

**Activate & Bless your home, office, personal items & environment with  
Feng Shui for beginners written by Rita Joanne.**



# **BASIC FENG SHUI TIPS FOR HOME, OFFICE MORE...**

## **What is Feng shui??**

Pronounced Fung Shway

Feng Shui means “Wind” & “Water”. It’s an Ancient art & Science placement that has been around for over a thousand years to help bring balance between people and their environment, basically helping you to create balance and once you do that it can help increase harmony, peace, serenity, prosperity, happiness, love, luck & abundance / wealth in your life, sleep and more ...in your living and working space.

So why not apply some or as many principals as you wish because you really have nothing to lose.

## **I Ching Coins**



## **What are they?**

They are 3 coins tied together with the 4 symbols that represents Mankind, heaven and earth. The red ribbon is what activates it the 3 coins. Remember that 3 is the magic number. So, either 3, 6, or 9 coins etc are great. Never use 4 or 5 coins apparently, its bad luck. 9 coins is a Wealth bringer. It symbolizes accruing wealth by saying \*Money is already here\* and helps with one’s mindset (positive thinking) The hole in the coins means you’ll never run out of money in your purse.

## **Best ways to use or place them are:**

\*Place on important Documents / Bills (be sure your bills are unfolded) and be sure to always, always have the Yang side up (4 characters/symbols)

\* Keep one in your wallet / purse to ensure you always have money and they can be loose in your purse too

\*Wallets

\*On investment files, Contracts etc.

\*Behind your deposit slips in your check book

\*In the 4 corners of your home and office too

\*On your computer or laptop

\*Mobile phone / covers

- \*Under your front mat
- \*Inside doorknob & also one above your front door entrance is said to protect your household.
- \*Under rugs you walk on daily
- \*In your car where you keep coins
- \*Money jar..... just about anywhere even in your pantry so food never runs out
- \*In your cash register or cash box
- \*In your car, be sure to keep your car clean and clean from clutter and sage it too from time to time
- \*Extra tips, take coins out and cleanse and charge them in the full moon\*

### *Red envelopes*

The colour red is chosen because it represents life force, fortune, positive power, courage & strength and the rectangular shape of the envelope represents a shield. So together the red envelope creates a powerful tool to diffuse negative energy.

Activate your Wealth corner which for everyone is the Southeast of your home or room, you can place a small or large red envelope in the section, don't place crystals in this section unless its Citrine as this crystal will enhance your money energy. Also, because the SE is the wood element it's great to put green plants as it can also help increase your opportunities for increasing your income. Make this a bright area with light.

### *Mirrors*

Did you know that mirrors are called the **Aspirin** of Feng Shui? It is a powerful feng shui cure basically used as an expression of water so when placed in the right place it brings about beneficial energy into your home. So, feel free to use mirrors in the East for health, Southeast for money and North for Career.

A mirror that is placed that it reflects for example a beautiful garden will draw good energy into your space. A mirror facing chaos or a messy place or reflecting people having a disagreement will only bring about more of the same energy into your life or home.

**AVOID** mirrors facing your bed as this could drain your energy while you sleep, or it can bring in a third party into relationship. Never put a mirror in your front entrance that facing straight outside, as we open our front door the good Chi enters to nourish our home and if a mirror is directly in front the chi will bounce off the mirror and go straight back out. Be sure whenever possible that you dress in front of a full-length mirror, so you see yourself as a whole person. Great to use for kids (self-esteem) and helps us with a stronger sense of security. Any chipped

or broken mirrors are said to be bad feng shui. If you have a mirror facing your bed like a dresser table just cover it with a sheet at night if it can't be moved. Don't stress!!

## *Plants / Flowers*

One of the best ways to allow flow of Chi in your home or office is by placing the right plants and flowers in the right place. Here are some great Feng Shi plants / flowers that can help bring more positive energy, good luck & abundance in your home and purify and cleanse it from toxins.

The colour green symbolises growth, peace and harmony as use them to calm and to reduce stress. If you have a long hall way then the energy coming in from the front door will move quickly so be sure to put some plants if possible or something to slow it a little so it nourishes your home but Clutter right near the front entrance or hall way will slow it right down and unable to flow to nourish your home.

