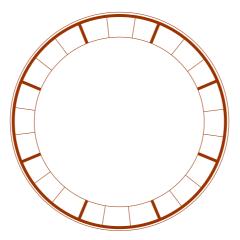
- How to build your Flying Star chart -

Explorations with Heluo

Explorations with Heluo is a series of articles by Heluo on the subject of Time, Space and Destiny



Also featuring: "The function of central Stars in a Flying Star chart"

We would like you to have this article, which also appears as a chapter in Heluo's Xuan Kong Feng Shui workbook (650 pages)

⁻ Please read disclaimer on last page -

In fact, this article is a merge of two separate articles:

I. How to build your Flying Star chart.

II. The function of central Stars in a Flying Star chart.

- The main purpose of this article is to take beginners through the simple process of constructing a Flying Star chart according to Classical Chinese Feng Shui.
- The article will then also cover some issues pertaining to the central Stars in a Flying Star chart and we will discuss whether or not central Stars actually reside in the center.

How to build your Flying Star chart

This article will show beginners to Classical Chinese Feng Shui how to construct a Flying Star chart in Xuan Kong Fei Xing Feng Shui (Fei Xing = Flying Stars).

By the time you finished this article, you will have found the Flying Star chart of your house.

The article at this point does not go further into any interpretations of the Flying Star chart, as it just gives you the basic principles to arrive to your own house chart.

For your sustained learning, this article may refer you to Heluo's website where you can find other articles and URL's to yet other websites.

For instance, this article will use the term 'Facing side of the house', but it does not explain what Facing side is, or how to determine the Facing side of your house. However, you will find this topic covered in a separate and indepth article "How to find Facing and Sitting in Feng Shui" which you will find on Heluo's website.

This article will be helpful to beginners, but it will also give a good foundation to Traditional Chinese Feng Shui for those who have been acquainted with the Black Hat Feng Shui system, but seek convertion to Classical Chinese Feng Shui.

You will find all standard Xuan Kong Flying Star charts to the back of the article. You can verify by using our Feng Shui calculator on our website.

If you are a beginner and not aware already of the many Yahoo! Groups you can join, here are at least two. Having arrived to your own Flying Star chart, the discussions found there will be at least so much easier to follow.

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/astrofengshui

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/chineseastrology

To get you started and help you find your Flying Star chart, a Flying Star chart is simply constructed from two magnitudes:

- Construction date of your house
- Compass reading of the Facing side of your house

As an example, we will be constructing the Flying Star chart for a house Facing Southeast and having been built in 1988.

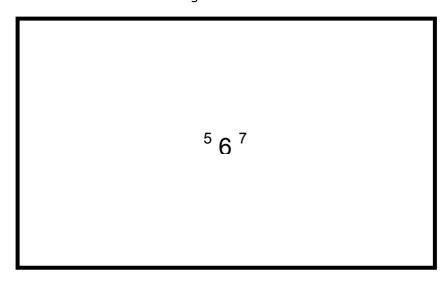
The Function of Central Stars in a Flying Star chart

Then, several question may arise where it concerns central Stars in a Flying Star chart, so we will be also covering this issue.

What is the function of central Stars in a Flying Star chart? What is the message revealed by the central Stars? Can I make any adjustments on the central Stars?

The question becomes, after we took the Sitting Star and Facing Star to the center of a floor plan, can we install physical 'Mountain' or 'Water' adjustments to the then found Mountain Dragon and Water Dragon in the physical center of the floor plan?

Then also, do we manipulate the Flying Star chart by interior or exterior adjustments? Why do we extend lines in the Flying Star chart to the exterior? How does Qi flow inside or outside buildings?



Here is an illustration of a chart hosting Stars 5, 6 and 7 in the central Palace, or Heaven's Heart.

You will see how these Stars are merely taken to the center as a note, so as to indicate that it is then these Stars that we *do not find governing from any of the directions*. The central Stars are like setting aside the Joker from a deck of cards.

Star 5 is merely the Sitting Star in the Sitting Palace, Star 7 is merely the Facing Star in the Facing Palace.

It is to show us how Facing Star 7 approaches the house from out of one of eight directions and it wants to court the Sitting Star 5. Star 5 can be at the most countered at the Sitting Palace, Star 7 can be at the most countered at the Facing Palace.

Sitting Star 5 is taken to the center to form the Mountain Dragon chart. Facing Star 7 is taken to the center to form the Water Dragon chart. After we established the Mountain and Water chart, we so much as exhausted the use for central Stars and we can just as well 'remove' the Stars from the center as there will be nothing for you to adjust at the physical center of the house.

Advanced practitioners know this, and they will at the most then use the Stars in the central position to 'Read the Stars and Build the Story'. They know they cannot install any metal adjustment at the physical center of the house to work on the Mountain Dragon 5 and so on.

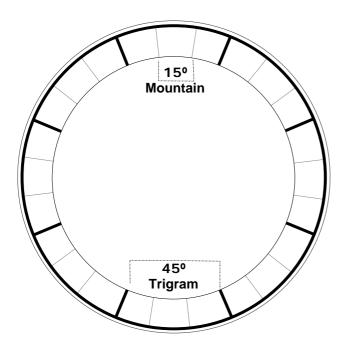
The Chinese Compass

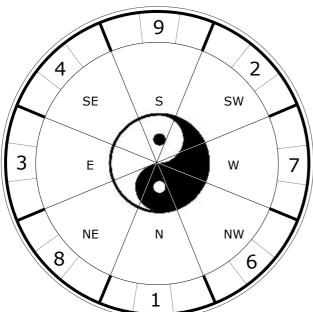
In order to start your journey in Classical Chinese Feng Shui, a normal Western compass suffices, for as long as your compass shows exact degrees. You don't need to own a Chinese compass. For now, there are just a few basic things you need to know about the Chinese compass.

In order to do a compass reading just from your Western compass, you need imagine how the Facing degree you obtained would fit into any of the 15 degrees sector of the Chinese compass. For Feng Shui purpose you will then first need to be able to divide the 360 degrees circumference of the compass into:

- Eight 45 degrees sectors Palaces -, carrying the Eight Trigrams and the 9 Stars.
- 24 sectors of 15 degrees each, referred to as the 24 Mountain Ring.

Classical Chinese Feng Shui heavily relies on the 24 Mountain Ring.





At all times, you will take a compass reading *outside* your house at the *Facing side* of your house and you will see how the magnetic needle will indicate either of the 15 degrees segments shown here to be your Facing. This, together with the completion date of the built structure, will give you your Flying Star chart.

The compass is divided into eight 45 degrees segments, each of these segments in itself once more divided into three 15 degrees sectors, i.e. Mountains, or Hills.

Here is how we define the eight 45 degrees directions over the compass. Note how South is shown on top.

Shown is the basic Luoshu of 5 Earth, hosting Star 5 at the center. If you visualize Star 5 at the center, you can 'Fly the Stars' in their fixed pattern: 6 to NW - 7 to W - 8 to NE - 9 to S - 1 to N - 2 to SW - 3 to E - 4 to SW.

Each of the 9 Stars can reside in the center. After you took a Star to the center, you will fly the remaining Stars in their fixed pattern: NW - W - NE - S - N - SW - E - SE.

Construction Period

We determine a Flying Star chart according to two magnitudes:

- Completion date of the built structure.
- Compass bearing at the Facing side, pertaining to *Magnetic North*.

The first is to obtain the Commanding Star belonging to the twenty year Period of construction, the latter to establish the correct 15 degrees sector.

Our house was built in the year 1988. First we need to know into what Feng Shui twenty year Period 1988 would then fall. It is Period 7, so Star 7 flies to the center.

It means that the house was constructed within the twenty year Feng Shui Period of 7 Metal. Further down we will show you how to position this Star 7 at the center of an empty compass – now called Time chart - and how to fly the remaining eight Stars through the compass according to the designated pattern that we showed you on the previous page.

Xuan Kong Fei Xing Feng Shui works with 'Three Cycles, Nine Periods", also referred to as "San Yuan, Jiu Yun".

Here we distinguish an Upper, a Middle and a Lower Cycle, totalling 180 years and each cycle consisting of 3 twenty year Periods and each of these twenty year Periods being assigned one of the 9 Stars.

Each twenty year Period (Yun) is governed by its own Star.

