HANDBOOK OF NON-RELIGIOUS CHINESE CUSTOMS FOR YOUR NEW OR RE-SALE HOME

1. FIRST-TIME OPEN DOOR
2. START OF RENOVATIONS
3. MOVE-IN
4. GET AUSPICIOUS DATES
These procedures are non-religious Chinese customs based on simplified practical common practises of various Chinese dialect groups in the past and present.

For example, Hokkien & Teochew dialect groups started the custom of throwing in a pineapple as it sounds like "Ong" or "Prosper" in Hokkien. In addition "Fa Cao/Huat Quay" sounds also like "Prosperity".

The tradition of offering five (5) types of fruits and five (5) countable fruits like 5 oranges/apples is based on the Cantonese belief of making offerings to the five (5) spirits: North, South, East, West & Centre spirits.
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1) Door open - ALL call out "PING AN FA CHAI ", then throw in PINEAPPLE (x1 pcs); (For a new condominium; the developer's representative (RD) would follow you up to your unit for the hand over of your unit. If so, before the RD open the main entrance door; you should get ready the pineapple.

Once the main entrance door is opened both husband and wife call out "PING AN FA CHAI " and roll in the pineapple.)

2) Prepare RICE and GREEN BEANS - Husband & wife (no outsiders except for own or family members can be around) to sprinkle ALL over the house

- Mix the rice and green beans together. (Leave a "cup-full" of green beans - for later placement at the living room area).
- During this procedure, make sure that no outsiders are inside the home.
- For example, if it is a condo, the condo facilitator must leave the apartment. Own family members can remain eg. parents).
- The purpose is to "sow" wealth into the apartment. Thus, it is not a matter of sprinkly lots of rice/beans but rather, try to sprinkle all over the apartment inclusive of the toilets/yard.

3) Prepare FA GAO (x2 pcs - can be brown, yellow or pink). If white colour FA GAO make sure that a circular red paper to be stuck/placed on top of the FA GAO.

- Place one FA GAO in the middle of the room
- while the other FA GAO with 3 oranges and 1 red packet with some money e.g. 2 dollars, 20 cents or 80 cents will do - on top of the kitchen stove.

4) Prepare 5 types of FRUITS such as ORANGEs/ KUMs, RED APPLES, RED GRAPES, BANANAs). AVOID: PEARS ONLY.

- Grapes should preferably be purple or reddish. But not green or black coloured grapes.
- for countable fruits such as oranges (Kum) & apples please purchase 5 each to be placed in the middle of the living room. For a bunch like banana, or grapes, no need to count.
- NOTE: For the 5 types of Fruits, the pineapple which was thrown in should also be included as ONE of the Five types of fruits. Thus:-

For example: 1 Pineapple (Don't purchase FIVE! One will do) 5 Oranges, 5 Apples, 1 BUNCH of Banannas and 1 BUNCH of Grapes will do for the middle of the living room.
5) Prepare TEA LEAVES (tie kuan yin) and place it in the middle of the living room.

6) Prepare COTTON WOOL, WATER and a DISH for germinating the GREEN BEANS and place it in the middle of the living room.

Item# 3 - 5: These are to be placed at the middle of the living room. While item 6 is to be placed near the balcony/window close to a light source.

7) In addition, at the 4 corners of the LIVING & DINING room, place a set of 2x ORANGES + 1x Red Packet of 20cts - total: ORANGES x8 + RED PACKETS x4

8) In addition, at the KITCHEN, place FA GAO x1 and ORANGES x3 on the stove.
- with an ang pow with 20cents or 2 dollars or even number notes/coins will do.
- Do not sweep the floor on the three days of placement. For example, if placed on Saturday, only sweep the floor after Monday i.e. from next Tuesday onwards ONLY.
- After this date, all the ang pow money can be used to purchase sweets or sweet-drinks for own family consumption.

Summary of items (for the above)

1 Pineapple (after roll-in; later place it at the centre of the living room)
5 Apples
1 bunch of bananna
1 bunch of purple grapes
16 Oranges = 5 at the centre
   8 at the four corners (2 each)
   3 at the location of the stove or for a new HDB on the floor where the stove (may be)
Others:
- A packet of usually 3 smaller packets of Tea leaves
- 2 Fa Gao
- Green beans mixed with rice
- Extra green beans to for germination and some cotton wool as the base
- Prepare 5 red packets
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WHERE TO PLACE THE ITEMS

SAMPLE PHOTOS: GERMINATION OF GREEN BEANS

Especially for this item, see if the middle of living room has sufficient lightning. If not move it closer to an opening or window. Try to leave it for more than three (3) days; add water and hopefully it will sprout.
Q1: Where can I obtain my auspicious dates &/or combined auspicious dates.