**Orchids** – these are a beautiful graceful plant and often used for Relationships as it represents love, attracts love and helps with long lasting love, also help to deepen friendships, they represent beauty and strength but for New Year it is given as a gift instead of anything else because it is considered and believed to bring good luck to the owner. Orchids in red can help with fertility too and not just babies. Orchid flower paintings are great for the bedroom. Great for spiritual growth, a painting is good for abundance for career.

**Jade Plant** – according to feng shui any plant with rounded leaves is sure to be bring good fortune. Great to give as gift for a new business owner and be sure to place at entrance of new business the same as your home. In fact, with your home place one out front to help bring in money and one at back door to stop It going out as in unwanted spending such as Fines because bills and rent/mortgage is normal and expected spending. Jade is known as a money plant because it also helps by stabilizing your finances. Jade at your front door, never poor.

**Lucky bamboo** is another well-known for attracting abundance, prosperity and even good health. This plant is also related to the 5 elements and here's how?

Wood – for Wealth and this plant symbolises the wood element and as we fill a vase with water hence water element which helps with determination and focus. We sometimes add pebbles or soil hence the earth element which is for stability and if we tie a red ribbon to help activate and attract luck, the colour red alone represents the fire element which is good cheer and happiness and if you add an I Ching coin we have brought in the metal element which is for strength and resilience so when you put all these together it's a lucky bamboo.

Now the best placement for this plant?? This is important to remember so it will attract positive energy into your home and bring good luck. The East section of your home this will help with health of all family members. Placed in the SE is for your finances as it strengthens and help keep the flow but so important to keep that plant \*happy and healthy\* Although this particular

beauty can be used in one's kitchens and bathrooms to bring wealth, love, good health and happiness but again just be careful about how much direct light its getting.

Caring for this plant.....keep inside of course, bamboo loves filtered of distilled water because tap water has Chlorine and not good for your plant, sometimes if in soil and soil has low nutrients. Remove yellow leaves straight away. Replace water every 15 days but I've also been told that you should always just top up the water if in a vase with just water and no soil. **AVOID** over or underwatering your bamboo if in soil, don't put in direct sunlight either. keep the vase and surroundings clean and clear of clutter.

### *Number of stalks and meanings*

**One stalk** (lucky log) signifies growth so give as a gift especially if someone is starting a new venture.

**Two stalks** are believed to be double luck or give as a gift for new couples, marriages etc.

**Three stalks** are great for Happiness, Prosperity & Long Life.

**Four stalks** are best to be avoided as it's NOT good luck

**Five stalks** will help to enrich your life in 5 ways, Emotions, Intuition, Mental, Physical & Spiritual.

**Six stalks** are believed to attract money, luck, prosperity and golden opportunities to help attain wealth and money.

**Seven stalks** are ideal for health in your life

**Eight stalks** are great for growth or better yet used for fertility

**Nine stalks** symbolise good luck and blessings to the receiver

**Ten stalks** this is one to gift is you want or wish the receiver everything that he or she desires meaning you are wishing someone a happy life

Then we have the most powerful of all **21 stalks**..... this signifies that the giver is wishing the receiver in the most profound manner the best wealth, health and abundance.

**Lavender** – such a pretty and calming plant to have. It's classified an herb for its cleansing effect as well as purifying. Display fresh lavender in your home from bedroom to bathroom as there is no restriction, with all other flowers mainly in feng shui if they are dried, they are not considered good feng shui but this does not apply to lavender.

With dried lavender, you can put in sachets in your closet or draws or anywhere for good energy all year round. When I smudge my home etc I burn sage to clear out bad energy and then lavender to bring back or invite good energy in. lavender essential oil is what I call \*liquid gold\* In feng shui it will help bring peace and relaxation.



**African violets** help with reputation and fame.

**Cactus plants** are ideal for recessed corners to help activate stagnant Chi or on your windowsills to annoy burglars.

**Carnations** are great too, use white ones for motivation, pink for intimacy and red for romance.

**Lotus** is also used for Fertility, it also represents enlightenment and purity, its symbolizes good health, lotus painting is great for prosperity and abundance. A painting is a great housewarming gift as its great for harmonious living.

**Roses** are good for money when budded and good for love and romance when open. Red roses for love, yellow for friendship and white is purity.

**Jasmine** – the wood element in Jasmine can represent friendship. Also means energy, confidence and optimism towards life. Brings joy to your home. A Jasmine painting is an ideal as a friendship gift.