You need to know that for a 1988 built house:

- This house is referred to as a Period 7 House.
- During its own Period (1984-2004), Star 7 is the Prominent Star, as it represents the most Prevailing Qi for that Period. It is the Commanding most Noble Qi.
- Once we arrive to Period 8 (2004-2024), our 1988 built house remains a Period 7 house, but now Star 8 takes over as the Prominent Star, or Prominent Dragon.

Yuan	Yun	20 years
Upper Cycle	1 Water 2 Earth 3 Wood	1684 - 1704 1704 - 1724 1724 - 1744
Middle Cycle	4 Wood 5 Earth 6 Metal	1744 - 1764 1764 - 1784 1784 - 1804
Lower Cycle	7 Metal 8 Earth 9 Fire	1804 - 1824 1824 - 1844 1844 - 1864
Upper Cycle	1 Water 2 Earth 3 Wood	1864 - 1884 1884 - 1904 1904 - 1924
Middle Cycle	4 Wood 5 Earth 6 Metal	1924 - 1944 1944 - 1964 1964 - 1984
Lower Cycle	7 Metal 8 Earth 9 Fire	1984 - 2004 2004 - 2024 2024 - 2044

Properties of the 9 Stars

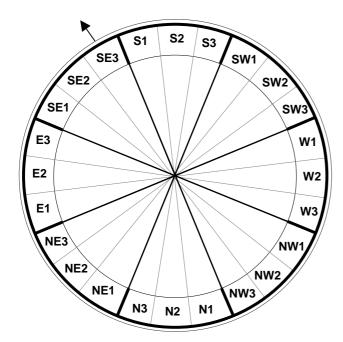
We cannot generalize basic properties of the 9 Stars and classify each of them into either good or bad portents. Whether a Star will be beneficial or cast its malign influences, will only depend on numerous factors of Time and Space, any of these factors yet to be carefully studied before we can reach any conclusions. Still, to give you a first idea, here are the Stars in their basic temperament, although with a wink to Period 8 portents, yet leaving out any and all factors of influence. Factors can change an otherwise fortunate Star into unfavorable v.v..

Star 1 White Water	Big Dipper Tan Lang	Basic Nature Beneficial nature. White Star. Fortunate Star bringing Sheng Qi.
2 Black Earth	Ju Men	Detrimental nature. Star of health and sickness, unfortunate.
3 Jade Wood	Lu Cun	Detrimental nature. Evil portents.
4 Green Wood	Wen Qu	Detrimental nature. Half evil portents.
5 Yellow Earth	Lian Zhen	Detrimental nature. Star of nobility and disaster, quite evil.
6 White Metal	Wu Qu	Beneficial nature. White Star. Generally fortunate, military Star.
7 Red Metal	Po Jun	Detrimental nature. Generally unfortunate, military Star.
8 White Earth	Zuo Fu	Beneficial nature. White Star.
9 Purple Fire	You Bi	Beneficial nature. Fortunate.

Note: There are no generalizations ("One Cure Fits All") in Classical Chinese Feng Shui. It is a dynamic art, that needs be studied thoroughly. Shown are the Stars merely in their basic nature, these Stars not yet influenced by factors of Time, Space or Use. Any Star can and will alter its properties from beneficial to malign, as we will see later.

- © indicates properties of the Stars when in their own Yun (Period) and otherwise sustained by the right Form and Qi.
- indicates properties of the Stars when out of their own Yun, or compromised.
- **1** © Fame and fortune, wisdom
 - ⊗ Separation and divorce
- 2 © Fertility, good health
 - 3 Abdominal disease, miscarriage, sickness
- **3** © Abundance of wealth
 - Lawsuit, theft, asthma
- 4 © Wisdom, romance, literacy
 - Adultery, breaking of family
- **5** © Success, great wealth
 - [®] Plague, lawsuit, catastrophe
- **6** © Authority, dignity
 - ⊗ Loneliness, rigid, injury to skull
- **7** © Wealth and fertility
 - ⊗ Fire, theft, robbery, accident
- 8 © Steady progress in wealth and fame
 - ⊗ Injury to children, injury to fingers
- **9** © Success and promotion
 - ⊗ Eye disease, fire, litigation, insanity

24 Mountain ring



Here is the 24 Mountain Ring. It divides each of the eight 45 degrees directions into yet smaller segments of 15 degrees each.

This ring bears 4 out of the Eight **Trigrams**, as well as the Twelve Earthly **Branches** and 8 out of Ten Heavenly **Stems**.

The North is divided into **N1**, **N2** and **N3**.

Let's say that our 1988 built Period 7 house shows a compass bearing of 149.5 degrees. This 149.5 degrees compass reading falls between 142.5-157.5 degrees, so house is Facing SE3.

We always mention the Sitting side first, so a Period 7 built house Facing 149.5 degrees would be then communicated as **Period 7: NW3-SE3**.

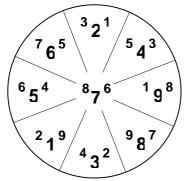
Mountain	Pinyin	Stem	Branch	Trigram	
N1 N2	Rén Zĭ	Yang Water	Rat		337.5 - 352.5 352.5 - 7.5
N3	Zı Guĭ	Yin Water	Nat		7.5 - 22.5
NE1	Chŏu		Ox		22.5 - 37.5
NE2	Gèn			Mountain	37.5 - 52.5
NE3	Yín		Tiger		52.5 - 67.5
E1	Jiǎ	Yang Wood			67.5 - 82.5
E2	Mǎo	V: \M	Rabbit		82.5 - 97.5
E3	Υĭ	Yin Wood			97.5 - 112.5
SE1	Chén		Dragon	147 : 1	112.5 - 127.5
SE2 SE3	Xùn Sì		Snake	Wind	127.5 - 142.5 142.5 - 157.5
		Vana Fire	Shake		
S1 S2	Bĭng Wŭ	Yang Fire	Horse		157.5 - 172.5 172.5 - 187.5
S3	Dīng	Yin Fire	110136		187.5 - 202.5
SW1	Wèi		Sheep		202.5 - 217.5
SW2	Kūn			Earth	217.5 - 232.5
SW3	Shēn		Monkey		232.5 - 247.5
W1	Gēng	Yang Metal			247.5 - 262.5
W2	Yŏu	Via Matal	Rooster		262.5 - 277.5
W3	Xīn	Yin Metal			277.5 - 292.5
NW1	Χū		Dog		292.5 - 307.5
NW2 NW3	Qián Hài		Dia	Heaven	307.5 - 322.5 322.5 - 337.5
INVVS	ı ıaı		Pig		322.3 - 337.3

Summary

Before we proceed, let us see what we have so far, and add some things.

- You can use a normal Western compass showing accurate degrees.
- Our house was built in 1988.
- It is a Period 7 built house (1984-2004).
- The house is Facing 149.5 which falls in SE3, the third 15 degrees segment in the Southeast.
- Mentioning Sitting side first, our house is communicated as Period 7: NW3/SE3.
- We need to take Period Star 7 to the center of an empty compass and fly the remaining Stars 8,9,1,2,3,4,5 and 6 into their appointed directions, respectively NW,W,NE,S,N,SW,E,SE.
- All 9 Stars have their own basic temperament, however, we need to yet assess factors of Time, Space and Use before we can diagnose either their beneficial or malign Star properties.
- You need to take the compass outside the building to do a reading at the Facing side. We measure magnetic North.
- Facing side may not necessarily be to the architectural facade.
- In order to find our Flying Star chart, we use the 24 Mountain Ring. The 24 Mountains each cover 15 degrees, referred to as X1, X2 and X3.
- A Period 7 house remains a Period 7 house, throughout all the other Periods (unless certain conditions are met and the house 'Changes Period').
- A Star can be upcoming (Sheng), prevailing (Wang), retreating (Tui) or dead (Si), depending on the current Time Period. The Wang Star is the emperor.
- For a Period 7 house and during Period 7 (1984-2004), Star 7 is the Emperor. It is most prevailing during its own Period.
- During Period 8 (2004-2024), Star 8 will be Wang, prevailing, the emperor. It is the Noble Oi.
- During Period 8, Star 8 is the prime Qi, it is Wang. Star 9 is upcoming, so it is in its phase of Sheng. Star 1 is future Sheng Qi, distant future benevolence. Star 7 is in retreat, so it is in its phase of Tui. All other Stars have their own specific temperament according to factors of time, for example, Stars may be in their phase of dead (Si), or they may be Untimely but Usable according to certain formula.
- Once Period 8 arrives, our Period 7 house remains a Period 7 house, but now Star 8 becomes our Prominent Star, changing temperament of all the other Stars.
- Whether the 9 Stars are beneficial or will render malign influence, depends on many factors of Time, Space and Use. Forms govern the Stars.
- Ten Heavenly Stems are the Five Transformations, each in its own Yin and Yang temperament, i.e. Yang Wood, Yin Wood, Yang Fire, Yin Fire and so on.
- Twelves Earthly Branches are more commonly referred to as the animals from the Chinese Zodiac. Earthly Branches are certain distinct terrestrial influences.
- If for X1 Facing houses the Stars fly in descending order, then for X2 and X3 houses the Stars will fly in ascending order and vice versa. Find our house under NW2/SE2-NW3/SE3 to the back of this article.

