

Feng Shui For Real Life E-zine

December 2009

Vol. 9, Issue 12



Welcome to the *Feng Shui For Real Life E-zine*, a monthly e-mail magazine that provides Feng Shui tips, success stories, clutter-clearing advice, and other information to help you bring simple Feng Shui improvements into your life. For more about Feng Shui, please visit my website www.FengShuiForRealLife.com.

I love to write about Feng Shui, but I must limit the length of this e-zine to keep it from getting caught in spam filters. If you want to read more about the topics in this e-zine, please read the weekly articles I post on the [Feng Shui site at BellaOnline.com](http://www.FengShuiForRealLife.com).

**Wishing you a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas,
Joyous Kwanzaa, and a Prosperous New Year.**

--Carol M. Olmstead

Holiday Quick Tips from the

***Feng Shui Quick Guide For Home and Office: Secrets For
Attracting Wealth, Harmony, and Love***



Here are a few of the holiday tips from the "Calendar of 366 Feng Shui Tips" in my book:

- *Locate your Christmas tree in the Wealth area (upper right hand corner) or Future area (upper center) of the room because triangular shapes displayed in these areas enhance finances.*
- *Decorate for Hanukkah in the traditional colors of blue to make your holiday flow smoothly and silver for strength.*
- *Scatter gold and silver coins around for New Year's Eve because valuable coins symbolize your intention to attract prosperity in the coming year.*

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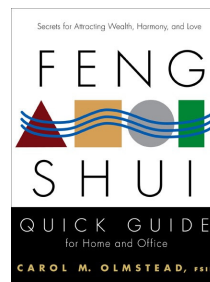
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***Feng Shui Quick Guide For Home
and Office --
Secrets For Attracting Wealth,
Harmony, & Love***

Feng Shui Tip For December: Six Gifts to Avoid, Six Gifts to Give, Six Gifts to Take



Last month I wrote about the six gifts to avoid giving because they have negative Feng Shui messages. As a review, here are those six gifts:

Six Gifts to Avoid Giving

1. **Sharp Object** -- represents cutting a friendship.
2. **Empty Wallet** -- represents lack of prosperity.
3. **Thorny Flower or Plant** -- represents piercing a relationship.
4. **Stunted Tree or Bonsai** -- represents stunted growth.
5. **Clock or Timepiece** -- represents stealing time.
6. **Handkerchief** -- represents crying in the future.

This month, I would like to add six Feng-Shui friendly gifts to give:

Six Gifts To Give This Holiday Season

1. **Wallet or Purse** -- with a 50 dollar bill tucked inside to attract wealth.
2. **Healthy Plant** -- a plant with rounded leaves represents coins and prosperity.
3. **Wind Chimes** -- to attract positive energy to any location.
4. **Donation to a Nonprofit** -- to assure your money does good work.
5. **Precious Stones** -- jade for longevity or citrine to attract clients.
6. **Book** -- to open up the world.

And, to wish you a Happy New Year filled with wealth, harmony, and love, here are six gifts to give yourself on New Year's Day or early in January to assure that all of your New Year's resolutions become reality:

Six Things to Take With You Into the New Year

1. **New Red Wallet** -- to attract wealth and prosperity this year.
2. **Large Tote Bag** -- to carry all the good things you expect the year to bring.
3. **New Shoes** -- to stomp out any frustrations in the upcoming year.
4. **Gold Jewelry** -- to signify that you can afford fine things this year.
5. **Red Accessory** -- to attract good fortune in the days ahead.
6. **Purse Hanger** -- to keep your purse off the floor and respect your wealth.

[For more advice about holiday gift giving, click here to read my article "Feng Shui Holiday Gift Giving" on the Feng Shui site at BellaOnline.com.](#)

Clutter Clinic

What Would You Pitch?



The end of the year is the perfect time to go through your collections and donate, recycle, or trash what you no longer like or need. It's tough enough deciding what to get rid of from your personal treasures, but what would you pitch if you were a major museum doing some house cleaning?

According to an article in [Time Magazine](#), University College London's museums are purging most of the 250,000 items in their collection and have asked the public to weigh in on what to toss and what to keep. In an exhibition called "Disposal?" the University asked visitors to vote on what to keep, what to give away to other museums, and what to throw away.