**Cherry blossoms** represent freshness and innocence it also represents the start of something new. Ideal painting for new couples or for troubles couples

**Other great plants are: The ZZ plant ( Zanzibar) & Kumquat**

### **Here is a crucial tip for hanging flower paintings in your rooms**

For love and romance be sure there are two flowers in the pic never a single flower, this needs to be and represent the two of you.

Avoid water in flower pics and this could drain your energy

Avoid dried flowers in pics

Another great tip for you.....if you want to help with finances, you can hang a pic of a waterfall or waves but make sure its facing in the right direction.

And the list goes on.....

## **If you want to invite a new love in your life or manifest a new love, try these simple changes**

\*Buy a new toothbrush and place next to yours

\*Make room in your garage for another car to fit in it

\*Make room in your draws and wardrobe for his / her clothes etc.

\*Put two of everything especially in your bedroom such as two candle holders or two chairs, two love ducks, two lamps or two of anything this represents two people and yes this is great to put in place if you want your relationship to stay strong, be sure your bedroom is a sanctuary only for two people. Never put pics of kids or loved passed or living in your bedroom their place is in the living or family room. choose lovely calming and romantic soft colours if and where you can. Sleep on one side of the bed unless you're planning to stay on your own. In this case, you can try placing a mirror facing your bed but if it disrupts your sleep, please move it because at the end of the day all other cures above can assist you. Create a room that says **"love is already here"**

**In the kitchen**, be sure to have your fruit bowl (things to be fruitful) always clean and full of fruit and if it is facing a mirror great it doubles it. Your stove is your financial hub so always keep it clean and recommended to use all burners for balance. Want to release body fat then display all foods or equipment that represent healthy lifestyle. Broken cups, plates etc is said to hinder financial luck to person using it, always be sure to never let your sugar, salt and rice containers go empty as this can affect one's luck and family harmony. Do this especially on New Year's Eve but more of that later in the year with my New Year Feng Shui workshop part two. Keep your fridge clean and full of nutritious foods as this represents nourishment.

**Office** – be sure your desk faces the door of your office, so you are welcoming in business and sit with your back to the wall, so you have support. Keep clean and place an I Ching coin on any documents, bills, contracts, invoices, under your office chair, taped to your PC or Laptop & your diary etc.

## **Have you ever heard that 3 is a Magic Number??**

Or the power of 3? Here's why.....move 27 items from time to time big or small in your home if you intend to move luck, this moves energy around. If you want to bring in new energy, say like a new job?? Then get rid of 27 items that you no longer use or need, donate or sell. The key here is to make room in your home for new energy, new things. Another good thing to do when going for a job interview is to carry a Green Aventurine crystal in your left pocket as this will help with luck and confidence and hopefully nail it. Maybe also try this with **Weight**

**Release** because hanging onto to clothes you hope to wear or fit in to means you will continue to hold onto unwanted weight etc. so clear out 27 items again big or small from your draws and wardrobe and this can help you get rid of body fat, unload and release. You might have noticed that I've used release weight instead of weight loss, it's because we have been conditioned all our lives that when we lose something we always try and find or get it back and, in this case, we don't want the weight to return yeah? Just give these tips a go you never know but also be mindful that just throwing out clothing alone won't do it. Changing your eating habits and a little exercise even walking will help.

Always, always keep your toilet lid down and toilet door closed as to the bathroom door as this means money down the drain, if in your laundry or bathroom you have drains try and cover them. Leaking taps also means money down the drain.

Keep a jar of coins in your kitchen as this can help bring prosperity into your household or at your front door and put any spare change in there. This symbolises accumulating money.

Never put your handbag / purse on the floor, this symbolises disrespect to money & money out the door.

If your front door aligns with your back door, you'll need to put something in place because that means money coming in and going straight back out. If you can maybe some plants or something nice even hang a crystal and that will help slow down the Chi.

Remember when you declutter any room or cupboard etc means you are clearly stagnant energy, out with the old and making room for the new.

Opening windows also helps with movement and allowing good Chi to come in and nourish your home.

## ***Salt Cure***

How to make your salt cures to banish negative energy. For best results, it should be open to air and placed where it won't be disturbed.