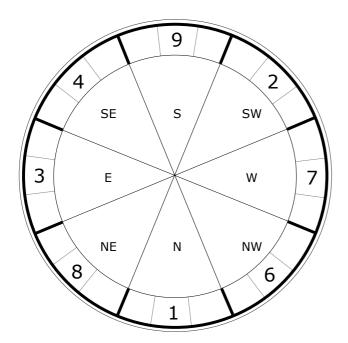
NW2/SE2-NW3/SE3



We already know that our house is a Period 7: NW3-SE3 house, so we can already find the Flying Star chart to the back of this article.

However, let us yet go over the first steps and show you the principles of constructing our Flying Star chart.

Building your Flying Star chart



Earth Map

Shown here are eight directions into which the basic 9 Stars of the Big Dipper (Bei Dou) can be projected.

The specific geocentrical configuration of Stars here, is to represent the basic and Universal **Luo Shu** or Earth chart.

With Star 5 at the center, all Stars will add up to 15, either added horizontally, vertically or over the diagonals. Stars fly a fixed pattern through the compass: NW - W - NE - S - N - SW - E - SE, but please note that while always following this pattern, Stars can still fly in ascending or descending order.

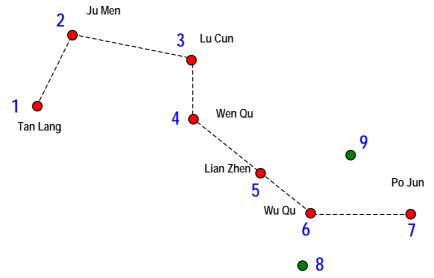
Earth chart is sometimes also referred to as Di Pan. Whatever your Flying Star chart, this basic configuration of Stars is always implied. The **Water** Trigram (1) always governs the North, the **Heaven** Trigram (6) always governs the Northwest.

Note that we didn't take Star 5 to the center. The purpose of this article is not just to show you how to build your Flying Star chart, but we also included a chapter covering some issues pertaining to the central Stars. Please read on.

As seen from a perspective of directions, Star 5 is the missing player, so to speak: it is not projected in the center. We can also not find Star 5 into any direction. It is just assumed to be understood that Star 5 is a codification for gravity, just as 9 Fire here is *not* to represent the sun or Summer season and 1 Water is *not* H_2O or Winter season, but rather they represent earth magnetic forces.

Big Dipper

The 9 Stars are derived from the Big Dipper. They are not actually the Stars in the Big Dipper, as they are just associated with the Big Dipper. Stars 8 and 9 are invisible and referred to as the Left and Right Assistent.



Once we keep in mind that the basic Luo Shu Star configuration always applies, we can proceed with the Flying Star chart of our house.

We know that our 1988 built house is a Period 7 house. Now we need to 'Fly The Pattern' and assign directions to all remaining Stars.

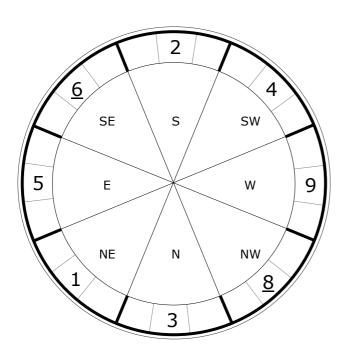
We arrive to our Flying Star chart, following a few basic steps. A Flying Star chart, also referred to as Man chart or Ren Pan, consist of:

- **Time chart** derived from the twenty year construction Period

Mountain Dragon chart derived from the Sitting Star
 Water Dragon chart derived from the Facing Star

We find the Flying Star chart by combining factors of Time and Space. As you have seen, we only went through two steps to arrive to our Flying Star chart:

- Twenty year Feng Shui Period of construction
- Magnetic compass bearing of the Facing side



Heaven Map

Each 20 year Period renders a different Star chart. Here is to represent the Time chart for Period 7 (1984-2024).

With this Period chart in use, the geocentrical configuration of Stars that we saw earlier in the basic Luo Shu is still in tact, but it is not shown as it is assumed that you always visualize Di Pan.

This chart is often referred to as Period chart, Time chart or Tian Pan. It is the basis for our Flying Star chart, but it does not carry Star 7 in its center. We will therefore later see, that we cannot manipulate Star 7 at the physical center of a Period 7 built structure.

As a Heaven Qi influence, Period 7 Star descends from the Heavens to then merely assign directions – or duties if you will - to the other Stars. The central Star is like a Joker that we set aside from our deck of cards. If we choose to project the central Star, it is just so as to take a note, it is notional.

Note how we underscored Facing Star 6 at the Southeast and Sitting Star 8 at the Northwest. The next step would be to then take in Star 6 and Star 8 to the central Palace and from here fly them through the compass in the designated pattern, but either ascending or descending.

Facing and Sitting Star

For our actual Feng Shui applications we find the physical – geometric - center of a built structure and draw eight equally shaped 45 degrees sectors, and we position this format over our floor plan according to actual directions. For the purpose of our study, and for quick reference, we will use the 9 square boxes.

If we say that the Facing side of our Period 7 house is to the Southeast, we simply take our Facing Star 6 (underscored in above illustration) to the right hand side of the Time Star 7 at the center, as it will function as a basis to arrive to the Water Dragon chart.

Star 8 to the Northwest (underscored) then becomes our Sitting Star and we will use it to build our Mountain Dragon chart. Take your Sitting Star to the left hand side of the Time Star at the center.

Here is how the resulting Flying Star chart (Man chart) is then usually communicated.

⁷ 6 ⁵	³ 2 ¹	⁵ 4 ³
⁶ 5 ⁴	876	¹ 9 ⁸
² 1 ⁹	⁴ 3 ²	987

Star 7 is the Period Star and it is taken to the center. From the center, the Time Stars fly in the given pattern (see above). Facing Star 6 is taken to the right hand side of the Time Star, also to the center. Fly the pattern from here.

Sitting Star 8 is then also taken to the center, but to the left hand side of the Period Star. Fly the pattern.

As a consequence of using the above grid-format, it became popular believe that these Stars actually reside at the physical center of a house, but it would be more in line with what actually happens to draw the same Flying Star like this:

⁷ 6 ⁵	³ 2 ¹	⁵ 4 ³
⁶ 5 ⁴		¹ 9 ⁸
² 1 ⁹	⁴ 3 ²	⁹ 8 ⁷

Here you can see how Qi influences are linked to the directions, but that certain Stars do not occur into the directions. Also, for reason that 'Qi center' occupies no specific physical space, the central Stars may be omitted.

In other words, you will not find Facing Star 6 anywhere in the Water Dragon chart, as you will also not find Sitting Star 8 anywhere in the Mountain Dragon chart.

The format shown here - nine equally shaped square boxes - is misleading.

Although it may be a great format to be used in class situations, it is better not be used to project our actual Flying Star chart. We will yet clearly see why this is.

From Qi influence to Qi effect

Besides using the square boxes, and projecting certain Stars at the center of a house, it became common practice also to superimpose the Flying Star onto the floor plan so that it would appear as if the Stars governed from within a built structure, said differently, as if the influence of Stars was inside-out.

We find no basis to this in any of the ancient Feng Shui Classics. This is fine for class communications, but we do not practically use nine square or rectangular sectors, as we understand that Feng Shui is about **directional** influences.

