

Remodel Considerations

Before embarking on an extensive remodel our clients often ask us what considerations they should keep in mind that will maximize the value of their home. While each home is unique the below design characteristics consistently demand a premium with today's homebuyer. Adding or maintaining a fourth bedroom is crucial for families who have three kids or who need a designated guest room that can flex as a home office. Buyers continue to desire a more continuous floor plan with raised ceilings where transitions from the kitchen to living spaces feel seamless. While the open floor plan is what all buyers want, they also are looking for two entertaining spaces - in other words a separate space where kids can play or recreate away from adults. The location of the kitchen within sight of the backyard so small children can be seen and heard is extremely desirable. In addition, buyers love indoor/outdoor living space that transitions from the house to the backyard and provides a level of shade for entertaining. Incorporating this space with the open floor plan concept allows for a seamless transition to the yard. Today's buyer is looking for a cleaner brighter look. Shades of white and light colors used consistently throughout are extremely popular. We look forward to hearing from you with your real estate questions.



ERIN & DARRICK MARTIN

Direct: 925-951-3817

Erin@MartinHomesTeam.com

Darrick@MartinHomesTeam.com

www.MartinHomesTeam.com

CalBRE# 01922810, CalBRE# 02006564

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Activating and balancing the Metal element in your home this fall

WEALTH & PROSPERITY XUN Wood Southeast Purple	FAME & REPUTATION LI Fire South Red Summer	RELATIONSHIPS KUN Earth Southwest Pink
FAMILY ZHEN Wood East Green Spring	HEALTH TAI JI Earth Center Orange, Yellow Brown	JOY & COMPLETION DUI Metal West White Autumn
KNOWLEDGE & SELF-CULTIVATION GEN Earth Northeast Blue	CAREER & OPPORTUNITIES KAN Water North Black & Dark Blue Winter	HELPFUL PEOPLE & TRAVEL QIAN Metal Northeast Grey

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Is there a dirty laundry hamper in the Metal element controlled 'completion' area of your master bedroom? Are they connected? Most likely. First, try thoroughly cleaning up the laundry mess and next, be mindful and notice if any shifts occur that inspire finishing your tasks. Especially when working with the Metal areas of the Bagua, remain joyful! Add Metal element items and ensure that all Five Elements are present.

Fire controls Metal

If your home has too much metal or is overly metal, modern, white, metallic or minimalistic, it's good common sense to "warm" things up with the Fire element and counter Metal's yin coolness. We might personally wear more red clothing, and also warm up our indoors with candles, a fireplace, red art, pillows, blankets, and for outdoors, we can place fiery spiky cactuses, fire pits, or triangular shaped sculpture in the garden to add some Fire element and control Metal.

Once we understand we can use the "controlling" element cycle to ensure that each element is always present for balance, but is also used to subdue too much of one element, we can slowly begin to understand how to make impactful adjustments in our environments so we achieve the balance we need now. Here's to more vitality, support and comfort where we live, sleep and dream.

Michele Duffy, BTB M.F.S. is an Orinda resident who, since 1999, enjoys creating "Space as Medicine" Feng Shui one space at a time, as well as hiking in nature, cooking, and spending time with her family; Canyon Ranch Feng Shui Master, International Feng Shui Guild (IFSG) Red Ribbon Professional. To schedule a professional 2019 Feng Shui Consultation, contact Michele at (520) 647-4887 or send an email to spaceharmony@gmail.com.

Mandala Feng Shui



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