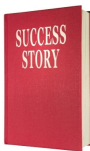
For example, visitors voted on whether to keep the picnic basket known as the "Agatha Christie basket," which contains fragments of pottery of unknown origins. It turns out the basket never belonged to the author but rather to her second husband's second wife, and the University has no idea under what circumstances it was donated. Or, visitors voted their preferences for a giant rhinoceros skull, a marsupial mole preserved in formaldehyde, a 1960s toy car, and a collection of Victorian-era death masks. [Click here to read the entire Time Magazine article.](#)

Clutter-Clearing Quick Tip: *You can apply a similar process to your home clutter-clearing by inviting friends to a "Pitch Party." Display the items you might want to pitch and let your friends vote on what stays and what goes.*

Success Story

Allison's Rock and a Hard Place

Allison felt stuck between "a rock and a hard place" when she called to set up a Feng Shui home consultation. A real estate agent, Allison's finances were strained because of the downturn in the market. To complicate things, her roommate had moved out to live with a boyfriend and Allison couldn't afford to pay the rent on the pricey loft by herself. She was happy for her roommate, but hoped that she, too, could find love. To complicate the situation, Allison's aging car was no longer appropriate for chauffeuring her clients around. Allison was afraid her limited finances would make her choose between getting a new apartment and buying a new car. To get her career and her life moving forward, I outlined a year of Feng Shui changes for Allison. Here is what she wrote:



Since I put Feng Shui to work for me and began serious clutter-clearing and strategic redecorating, I have paid in full for a new car, moved into a new fabulous apartment, and have fallen madly in love with a guy I met in the fitness center of my new complex. And to think that when I began this process I thought I would have to choose between a car and an apartment. I felt so stuck at first, but with slow and steady implementation of a day-by-day Feng Shui plan I was able to gradually make things happen that I previously thought were impossible.

Ask the Feng Shui Maven

Q: I'd like to give my young niece and nephews a weather station for Christmas that includes a thermometer, barometer, hygrometer, and a clock. I think the kids would have some fun with this gift and it would be educational, but I'm worried that I might be making a Feng Shui mistake because a clock is included. Do you think this will be a problem?

A: Because of all the other instruments included in the weather station, the clock becomes a gift of "science" and a way for the kids to learn, rather than only a way to tell time. It sounds like a great gift that your niece and nephews will be lucky to get.

Q: We rarely use our front door. Do I still use it to orient the bagua when I am mapping out my house?

A: Yes, you orient the bagua map at the front door of your home, even if you enter through the garage, side door, or back porch. This is the "architectural" entrance that was created by the builder, and it's the way the positive chi enters your home even if you don't. However, because the front door is the "mouth of chi" it's a good idea to use it frequently. Try opening the front door every day, even if it's only to get your morning newspaper or simply to greet the day. And avoid taking out the trash through the front door if you can.

Q: I have a bathroom in the wealth area of my home, and I'm thinking this can't be good Feng Shui. What do you advise?

A: Water is symbolically related to wealth and prosperity in Feng Shui, so because a bathroom is an area where water is constantly draining it presents a challenge, especially when located in the wealth area of your home. Ancient Feng Shui practitioners didn't have this issue because bathrooms were located outside of the house. But since no one wants to go back to that, it's best to assure that all plumbing is in excellent working order, the room is always clean and free from mildew and clutter, and that you add something from the Fire element or Earth element category to dry up some of the excess water.



Do you have Feng Shui questions for The Feng Shui Maven? [Click here to submit them.](#)

Feng Shui-Friendly Holiday Gifts

If you still need to buy some last-minute gifts, here are a few Feng Shui-friendly suggestions:



Donations. Buy new clothes or toiletries to give to a local shelter or your favorite charity, or give a generous monetary gift in your recipient's name. You can also donate via websites like www.networkforgood.org or www.tisbest.org, which let your friends choose from a list of charities.

Purse Hangers. In Feng Shui, keeping your purse on the floor represents disregard for your wealth. Now, you can keep your purse off the floor by using a purse hanger to hang it from a table or desk. Folding purse hangers that fit easily into your purse or pocket are available from the Feng Shui For Real Life Online Store. [Click here to order your purse hangers.](#)

Feng Shui Quick Guide For Home and Office. Special holiday discounts are available. Order 10 books for \$99.99 or 5 books for \$69.99. All books are personally signed and inscribed to your recipients and include a gift card toward a Feng Shui home consultation. Orders must be placed before December 15. Call 1.800.652.9038 to order, or [click here to order online.](#)

Gift Cards for Feng Shui Consulting Services. Available in any amount and can be applied toward a home or office consultation. Place your order by [e-mail](#) or call 1.800.642.9038.