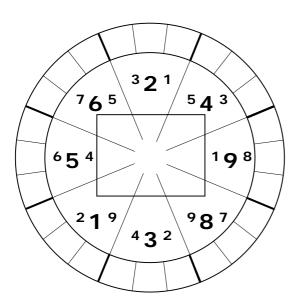
Square sectors cannot show directions and it furthermore cannot show flow of directional Qi, Qi transportation or Qi distribution. In fact, using square boxes would imply that the house had invisible interior Mountains, blocking Qi, restricting Qi and forcing Qi to remain within certain limited areas. Also, using square boxes, you may be at fault designating doors and windows.

Usually we will take the Period Star, the Facing Star and the Sitting Star to the center of our floor plan, but you may just as well take these Stars to the palm of your hand, because they are just for reference sake. Central Stars may tell you something about the overall governing spirit of the house, they may tell you what opportunities or events lie ahead for certain individuals in the house.

⁷ 6 ⁵	³ 2 ¹	⁵ 4 ³
⁶ 5 ⁴		¹ 9 ⁸
² 1 ⁹	⁴ 3 ²	⁹ 8 ⁷

To a certain point it is fine to show a Flying Star chart like in this diagram. It is a great format to be used in class situations, in our Yahoo list communications, but hardly usable in actual audits.

You will not actually find 8-7-6 in the center of this house and you can therefore not manipulate these Stars at the center.



However, using this format instead, will always better remind us that Qi is directional and that environmental Qi is moving outside-in.

It will also have us contemplate on the difference between Qi **infuence** and Qi **effect** and it will lead us to understand that by far most of our Feng Shui adjustments need to be primarily taken to the environment as opposed to all the interior 'cures' we have seen emerge in recent times.

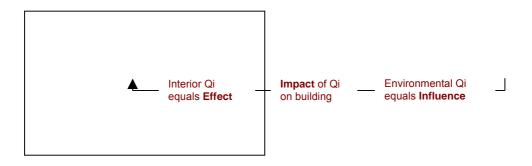
Although here we project the socalled Pie-shape, ancient masters neither used the square boxes, nor the Pie-shape.

Influence and effect

In the previous section, we saw how we can extend the Trigram demarcation lines of the Chinese compass (Luo Pan) to reach outside the built structure and we saw how we may project the Stars outside the structure.

Through Feng Shui, we study environmental Qi.

Qi as directional – environmental - **influence** will approach a built structure outside-in and will render **effect** only after it had been allowed to enter the building.



The center is Tai Ji and Tai Ji cannot be physically defined, it cannot be quantified. Yet everything is - and depends on - Tai Ji.

For a built structure – a built structure in Feng Shui terms is defined as a construction with walls and a roof so that it can contain Qi in its Heaven's Heart – the Qi of 9 Stars will enter the building and reside inside the building into their appointed directions.

We may be able to determine the physical center for any built structure, but this does not imply that we can also define a Qi center or even define the center of Qi in square meters, in other words, it cannot be quantified. Qi center and geometric center are not synonymous. We will therefore at best find Tai Ji 'in or around' the center of a built structure, as opposed to finding the central Di Pan Star 5 Earth – or any of the other Stars – contained at the physical center.

What lies in Heaven's Heart is Tai Ji, and what is at the heart of Tai Ji is creation.

Xuan Kong Fei Xing Feng Shui is also referred to as Qi Distribution School. How Qi is transported inside and distributed throughout the house fully depends on interior Mountain (walls), Water (pathways) and Use.

Note that Mountain and Water Dragons will always follow the fixed pattern, but that they can fly this pattern in either descending or in ascending order, refer to the Flying Star charts to the back of this article.

Reference point for Qi

Qi will be always in search for a reference point. It tries to cling onto this reference point, mingle with it and it will then seek to be emitted and transported by this reference point. Two reference points can emit energy amongst one another. This reference point for Qi can be your body, or it can be the physical center of a house.

If Qi attaches to your physical body – e.g. the energy of a favorable Star -, this quality will cling to you. You now become a vessel for Qi, in that you can transport this Qi quality to a different location, say within your house, or you will emit this energy to your environment or onto other people.

For an open space, however, Qi cannot find any one specific reference point for Qi for it to be then contained in. An open piece of land will not have a Flying Star chart. If Qi finds a lamp pole as its reference point, the pole would still have the 9 Stars cast their influence from the eight directions, but the lamp pole will not have a Flying Star chart.

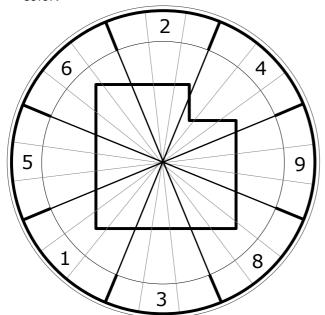
Qi will be carried on the back of the directions and it will be blocked by Mountains and Qi will be stopped and retained whenever it encounters Water.

We cannot use a Flying Star chart (Man Chart) for a piece of land, a city or a country. Any construction not having walls or a roof to contain Qi will have the Earth chart (Di Pan) and the Time chart (Tian Pan). For open spaces:

- Qi will be blocked, accumulated and emitted by mountains, elevations, buildings, physical objects.
- Qi will be stopped and activated by water, open space, sloping lands.
- Qi will cling to and be transported and emitted by mobile objects, including humans.

Once Qi is contained within built structures:

- Qi will follow the path of least resistance.
- Qi will ascend on warm air, it will descend on cool air.
- Qi (Yang) will be attracted to and travel along walls (Yin), before it will move freely into a room or towards the physical center.
- Qi will adjust to and adopt the frequency of texture, structure, shape, form, color.



We now replaced Tai Ji by a built structure. It is a Period 7 built house, so the house was constructed anywhere between 1984-2004.

We still see directional influences floating towards this house in an outside-in fashion, so we project the Stars outside the floor plan to signify this and we may conclude that Tai Ji lies within the entire building, taking in no specific physical space, let alone be found exclusively at the center.

Heaven Qi of Period Star 7 descends down from the Heavens and saturates the house, assigning directions to all other Stars. Please note that all Stars, but Star 7, will be then found into any of the eight directions.

In other words, the other Stars governing from the directions, will be carried outside-in on the back of the directions and can therefore be adjusted, whereas Star 7 cannot be worked on for simple reason that we do not find it into any of the directions.

Please realize that any Stars shown at the center – or Heaven's Heart – are not really residing at the physical center. They are put there for convenience sake, not to show that Water or Mountain Dragons actually occupy the center, because this would not be possible.

If we find a certain Star in the center of a house, it is to signify how this Star **does not** occupy any particular directional Palace. This Star will therefore not reach the site from any of the eight directions, will therefore not come under the influence of environmental Qi and it will not be able to guard itself.

For example, when 6 Metal is at the center, it means that it governs none of the directions and its influence is as good as non-existent. All associations for 6 Metal then become weakened, like Lungs, father or skull. It is why we say that for Period 6 houses, males may have difficulty acting and manifesting into the world, these men often finding themselves pulled back into the house, whatever they may endeavor to maintain a career.

As a consequence, we cannot manipulate these central Stars by taking all kinds of adjustments to the physical center.

What's next

So far, you have at least been shown what lies at the very basis of a Flying Star chart. You will find all standard Flying Star charts to the back of this article.

For your own house, simply follow these steps:

- First construct the Time chart for your house according to its completion date.
- Take a compass reading at the Facing side of your house.
- Determine into which of the 24 Mountain Ring 15 degrees sectors your house falls into, X1, X2 or X3 and make a note.
- Determine Facing Star and take into the center. It will be now referred to as Water Dragon.
- Determine Sitting Star and take to the center. It will be now referred to as Mountain Dragon.
- If your house is for example Period 6: N1-S1, simply look up its belonging Flying Star chart to the back of this article.

Both Mountain and Water Dragons can have beneficial or malign effect, depending on many factors.

Water Dragons will be more Yang and active in nature and they are for *events*. They are mobile and they may govern matters of wealth, status, career, initiative and opportunity.

Mountain Dragons will be more Yin in nature and they are for *people*. They are immobile and they govern matters of health, people, projects, relationships and fertility.

Mountain Dragons are derived from the Time Star at the Sitting Palace. They are like animals that love the land and would drown in water. There are good and bad Mountain Dragons, the bad ones we would like to throw into water.

