

+90 Sheng Chi—Life Giving Chi
+80 Tien Yi—Heavenly Doctor
+70 Yen Nien—Relationships
+60 Fu Wie—Stability
-60 Wo Hai—Accidents/Mishaps
-70 Wu Gwei—The Five Ghosts
-80 Liu Sha—The Six Killings
-90 Chueh Ming—Total Disaster

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- 1) Chi representations based on Master Yap's percentage values.
- 2) Yin/Yang symbol



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Everyone has lucky and unlucky directions.

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If your answer reduces to a 5, you will be considered a 2 Gua. There is no trigram for a 5 in this system, and it has no directional energy. For males and females, a zero becomes a 9 Gua.

Example 1: January 15, 1974 we use the previous year because the birth date is before Feb 3. Add $7+3=10$. Get single digit by adding $1+0=1$ Subtract 10. $10-1=9$. In this example, this man's Gua is 9 of the East Group and the trigram is Li. Li is a fire element and his good directions are E, SE, N, & S.

Example 2: May 17, 1954 Start by adding $5+4=9$ Subtract 10. $10-9=1$ This man's Gua is 1 of the East Group and the trigram is Kan. Kan is a water element and his good directions are SE, E, S, & N.

Example 3: August 15, 1965 Add $6+5=11$ Reduce to a single digit by adding $1+1=2$ Subtract 10. $10-2=8$ This man has an 8 Gua of the West Group and the trigram is Gen. Gen is an Earth element and his good directions are SW, NW, W, & NW.

FORMULA FOR FEMALES: Add the last two digits of your birth year, then add 5 to the number. If the results are greater than 9, add them together to get a single digit. In most cases you will get a double digit answer that needs to be reduced to a single digit. Only those born close to the turn of the century will have a single digit answer. If your Gua reduces to a 5, you will be considered an 8 Gua. There is no trigram for a 5 in this system, and it has no directional energy. For males and females, a zero becomes a 9 Gua.

Example 1: June 21, 1954 Start by adding $5+4=9$. Then add 5. $5+9=14$. Reduce to single digit by adding $1+4=5$. Female 5's are considered an 8 Gua. This woman is an 8 Gua of the West Group and the trigram is Gen. Gen is an Earth element and her good directions are SW, NW, W, & NE.

Example 2: January 18, 1970 since this birth date is before Feb. 4, we use the previous year of 1969. Begin by adding $6+9=15$. Add 5. $15+5=20$ Reduce by adding $2+0=2$ this woman is a 2 Gua of the West Group and the trigram is Kun. Kun is an Earth element and her good directions are NE, W, NW, & SW.

Example 3: November 12, 1961 Start by adding $6+1=7$ Add 5. $7+5=12$. Reduce to single digit by adding $1+2=3$. This woman is a 3 Gua of the East Group and the trigram is Zhen. Zhen is a Wood element and her good directions are S, N, SE, & E.

Just remember that males subtract 10 and females add 5. Both use the previous year if the birthday falls before February 4. Everyone will have a single digit Ming Gua number that is between 1 to 9. We all have four good and four bad directions.

Now, looking at the chart, first you will notice that you are either a West Group or East Group person. The chart gives you the Chinese name for



Chi Representations/Percentage

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-80 Liu Sha —The Six Killings
-90 Chueh Ming —Total Disaster

San He: Ming Kua Number

Ba Zhai System or Pa Chai (8 Mansions)

Using Directions, Locations, & Master Yap's Percentage Values for the Eight Directions for Each Kua

EAST LIFE GROUP				WEST LIFE GROUP			
震	巽	坎	離	乾	坤	艮	兌
Zhen	Xun	Kan	Li	Qian	Kun	Gen	Dui
3	4	1	9	6	2	8	7
S	N	SE	E	W	NE	SW	NW
N	S	E	SE	NE	W	NW	SW
SE	E	S	N	SW	NW	W	NE
E	SE	N	S	NW	SW	NE	W
SW	NW	W	NE	SE	E	S	N
NW	SW	NE	W	E	SE	N	S
NE	W	NW	SW	N	S	E	SE
W	NE	SW	NW	S	N	SE	E

SE +90	S +70	SW -90
E +80	1	W -60
NE -70	N +60	NW -80

SE +70	S +90	SW -60
E +60	3	W -90
NE -80	N +80	NW -70

SE +60	S +80	SW -70
E +70	4	W -80
NE -90	N +90	NW -60

SE +80	S +60	SW -80
E +90	9	W -70
NE -60	N +70	NW -90

SE -60	S -90	SW +70
E -70	6	W +90
NE +80	N -80	NW +60

SE -70	S -80	SW +60
E -60	2	W +80
NE +90	N -90	NW +70

SE -90	S -60	SW +90
E -80	8	W +70
NE +60	N -70	NW +80

SE -80	S -70	SW +80
E -90	7	W +60
NE +70	N -60	NW +90

your personal trigram/gua and the element that it relates to. For instance, if your Ming Gua is an 8, you are in the West Group and the trigram associated with it is Gen or Earth. These names/elements relate to the Ba Gua/Pa Kua trigrams as well.

Once you have calculated your Gua, locate your Gua number on the chart, then follow the column down. The first four (4) listed are your favorable directions—the first listed being the best direction for you, the second is the second best direction and so forth. The last four (4) listed are your bad directions, the first listed is the very worst, the second listed is the second worst and so forth.

This information will help place you well in your spaces. Remember that location is different than direction. You need not be located in the SW sector of your home to receive the energy of the SW, although this would be excellent. Particularly, for a bedroom or home office. Each room of your spaces has all directions contained within it. When you place yourself in any of your good directions, you will feel more productive and attract better opportunities. In placing the bed, have the top of your head (your crown Chakra) receiving in one of your good directions. For other rooms, try to place yourself so that you are *facing* the magnetic energy from one of your good directions. However, you would not want to place your back to a door in an effort to place yourself in one of your good directions. *Not* exposing our backs to a door is a basic rule of Feng Shui. Exposing our backs to a door has several negative affects. It is very important that company executives place their backs to a solid wall.

Some of you may have already discovered you and your mate are of different groups—there are more advanced magnetic directional systems that get accurately to 15° placements (the Pa Zhai). The system we are discussing here is based on the eight (8) cardinal directions each consisting of 45°. The advanced Pa Zhai method is too complex to discuss here, but phenomenal results can be had with this system. When business partners and spouses/mates are in different groups, a viable solution is to use the Pa Zhai System.

Experiment with your personal directions and pay particular attention to any changes. This system is designed to enhance luck or favorable circumstances. Also, placing your bed in one of your good directions will enhance health. The East/West system is an excellent place to begin implementing simple, yet dynamic changes to elicit assistance from the magnetic energies to expand our human potential.

Remember, location is different than direction.

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