"Move Without Moving" Home Makeover Package



Recession got you down? Afraid to make a move in this poor economy, but need to do something to get your energy moving? Overwhelmed by clutter? Move the energy in your home with my new **"Move Without Moving"** Feng Shui home makeover package. You will be amazed by the positive things that will flow into your life after a Feng Shui home makeover. **Package includes:**

- On-site Feng Shui Home Consultation
- Step-by-Step Makeover and Clutter-Clearing Plan
- 30 Days of E-mail Followup Consulting, plus 90 Days of Maintenance Consulting
- Monthly Progress Reports
- Phone Consultation Wrap-Up
- Signed copy of the *Feng Shui Quick Guide For Home and Office*

**4 months of Feng Shui services
for the cost of little more than one on-site consultation.**

For prices and to reserve your package, [e-mail](#) or call 1.800.652.9038.

Where Is The Feng Shui Maven This Month?

Nationwide, I schedule consultations for homes and offices on request. On a regular basis I work with clients in the **Northeast** (DC Metro Area and Maryland Suburbs, Baltimore, Annapolis, Northern Virginia, New York City, and New Jersey) and the **Southwest** (Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Phoenix, and Denver).

Appointments do fill up fast, especially on weekends, so schedule your consultation now to get the date you want.



Here is my schedule for late December and early January:

Santa Fe/Albuquerque: Dec. 11-16; Jan 3-13

Washington, DC/Maryland/Virginia: Dec. 17-18; Jan. 14-18

I have received requests for consultations in the following cities:

Charlotte, North Carolina

Portland, Oregon

San Antonio, Texas

If you are interested in setting up a consultation in these or other cities,
please contact me to hold your date and time.

[E-mail](#) or call 1.800.652.9038.

I welcome your referrals nationwide.

Custom Workshops

Invite Carol to Speak to Your Group



Bring one of The Feng Shui Maven's workshops to your city. I will create a custom presentation to motivate your business or group to make simple changes that will attract wealth, harmony, and positive relationships. From **keynote speeches**, to **"munch-and-learn" workshops**, to **half-day or full-day seminars**, my interactive workshops are full of practical advice, tips...and fun. **Feng Shui workshops make great fund-raisers because they always sell out.**

[Click here to see more of the topics I can customize for your group.](#)

Thank you for a great presentation! Really great stuff....you are a whiz.
--Val Romero, [Women Make A Difference Luncheons](#), Albuquerque

I welcome your referrals.

If you know of a group or organization that would be interested in scheduling me as a speaker, please [e-mail](#) or call **1.800.652.9038**.

Beyond Feng Shui

Safe Holiday Shopping Online



There are several steps you can take to protect yourself from identity theft while shopping online this holiday season, or any time. This list of tips for safe shopping comes from Cameron Huddleston, writing for [www.kiplinger.com](#).

- 1. Don't shop online from a public Wi-Fi connection.** Hackers can tap into Wi-Fi connections at hotspots like coffee shops, airports, and hotels to capture your personal information. Never use a public computer to shop or check accounts online.
- 2. Don't use your Smartphone to shop.** Hackers can use the same tactics for tapping into your Smartphone as they use for your laptop or PC.
- 3. Don't use your debit card for online shopping.** Hackers can steal your debit-card information and raid your bank account.
- 4. Don't shop at sites search engines pick for you.** These sites could be bogus. Only shop online at known retailers. Look for security labels such as VeriSign and Cybertrust, and for "https://" to appear in the URL on pages that prompt you to enter personal information.
- 5. Don't click on pop-up ads.** Hackers recently have posted false ads with malicious software on legitimate sites.

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Thanks to my colleague Bill Hughes for sharing this important information through his informative "Homes and Money Quarterly Newsletter." Bill is Executive Director of Sales and Marketing at [Legacy Mortgage LLC](#) in Albuquerque.

FYI

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While articles in the *Feng Shui For Real Life E-zine* are copyrighted, I encourage you to reprint them and link to my website. I ask only that you credit Carol M. Olmstead as author and include my website address or link to FengShuiForRealLife.com when you print the article or use it online.

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Check the E-zine Archives.

If you missed any previous issues of the *Feng Shui For Real Life E-zine*, you can download them from the [Archives page at FengShuiForRealLife.com](#).

Schedule a Consultation or Workshop.

If you would like to set up a home, office, or business consultation, or schedule a customized workshop, contact:
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Certified Feng Shui Practitioner
Call toll free 1.800.652.9038 or [e-mail carol@FengShuiForRealLife.com](mailto:carol@FengShuiForRealLife.com)



Carol M. Olmstead, FSII, was certified by the Feng Shui Institute of America, and awarded Red Ribbon Professional Status from the Int'l Feng Shui Guild.

Feng Shui For Real Life, LLC, and the Feng Shui For Real Life E-zine serve as a reference and guide for the principles of Feng Shui and as such bear no responsibility for results a client or reader experiences. Individual results may vary based on the client's participation and intent.

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