Water Dragons are derived from the Time Star at the Facing Palace and they love to swim. They would suffocate once thrown onto land. There are good and bad Water Dragons, the bad ones we throw on land.

We give Mountain to auspicious Mountain Dragons. We put evil Mountain Dragons in Water.

We give Water to auspicious Water Dragons. We put evil Water Dragons on a Mountain.

Please note that by "Water", Feng Shui does **not** just point to H_2O and that by "Mountain", Feng Shui does not just point to mountains or hills.

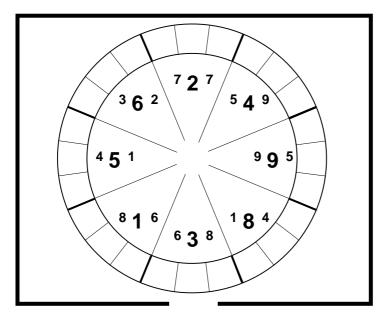
We distinguish between real and virtual mountain, real and virtual water.

"Mountain" can be any real mountain, hill or significant elevation, climbing land.

Besides H₂O, "Water" can be any open or active space. Water can be pathways.

We can apply "Water" by simply opening doors and windows, activate, "Mountain" by closing doors and windows, keeping activities down.

We try to work on Mountain or Water Dragons to the exterior first, then we repeat the process by giving interior 'Mountain ' and 'Water', then we design a pathway for Qi <u>into</u> the house for the beneficial Dragons, then we design a pathway for Qi <u>inside</u> the house between beneficial Stars, in an attempt to connect favorable Qi, then we assign human activities to the fortunate spaces inside the house and only in last instance we would perhaps work on Stars through placement of physical objects or the use of colors even.



Xuan Kong Fei Xing is also referred to as Qi Distribution School. Stars can be transported from one to another location and Stars may be intelligibly distributed through the house.

We like the fact that Water Dragon 8 arrives at the door. Each time we walk inside the house, Water Dragon 8 will be transported inside the house, after which we would appreciate for it to reach the Water Dragon 5 in the West.

We can also attempt to connect the North (8), East (1) and Southwest (9) Palaces.

What's in Heaven's Heart?

Now, let us consider the function and use of central Stars.

Before we further investigate what may happen at the physical center of a built structure, we can use the analogy of a drop – or a stone, as I prefer – hitting the water surface and producing concentric rings.

The water surface is tranquil, but this serenity is disturbed by the drop or the stone hitting the water surface. Rings will be formed and be visible, long even after the stone that caused the turbulence has dissapeared.

Of course I use this only as an analogy to help visualize how Heaven Qi imposes its influence on a built structure, but it is only just an analogy. You must therefore visualize the rings on this picture to be moving **outside-in**, rather than moving inside-out, to have a fair idea on how directional Qi reaches the house from all directions. Still, I hope this picture is clarifying.



Period Star

Look at this picture and suppose that the drop causing the turbulence is Heaven Qi of Time Star 8, our Star for the current Period 2004-2024.

It depicts Heaven Qi influence, here as Time Star 8, that will be descending vertically down on earth. The drop (8) is a metaphor for an influence from the Heavens as it creates concentric rings, but the drop itself

will soon dissapear. This 'drop' can create rings that will last twenty years.

After the rings were formed, we can work on the rings, but we can no longer work on the initial drop. If we had a stone hit the water surface, the stone will continue its path under the water surface.

The same is true for the directional Qi influences. Directional Qi moves towards the house to aim for – but perhaps not reach – its physical center, but the center is not part of the directions, in fact, we cannot define a 'Feng Shui center' for a built structure, we can merely define a physical center for any built structure. All too often, physical center and Qi center have been mixed up in our Feng Shui studies.

After twenty years, another drop (9) will hit the water surface, yet creating its own rings, that will then last for another Period of twenty years.

You can extend this idea to many different influences – either Heaven or Earth in origin – which will all create their rings, which may last one year, one month or one day. As long as you understand that these huge environmental influences cannot be countered by rituals, affirmations, visualizations, mudras, mantras, physical objects or even colors.



If we have a lot of stones rain down on our water surface, we will see different ring patterns happen simultaneously and we may compare this to several Heaven and Earth influences that can happen at the same time. These lie codified in different maps that we use in Feng Shui.

This analogy becomes useful in our understanding of the function and influence of the center of buildings, however the comparison only holds to a certain point, as is the case always with concepts that are based in analogy.

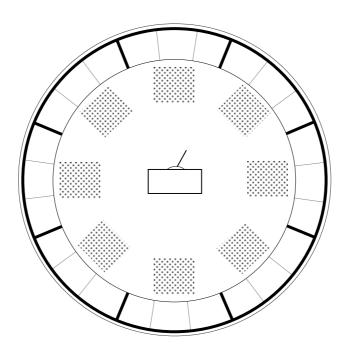
We can use the analogy of water rings, up to the point that we need to understand however, that we were using an analogy by which the influence will be inside-out: the rings will move from the center outward. However, for our Feng Shui assessments we need to understand that directional Qi will work outside-in towards the center – or toward any reference point for that matter-, but we can hardly define a Qi center.

Looking at yet another analogy, we can use a radio. Your radio will receive radio signals through its antenna. However, you will not be able to perceive this as sound just yet, or – if you were to open and investigate the antenna – you will not find any music there.

If you then position the radio and you sit yourself down with that radio, surrounding yourself with eight loudspeakers into eight directions, what you will receive is the sound from all these directions, bass tones perhaps from the South, high tones perhaps from the North, but you still cannot 'hear' the original radio signal having come through the antenna.

A radio receives radio signals through its antenna. Suppose we were to install our radio at the center of a room and surround it by eight loudspeakers.

Although eight loudspeakers, one into each direction, give off sound, we cannot say that we can find sound at the center, or in the antenna. You cannot hear or see the radio signal, although the entire set up relies on it.

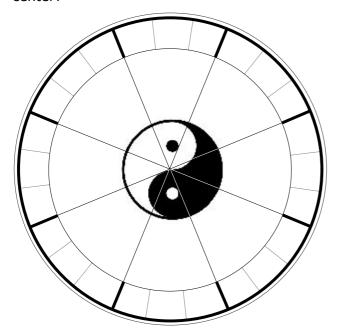


Still, you can enjoy several programs reaching you through the central antenna. For a house, we need to see how tangible and intangible forces influence our house and the people living in it.

We can see how Qi can take on many faces, all at the same time, and we find its many appearances – and its ever changing properties - codified in the charts we use, like Heaven chart, Earth Chart, annual chart, month chart or day chart.

As Feng Shui practitioners, we need to know how Qi in its different phases will mingle, how the different influences then affect one another, how these patterns behaved in the past and we want to be able to project all this into the future.

Practically it means, we can work with Tian Pan, Di Pan, Ren Pan and so on, all simultaneously, and superimposing one onto the other in a ceaseless journey through past, present and future. Point is, what function do we assign to the center?



Tai Ji

Here is a representation of Tai Ji
– the one universal diagram
depicting the Infinite Universe -,
often referred to also as Yin-Yang
emblem.

Tai Ji is a Universal symbol, leading us to explore and understand the vast cosmos, up to our using Tai Ji to study even the smallest particle.

Tai Ji is what lies ahead of Creation, but it lies within Creation.

It signifies how One Infinite Universe differentiates itself into two fundamental forces, Yin and Yang and it is at the cradle of the *Nineteen Principles of One Infinite Universe* – discussed in our article "Binary Model of Creation" -, accredited to Fu Xi and of which neither principle can be taken away and none could be added.

On a geographical level, Tai Ji shows waxing and waning of earth magnetic forces, as well as on a much smaller scale, it can be used to understand the functions of our bodies.

If we stay with our Feng Shui studies, Tai Ji can represent any topografical or geographical structure, or we can simply superimpose Tai Ji onto our floor plan and proclaim it valid for confined structures in which Qi can be contained.

For our Feng Shui purpose we will mostly project Tai Ji along with the eight directions. Using eight directions, we will automatically arrive to the basic Luo Shu.

Usually we see 5 Earth projected at the center of the Luo Shu.

But why is there no Star in the center

There is no Star in the center, because the center takes in no direction and the center takes in no specific space, and there is no Star in the center for the same reason that we will not find a stone at the center of a set of rings on the water.

