

How to Use the Bagua Map

There are different methods you can use to begin applying feng shui principles to your house, but the most common method in North America today is the bagua map. The bagua map is a symbolic tool that is sometimes called The Eight Aspirations because it divides living spaces into eight areas. Each area corresponds to different aspirations in life: Family, Abundance, Reputation, Relationships, Creativity, Helpful People, Career and Self Knowledge.

---- Back of house ---



---- Front of house (front door area)

Using the Bagua Map

The first step in this process is to draw the floor plans of the home. Then you write in the areas on the bagua map on the floor plan. With the bagua map properly aligned over your floor plans, your front door will be in one of the three orienting bagua areas: Wisdom (Self Knowledge), Career or Guidance (Helpful People).

If there is more than one floor, you must draw a separate plan for each floor, e.g. the ground floor, the basement, the upstairs orienting it the same direction as the front door. In other words, it is a birds eye view (or a layer cake if that helps you to envision it more easily) with each floor of the house copying the orientation of the main floor.

The bagua areas do not correspond to individual rooms. You want to imagine a grid of 9 equal areas. (I usually draw this grid right on my completed floor plan). Therefore we find things such as a Great Room having 2 or 3 bagua areas contained within it; or that a bagua area begins in one room and ends another. Sometimes what happens is that a bagua area is partly or completely in a closet.

When a bagua area is such that it is difficult to do enhancements (for example if it is in a closet, or under a stairway) what can be done is to use a bagua map inside a bagua map. In other words you can use an additional bagua map in each room, just like you did for the whole house. In the case of a room, you use the doorway of the room to orient it. Then you can do the enhancement for any areas that fall into 'difficult' areas. It is a way of bringing the energy of that bagua area out in the open.

Missing Parts of the Bagua Grid

Many houses have extensions and recesses. Unless your home is perfectly square (or rectangular) you will find the bagua map won't fit and part or parts of the grid will be missing and therefore will not have the energy of that bagua area in it. Or it can be an extension of the bagua map, which means that there would be extra energy of that bagua map flowing into the house.

To find out whether your home has a missing area of the bagua, or a projection, often requires the service of a trained feng shui expert who will also advise what can be done to remedy it.

What Story Does the Bagua Map Tell You?

Once the structure of the house is attended to, you can begin taking a good look at what stories each of the bagua area have to say about your life. What rooms do you feel good in? Which ones do you dislike? Are some rooms over-used while others are nearly empty? Where does clutter accumulate? With your bagua map and notes in hand, you are ready to begin to make the feng shui changes that will guide you in rewriting your life story.

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