A1: [Link to get free auspicious dates] Or

For clients of Geomancy.net, please sms/whatsapp/contact Cecil Lee at HP: 97853171 (support@geomancy.net) for your combined auspicious dates with: Name / Gender / Western Date & Time of birth (LUNAR DATES? Please highlight clearly)

Q2: Is it true that no one can enter my house within the three (3) days after I had performed the procedure?

A2: No this is not true. When you perform the procedure outsiders should not be in the home. But after you had completed the procedure, anyone can visit your home afterwards.

If you arrange early, Cecil Lee is often seated outside to help you with the procedure. He will only go in only after you have completed the full procedure.

Q3: I have no control when I get my keys. For example, the developer of my condo has fixed a date for me to collect the keys and this is not an auspicious day for me. What should I do?

A3: Two Options:-

Option 1: Collected the keys, do not enter the unit. Wait until an auspicious day then enter the unit for the first time.

Option 2: If it is a condo unit; collect the keys go up to the unit. Tell the developer's representative to unlock the door but do not open the door. You or your husband will then get out a pineapple and before throwing in: Door open - ALL call out "PING AN FA CHAI ", then throw in PINEAPPLE (x1 pcs);

You can then select another auspicious date to perform the 1st time open door procedure in full.

If your home is new HDB or resale HDB and if the day you enter your new home for the first time is not auspicious you can either select another day to go in or go in on the "inauspicious day" and follow Option 2, above.

Q4: I noticed your procedure does not require sprinkling salt. Can I add salt to the mixed green beans + rice?

A4: Especially for brand new homes & resale homes especially that has wooden laminates or parquet flooring &/or marble flooring. Often the salt when damp or wet may damage the surface of such wood &/or marble flooring. If you really want; just sprinkle some salt for resale homes in the toilets or kitchen flooring.

Q7: You did not mention anything about the burning of joss-sticks &/or incense?

A7: The procedures are purely non-religious thus no mentioned of above. Do check with your elders if you want to do so. For some developments, do watch out for smoke detectors (if any) at the lift lobby or even in the kitchen.
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Q5: Can I start renovations immediately after doing the First Time Open Door procedure?

A5: These Chinese customs are not cast in stone. Yes, if possible wait an hour after completing the full procedure before start of renovations.

Q6: What should I do after three (3) days with the fruits and items?

A6: If you can wait three (3) days; anytime on or after the 4th day; the items can be collected: either consumed or thrown away. Never leave them below a tree or given away. For the green beans, you can leave it longer and throw it away later after it has germinated or "bloom".

Q7: You did not mention anything about the burning of joss-sticks &/or incense?

A7: The procedures are purely non-religious thus no mentioned of above. Do check with your elders if you want to do so. For some developments, do watch out for smoke detectors (if any) at the lift lobby or even in the kitchen.
1. Bring hammer or screw driver.

2. Open the main door. Enter the home.

3. Inside the home around the main entrance area: Say in Mandarin:

   3.1 "To all the gods apologies, I am starting renovations on such and such a date."

   3.2. For e.g. say " To all the gods, apologies, I am starting renovations on ________________ (which day or roughly which week "next week or next month or soon")

4. Knock three times on the main entrance floor with hammer lightly or back of screw driver.

That's it.
Q1: Can I ask my contractor to perform this for me?

A1: Yes, you certainly can delegate this function to your contractor. (It is a matter of trust.)

Q2: Can I not do this procedure especially since I bought a newly renovated home or I don't intend to do any renovations?

A2: Sure, it is okay to skip this procedure. In modern times; many also don't do the end or renovations. As the most important procedure is the MOVE-IN.
MOVE-IN

1. An auspicious date and time is chosen (If timing is not suitable at odd hours in the early morning or later afternoon or evening), then try to go for 8.38am or 8.39am or 9.38am or 9.39am.