Always implied in a Flying Star chart – although perhaps not all shown:

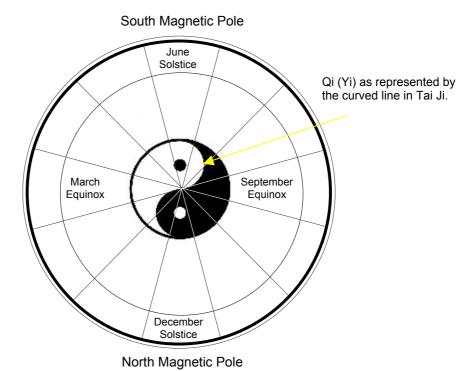
- He Tu diagram (River Map)
- Xian Tian Gua ('Former Heaven' setting of Trigrams)
- Hou Tian Gua ('Later Heaven' setting of Trigrams)
- Tian Pan (Heaven chart)
- Annual, monthly, daily Star charts
- Ten Heavenly Stems, Twelve Earthly Branches
- Trigrams, Hexagrams, Five Transformations



Although in a Feng Shui Flying Star chart, we will not show the basic 5 Earth Luo Shu, it is always implied.

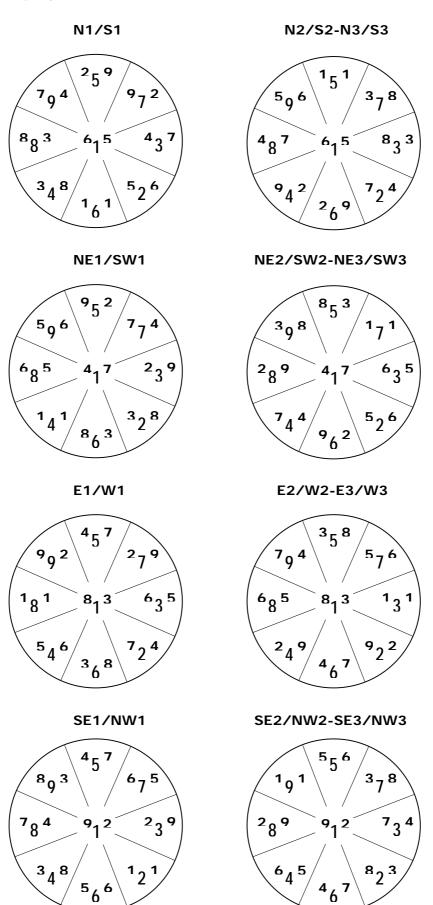
Heaven and Earth forces move in a spirallic manner, always changing their dynamic from centrifugal to centripetal and back.

You can allot Time factors (Solstices, Equinoxes) and Space factors (directions, Earthly Branches) into the directions, twelve directions in this specific example.

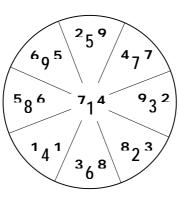


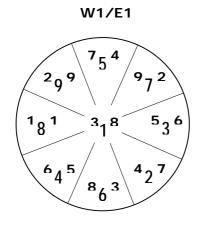
Note that the 360 degrees compass circumference can be divided into:

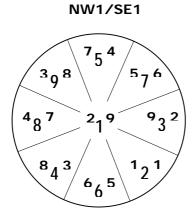
- eight 45 degrees sectors to accommodate the Trigrams and the 9 Stars;
- twelve 30 degrees sectors to accommodate the Twelve Earthly Branches more commonly known as the twelve Chinese animal signs;
- 24 sectors of 15 degrees each, referred to as the 24 Mountain Ring. It is this ring of the Chinese Compass (Luo Pan) that Xuan Kong Fei Xing Feng Shui heavily relies on. It decides whether Mountain and Water Dragons fly in ascending or descending order through the fixed Luo Shu Pattern.

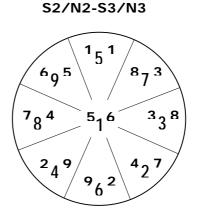


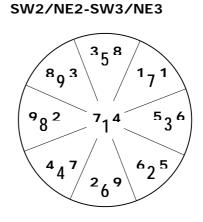
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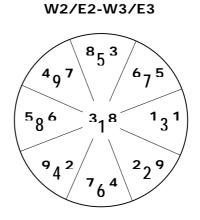