Start by filling an old glass or empty maccona coffee jar with sea or rock salt about a quarter full, if you are placing on furniture be sure to pop on an old plate or large coaster to protect surface. Never put inside a cupboard and never cover the jar or glass. Place 6 x 1 Ching coins or even 6 x 10c coins always facing up. Then fill with water till its  $\frac{3}{4}$  full. As the water evaporates top it up. Over time the salt will crust and that's exactly what you want and means the negative energy has been absorbed and cleared. Put one in every room or where you fill you need it, It can be behind a cupboard or lounge as long as it's not disturbed and not covered. Especially important though once you think it's time to throw it out you **MUST** through it all out in the bin not in the sink and create new ones.



## Feng shui Crystal Abundance Ritual

Gather these tumbled stones.....one each of Citrine, Pyrite & Jade

Pop in a pouch (preferably Gold or Red) can be a clear organza or velvet or silk etc.

Now write this Affirmation

**\*I ATTRACT & GRATEFULLY RECEIVE PROSPERITY,  
ABUNDANCE & SUCCESS IN MY LIFE\***

Carry this pouch for an entire week and whenever you remember to do it, take out your crystals, hold them in your hands and state the affirmation, where possible follow straight away with a 5min – 10mins meditation or simply relax, this will allow you to vibrate with your crystals while you visualize and feeling grateful for prosperity that is already on its way to you. Do try and do at the very least 3 times in that week as this will help remove any limiting beliefs. This

	South East	South	South West	
	Wealth, Prosperity and Self-Worth  Element: Wood  Colours: Purple, Green, Brown, Gold.	Fame and Reputation  Element: Fire  Colours: Red, Yellow, Orange.	Love and Relationships  Element: Earth  Colours: Pink, Skin Tones, Earth Tones.	
East	Family and Health  Element: Wood  Colours: Purple, Green Brown, Gold	Health and Well-being  Element: Earth  Colours: Yellow, Earth Tones.	Children and Creativity  Element: Metal  Colours: White, Bright and Pastels.	West
	Knowledge and Wisdom  Element: Earth  Colours: Blue, Green, Teal.	Career and Life  Element: Water  Colours: Blue, Black.	Travel and Helpful People  Element: Metal  Colours: White, Grey.	
	North East	North	North West	

will also empower you as you go about consciously not unconsciously to create what you deserve and desire in life.

Look at this Feng Shui bagua or map just as it is and stand at your front door looking into your home and that's where your sectors are.

## Extra great tips & cures....

### The Magical Colour Purple

Alongside the colour Gold & Green which are both the colour of money, Purple is long known and associated with Wealth, Stature etc. It symbolizes power & luxury. It is said that purple was Cleopatra's favourite colour. In Feng Shui, the colour Purple is suitable in any direction. It helps generate good Chi, so where possible and if you don't mind the colour try adding it to any area with some items like a vase or throw rug or flowers if you'd like to add extra good Chi energy. Please keep in mind that in saying that, purple is a stimulating colour so best not to add to kitchen or bathrooms as it could enhance any negative energies in that room should there be any.

**Purple** can also help with:

More recognition personally & professionally so feel free to add some in the South of your house, living room or office and if you run a business it's a good power colour to help further your ambitions and work. How does this work? The colour purple is associated with our Crown Chakra, and it represents yes Spirituality but also beauty, creativity and inspiration and using this energy can help increase wisdom, awareness, higher consciousness, meditation and vision as it aids to help purify our thoughts and giving us inner strength and inspiration and self-knowledge. Purple is connected to the heavens and spiritual realm and high in vibration.

Purple is a great colour for kids' creativity, helps with their imagination. As for their health, purple is great painted on the east wall to improve their health. Inspire creativity in them, maybe paint the west wall.

Purple and money, it's a prosperity colour, in feng shui if you can paint your Southeast wall or add something in that corner of your living room could be beneficial. The royal blue which is the colour of extreme deep-water element which means wealth in Feng Shui. If you work in a bank or sales in a job that handles money, then purple can help enhance your own personal wealth. One more tip....to help increase your luck try pairing purple with gold, white and silver in the West and Northwest corners because purple is the best energy colour for prosperity and wealth use it in the North sections of your home or office for that extra boost for your business. Wear purple clothing and crystals too..... AMETHYST all the way.