2. On the auspicious day, the owner of the home brings some auspicious items into the home:

PACKET OF SALT, RICE, SUGAR, A BOTTLE OF COOKING OIL & A BOTTLE OF VINEGAR

2.1 A packet of salt, rice and sugar. And a bottle of vinegar.

2.2 Other Items:-

CHARCOAL

- A red charcoal stove (Optional)
- A charcoal (representing gold) wrapped in Red paper. One can bring this in and need not light it up. But if one wants to light up, then do it before the auspicious time. And bring in the red charcoal stove into the house. In this option, the stove has to be kept permanently in the house e.g. kitchen cabinet and must not throw it away. (Optional)

An alternative is to light up the charcoal red-hot and when it is time, transfer the charcoal from the outside of the house to the kitchen stove-top.

- A `huat' quay or self-raising cake (symbolic of a `raise') & or longevity bread (apricot bread). See picture 1: below.

PINEAPPLE

- For the Hokkien (Chinese dialect group) purchase of a pineapple (with flower on it). Once the time is right, open the main entrance door and roll the pineapple from the main entrance door into the house. A `pineapple' here represent luck.
BOIL WATER & TURN ON ALL LIGHTS

Besides the above, water is boiled immediately after entering the home and all lights in the home are turned on for at least 15 minutes. If one is staying in the house, turn on the `balcony' light or if there is no balcony, the living room light for that night.

RED PACKETS

Red Hong Bao packets are also placed e.g. on the kitchen stove and keep a Red Hong Bao in each bedroom’s cupboard drawer. The money should be even numbers. For example, it can be 6 cents. For the Hokkien, 6 sounds like luck. For the Cantonese, they may use 8 cents for luck.

Picture 1: Showing some of the items on the day of symbolic move:-

- A red container with charcoal (representing gold)
- A packet of sweets
- A `self-raising' cake or `Huat Quay'
- A pineapple with it's flower intact
- A red packet on top of charcoal wrapped in red paper on top of a red stove.
**MOVE-IN FAQ**

Q1: What is the purpose of the move-in procedure?

A1: The main idea is to fully stock our kitchen with essentials like rice, cooking oil, salt etc.. This is to symbolise one will always have bountiful food on the table.

Q2: Can I bring in my belongings first? Such as my existing furniture, old or new appliances etc.... And does is this considered as having moved-in?

A2: Yes, you can. It is very common these days to do so. However, the day one sleeps over-night is considered as moved-in.

Q3: My stove is not ready. Can I still move-in?

A3: Ideally, the stove is very important for a home. A possible alternative is to temporarily use a portable stove.

Q4: If bed not ready? Can I still move-in?

A4: It depends:

Are you referring to a newly married couple's wedding bed? If so, best to wait for the bed to be installed before move-in. Especially if one must perform the customary "Ang Chuan" procedure before a couple should sleep on their new bed.

But if you are single, no issue to sleep temporarily on a mattress on any bedroom floor.

Q5: I heard from somewhere that I do not need to physically sleep in the house and it can still be considered as a move-in.

A5: Based on symbolism, one can place a set of the persons or both partner's night-wear on each side of the bed.

Q6: My wife is pregnant but I have no choice but to move-in during her pregnancy.

A6: The taboo is that one should not move the bed of "conception" symbolically the bedroom where the couple stayed-in and had the baby. Thus if you are not buying a new bed but is moving the existing bed to the new home; the wife should not be present to see the move and subsequent re-location of the bed. Nor return to find the bed missing.

If you are buying a new bed, ideally wife should not be present when the new bed is placed in the new home. Do not adjust this bed anymore when move-in to stay.

Q7: Can I start renovations &/or continue with my renovations &/or move house during the Chinese 7th month.

A7: Try to start renovations before the 7th month. It is okay to continue renovations during the Chinese 7th month. For the Chinese try to move-in as a last-resort during the 7th month especially if there are no other viable alternatives.
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GET YOUR COMBINED AUSPICIOUS DATES FOR ONE OR TWO PERSONS

If you are our Feng Shui client, you can request for your personalised combined auspicious dates.

Q: What information must I provide to you?

1. Single or both partners: Name / Gender / Date & Time of birth as in birth-cert (Western date format)
2. Your e-mail address.
3. SMS/WhatsApp to HP: 97853171 &/or e-mail: support@geomancy.net

Note: Not necessary to give your Names in Mandarin as this is not for name change &/or selection. Remember that the date format is western & not lunar. But if it is lunar, please state very clearly as such.

Q: I have already sent you my information. What next?

Good to use sms/WhatsApp. If e-mail, please sent an sms/WhatsApp to: Cecil Lee @97853171 to keep a look-out for it.

Q5: What if I am not your Feng Shui client?