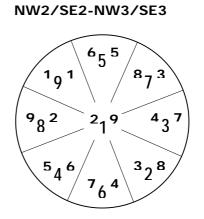




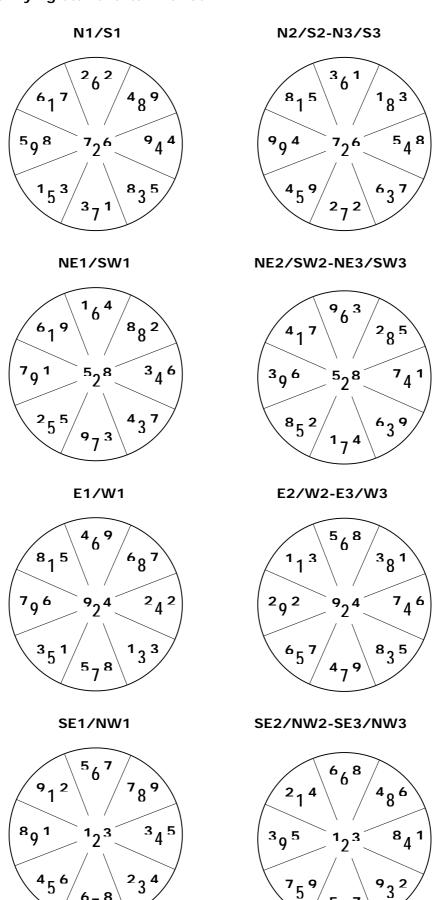




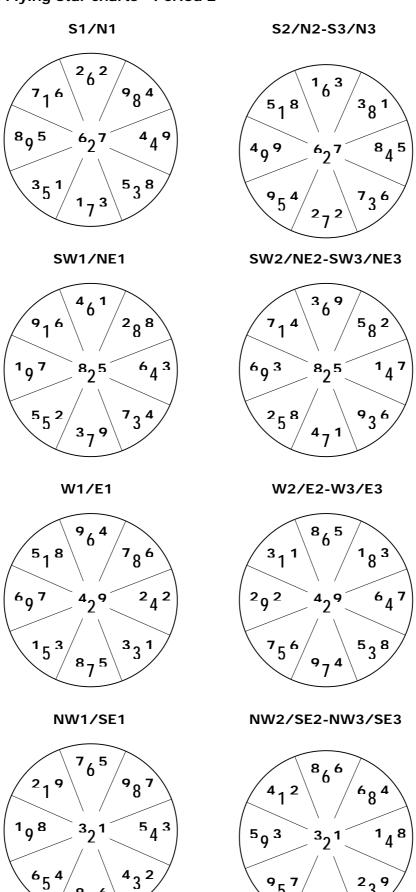


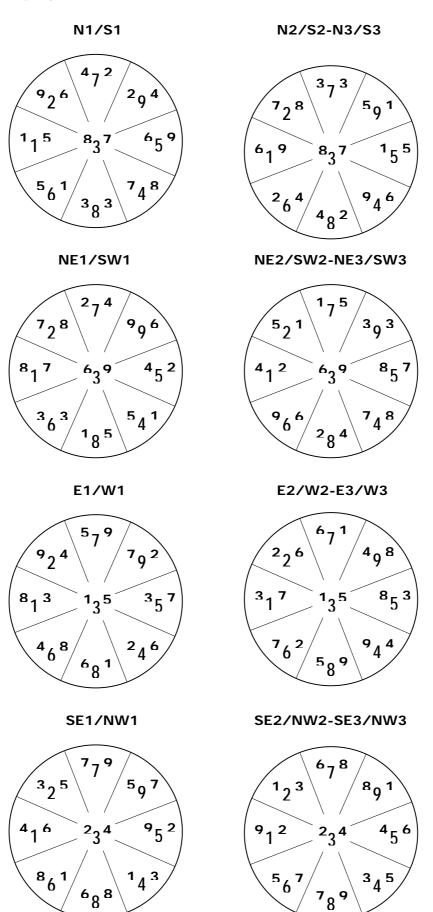


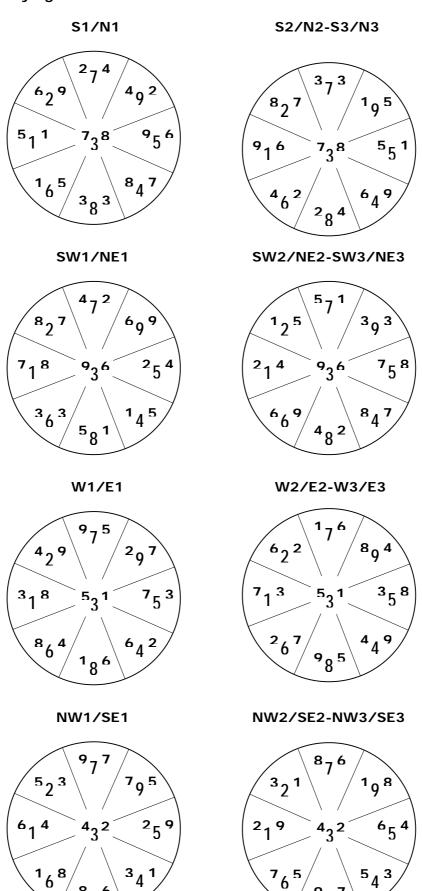
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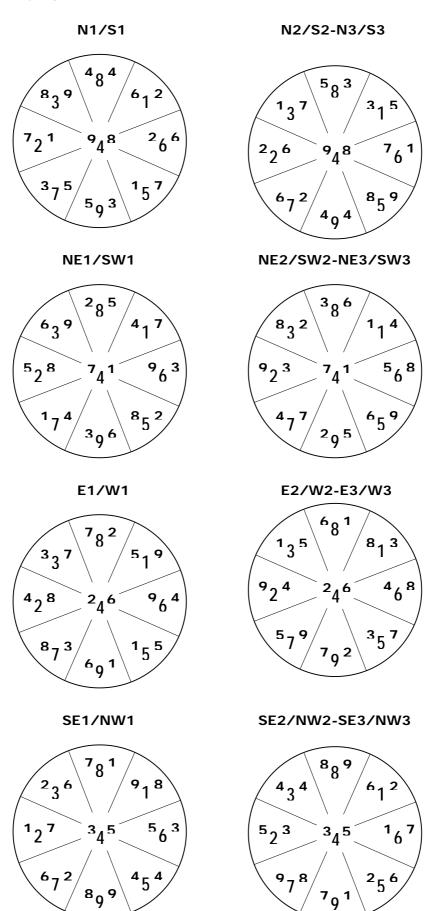


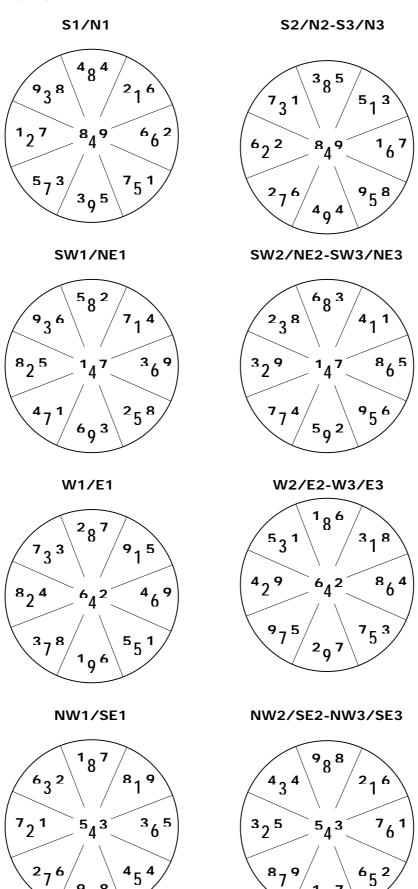
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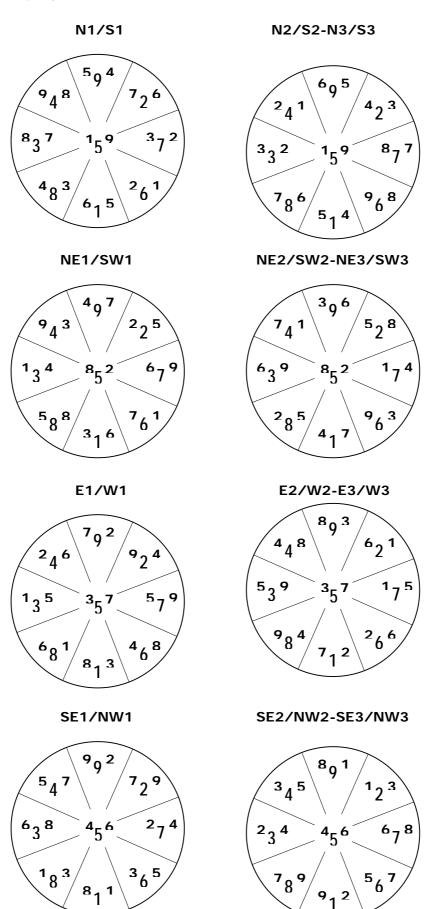