Purple invites opportunities through your front door so if you can't paint your front door then maybe place some purple items or flowers (Lavender) However there is one exception to this rule, if your door is facing the Northwest then best to paint it either Gold, while silver or grey.

If your bedroom is in the Southwest, it's great for love and romance. You can place Amethyst Geode in the Southwest corner to keep the heart open to love etc. purple bed sheets etc

treat them with respect. Always keep in mind that Feng Shui is all about energy.

**Money Frog / Toad** is another great cure. The three-legged toad is believed to appear every Full Moon near houses that are about to receive news about wealth or money gain. The frog is usually with a coin in its mouth, it represents wealth and money, so placing one, three, six or nine is great for all and in Feng Shui its all about the Right placement.

Place the money frog near the entrance. Front door, always face inside your home or office or your money will go straight back out same as mirrors where good Chi bounces straight back out. Place is diagonally especially if your front door aligns with your back door and in case you can hang a crystal to disburse the energy, money plants are also good in hallway where possible. Placing in the Southeast is your Wealth corner and to help enhance business place it in the north sector of your living room. On a coffee table is fine just always to be mindful of direction its facing. Or place directly in your office for business whatever feel right for you or where possible.

It should face inside looking in towards your home especially if you are only using ONE. If you only using ONE NEVER have it facing at your front door.

No money frog allowed in the bedroom, kitchen, bathroom or toilet. Money down the drain. Never NEVER place too high and especially on the floor. No broken frogs, no clutter nearby.

Activating your frog.....if your frog already has a red ruby on it or red ribbon it is already activate otherwise tie a red ribbon on it or place it on a red cloth or paper under it if red ribbon isn't your thing. If you have a 3-legged frog with no coin just buy one and pop it in its mouth making sure the 4 symbols facing up, this is also crucial. If you frog has a coin with a ruby in it make sure it is facing up with the four symbols visible to you.

**Remember the magic no of 3, 6, or 9 etc.**

If you are going to have just one, make it a decent size and best for be about 3 inches x 3 inches but if you are getting 3 or more they can be smaller. Just make sure they are all facing all direction including the gardens, that way you can't go wrong. Where possible place them discreetly.

### **Lucky or Beckoning Cat**

This cat is Japanese in origin but welcomed and lovingly accepted in Chinese Feng Shui, it is believed to summon or beckon money, wealth and happiness and protect. They have a few characteristics so keep this in mind when buying one should you wish to for your home, office and business.

Tri Colour cats are common and they are believed to attract good luck, wealth and prosperity and abundance in general.

A white cat attracts purity and happiness

Black cat are like guards that help protect against negative from your home giving you comfort and peace of mind.

Golden cat represents wealth and money of course, you see a lot of these in shopping centres in stores & massage businesses.

Red cat is similar to a black cat and is good for protection and illness for all the family

Another important thing to remember is the Paw, the Left Paw raised swinging or not is associated with bring in more customers, sales etc. it is great for night time business no matter what business it is. The left Paw raised is also said to attract women so great for hairdresser, nail bar or any beauty business. So, for all male business buy a cat that has the Right Paw raised.

Should you find a cat with both paws up its for attracting and protecting. Always choose what resonates with you as sometimes it's also what you need.

Where to place??

For home in the Southeast your wealth corner facing front entrance.

For business best kept near front entrance so as people enter, they see it. If it is not possible to keep one near front entrance, then the Northeast of your business area.

For home office place it where it is visible from entering and where possible the Southeast corner of the office.

## *5 Elements*

These 5 elements are all dependant on each other to maintain the balance of Chi.

**Water** nourishes plant life

**Wood** is produced by water

**Fire** feeds on wood and produces Ash

**Earth** – ash in the earth produces Metal

**Metal** draws water and the cycle starts over again

**NEVER** keep your receipts in your purse/wallet and **NEVER** place your handbag or wallet on the floor.

## *Tips to help bring in the New Year*

Before you party the day before or several days before the new year and where possible apply these great tips that can help you bring in the new year with continuous harmony, love, luck and abundance.

\*Just a quick and important note to remember you do NOT have to put all of these in place

\*Clean and declutter your home and garden

\*Wipe all door handles of anyone else's energy

\*Sage your home or burn sage and lavender together as sage clears out negative energy and lavender invites the good back in

\*Buy a new welcome front door mat

\*Cleanse, charge, program and place protection crystals around your home

\*Fill your wallets / purses with preferably fresh crisp notes from bank. Never go into the new year with no Cash in your wallets etc.