A6: Click here to get your free next thirty (30 days) as it is auspicious dates.

Q8: How about starting renovations &/or continuing renovations &/or move-in during Qing Ming period?
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auspicious dates.
SAMPLE OF COMBINED AUSPICIOUS DATES REPORT

PART 1. Personal information

Auspicious Date for Two

Personal Information

SAMPLE
PART 2. Summary of auspicious dates for a specific month

Executive Summary of the Auspicious Dates for Both Person

A quick break down of which are the good and bad dates in this month. See the next section for more details. This section considers both person’s ba zi luck day, in addition to the Tung Shu dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Weekend</th>
<th>Weekday</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Auspicious</td>
<td>17 May 2015 (Sun);</td>
<td>29 May 2015 (Fri);</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Auspicious &amp; Auspicious</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auspicious</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Auspicious &amp; Average</td>
<td>08 May 2015 (Fri);</td>
<td>20 May 2015 (Wed);</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auspicious &amp; Average</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A quick summary break down of which dates sorted by Best / Next Best category.

May 2015
- Best Weekend: 17 May 2015 (Sun);
- Next Best Weekend: none;
- Best Weekday: 29 May 2015 (Fri);
- Next Best Weekday: 08 May 2015 (Fri); 20 May 2015 (Wed);

Date Colour Legend:
- Best Dates are highlighted in Bold Light Blue Text
- Next Best Dates are highlighted in Bold Dark Blue Text
- Next Next Best Dates are highlighted in Bold Black Text
- Average Dates are highlighted in “Normal non-Bold Black Text”
PART 3: Click an additional link to VIEW HOUR

Detailed Auspicious Date for Both person for the Month

Your brief summary of the luck of various day. The analysis takes into full consideration, combinational or joining affecting the element, the various good and bad clashes, and the overall analysis if the day is good or bad.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese Calendar</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Element of the Day</th>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Clashes / Harm / Punishment / Self Punishment</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>01 May 2015 (Fri)</td>
<td>1st person</td>
<td></td>
<td>chou-wel</td>
<td>Very Inauspicious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>02 May 2015 (Sat)</td>
<td>1st person</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mix Blessing</td>
<td>Very Auspicious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>03 May 2015 (Sun)</td>
<td>1st person</td>
<td></td>
<td>mao-chen</td>
<td>Inauspicious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>04 May 2015 (Mon)</td>
<td>1st person</td>
<td></td>
<td>mao-chen</td>
<td>Very Inauspicious</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that although auspicious hour is provided in the report under "VIEW HOUR" for each day;

Try to consider the link, above as an OPTION or "Nice-to-have" and not a :Must-have".

This is because on some days the auspicious timing(s) can be at odd hours e.g. 1am or 3am or 11pm, 12pm etc... Seriously, you won't want to do any procedures at such odd hours.

My advice is, you can opt for an alternative i.e. go for phonetically nice sounding timing like 8.18am, 8.38am, 9.38am, 11.18am, 12.18pm or 1.18pm.

Look at it this way; the priority is to select an auspicious day. And auspicious hour is secondary or nice-to-have.
Q1: I don't know the time of birth.

A1: Do take note in some instances the birth time might affect the favourable elements &/or colours for individuals. Thus, if one later finds out their birth time; there is a remote chance that the information may change.

Q2: Instead of giving the timing as 1.38pm, can I give you a range e.g. 1pm to 5pm?

A2: Time of birth must be given between:

1 to 3; am or pm
3 to 5; am or pm
5 to 7; am or pm
7 to 9; am or pm
9 to 11 am or pm

For example:-
Cannot be between 2pm to 5pm thus should be either:-

[ ] 1pm to 3pm or
[ ] 3pm to 5pm
Q3: Can I look at our whole family's combined auspicious dates? For example, I have two sons and a daughter?

A3: In theory, this is possible. In practise sometimes it is already very difficult to find enough auspicious dates to suit two persons. If more than two persons are considered, then sometimes there are even none for the whole year round.

You are lucky that both husband and wife's dates are looked at. In the past, it was just about the male breadwinner. Be thankful for this.

Q4: Tong Shu vs Personalised BA ZI auspicious dates? How come it can be conflicting?

A4: Sorry to say, both are NOT compatible. As in some instances Tong Shu have other ideas of your auspicious date(s) selected. Many have relied upon this BA ZI version as it is personalised to the individuals, while Tong Shu is generalised.

Thus my advice is to go with this and forget about using the Tong Shu.
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