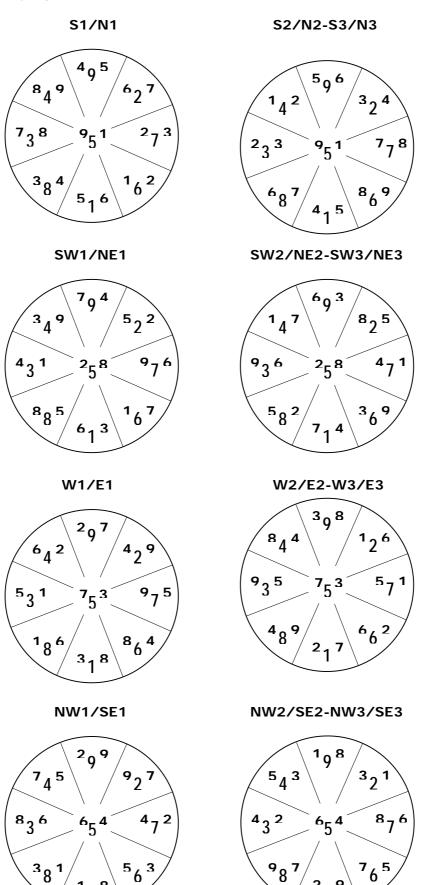






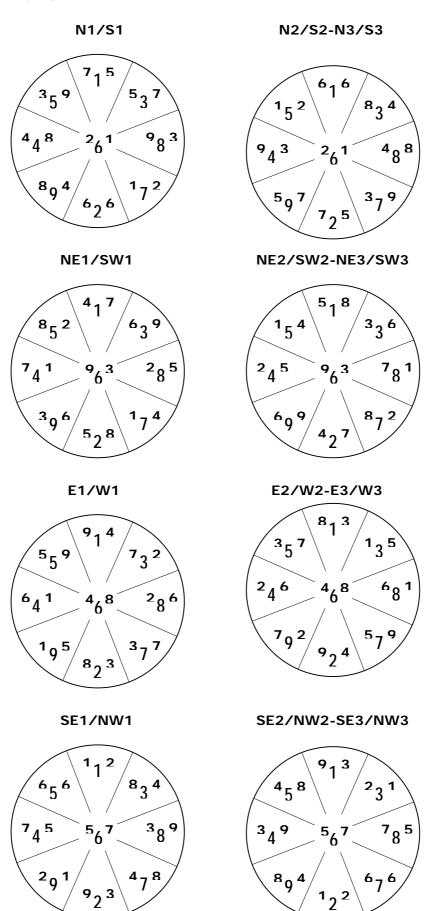


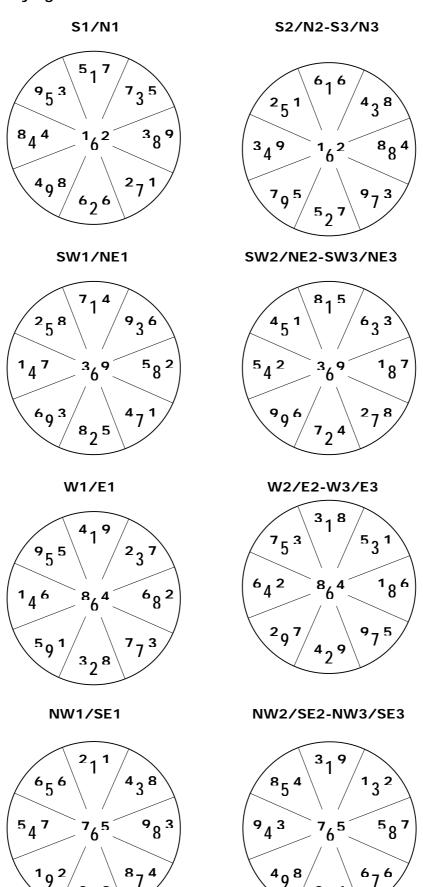


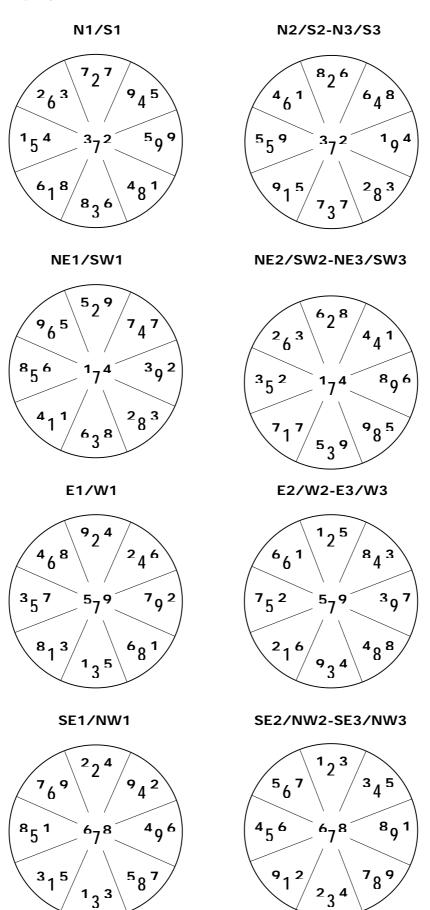


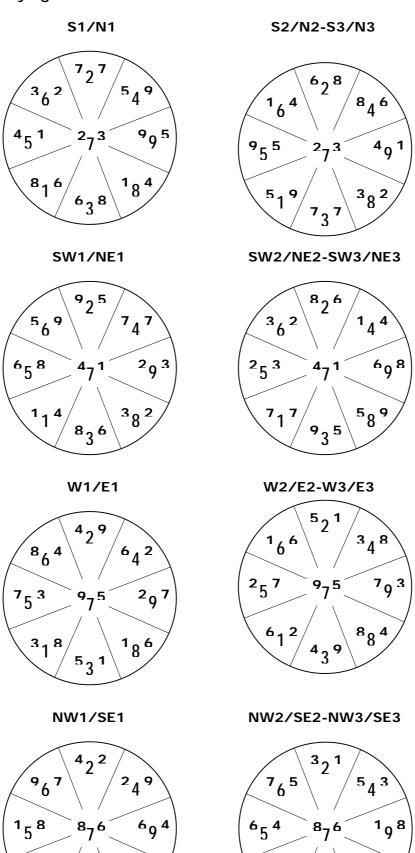
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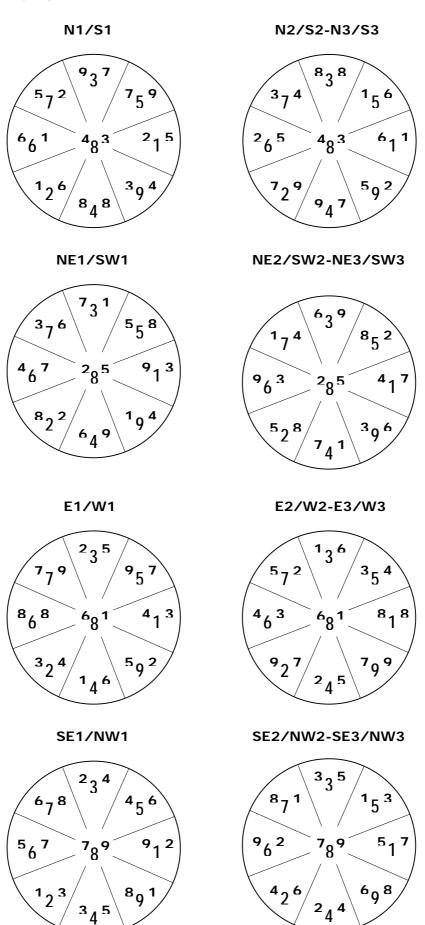


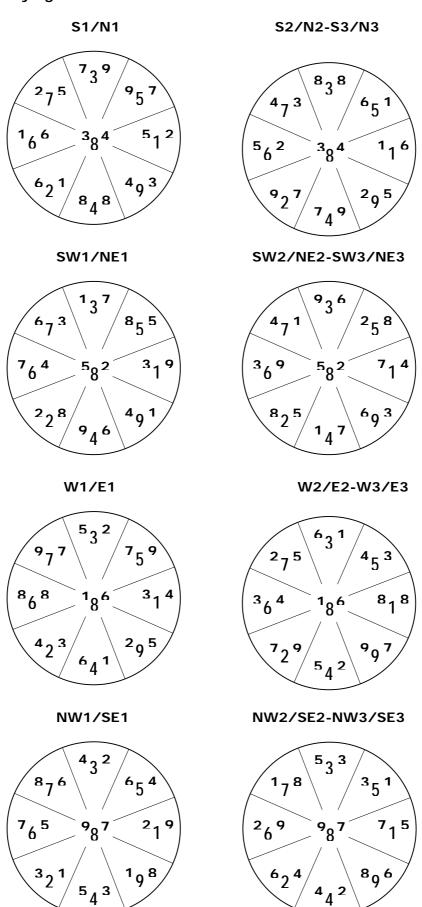


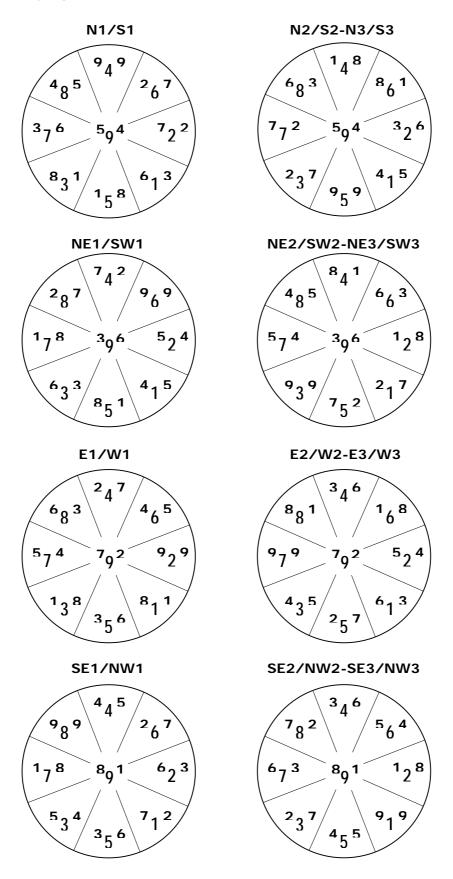
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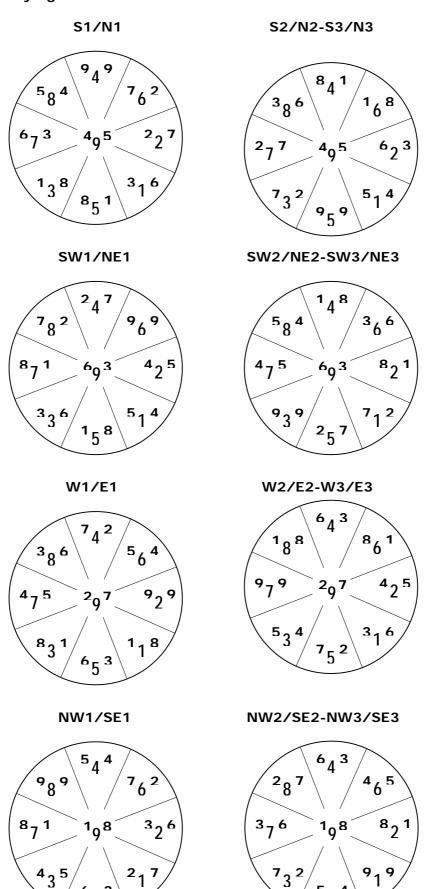
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