\*Also, if you are ready for a new purse/wallet then be sure it's a RED one as red is a fire colour and a powerful symbol for wealth. This is to help attract luck & abundance and symbolises being ready to expect new wealth. Put at least a \$50 or \$100 note in and hide it as this is said to attract more. Even if this is all you do.

\*Try wearing something Red, this symbolises you want to attract good fortune, also red jewellery or red shoes as wearing red shoes symbolises you are ready to step ahead. Be sure these are worn on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

\*Gold jewellery is also great to wear as it's the colour of money, it represents abundance and wealth. A new piece of jewellery signifies growth and accumulation of wealth. New not old or second hand.

\*Depends on where you are heading if you have a large tote bag it's great to take with you as this symbolises that you are expecting a big year ahead

\*Make sure you fill your sugar bowl, salt container, rice container and these should never go empty.... As these can affect your health, luck and family harmony. Also broken / chipped glasses and plates are no good to eat from as it can affect your health. Chipped plates is considered bad Feng Shui and it can hinder financial and career luck of the person using it.

\*Fill your fruit bowl with 9 oranges or 9 mandarins and this is not only the magic no of 3/6/9 it's a symbol of prosperity, good fortune and longevity.

\*In the Chinese culture it is believed you should never sweep your home in the first few days of the Chinese New Year as its believed that you'll be sweeping away all of the good luck you put in place in the new year.

\*Try placing something Red in the West of your home, anything from a plant to cloth to vase and close to the front door or home and office

\*Open windows and let the good Chi in to nourish your home.

\*Clean your Fridge as this also symbolises good nutrition and can help with weight release too

\*Remove clutter from under your bed too as energy needs to flow too and this means this can help you remove any subconscious blocks.

\*Say some positive words at midnight...

**“Health, Wealth & Happiness for all” or “Thankyou all for the Prosperity ahead”**

**Move things around the house therefore moving energy even better if you are for instance if you want a new job get rid of 27 items big or small that you no longer need or use, sell it, donate it or give it to a friend in need and this will make room for new energy, try this too if you want to release weight. Get rid of 27 pieces of clothing you no longer wear, and this may help with weight release.**

*Things to DO ON NEW YEARS EVE – according to feng shui traditions*

If possible, wear something **RED**... the luckiest of colours, a red top, under garment remember make sure you have money in your purse / wallet

If you are up at mid night –here's 3 things, you can do right **on midnight.**

\*Make a loud noise to clear any negative energy and welcome in the positive energy

\*Hold money in your hands

\*If you are looking for new love be sure to open your door right on midnight to welcome new love.....don't be afraid to visualise the perfect man.

\*Also, at mid night – eat 12 green grapes, one for each month of the year

\* New welcome mat to welcome new energy

Say some positive words **“thank you for the abundant year ahead”**



### *Things to DO ON NEW YEARS DAY*

Eat an orange or tangerine – brings opportunity for luck and money, if you have a tree even better if you can pick it with the green leaves still attached.

If you have a business.....be sure to do at least half hr work towards it. this signifies moving your forward on your goals, social media to help attract you more & new clients If you're looking for work this is the best day to update your resume.

Wear something NEW, even just one piece of clothing - this signifies you are more able to attract new people into your life. Personal or professional

Wear a Jade crystal on this day, remember that Jade comes in so many different colours

**FOODS** to Eat Pork or ham or both as Pork is considered to be lucky or eat fish, spaghetti – brings for a long life. Green cabbage or all.

### *DON'T'S ON NEW YEAR DAY*

Don't eat chicken or Turkey or you'll be scratching for money all year round or meat

Don't wash your hair as this could wash away all the good you put into place

Don't sweep your home.

DON'T use your credit card, either buy your food etc prior or use the cash you've taken out.

Don't loan or borrow money

**Last important thing to understand is, that if you do not resonate with any Feng Shui cures, like the money frog, I Ching coins, envelopes etc. Then please do not go and buy them. You must have a connection with them. You have 2 chances to do all these and that is Chinese New Year. Every year date varies so please just google it.**

**Shared with much love and gratitude Rita Joanne. Enjoy!**