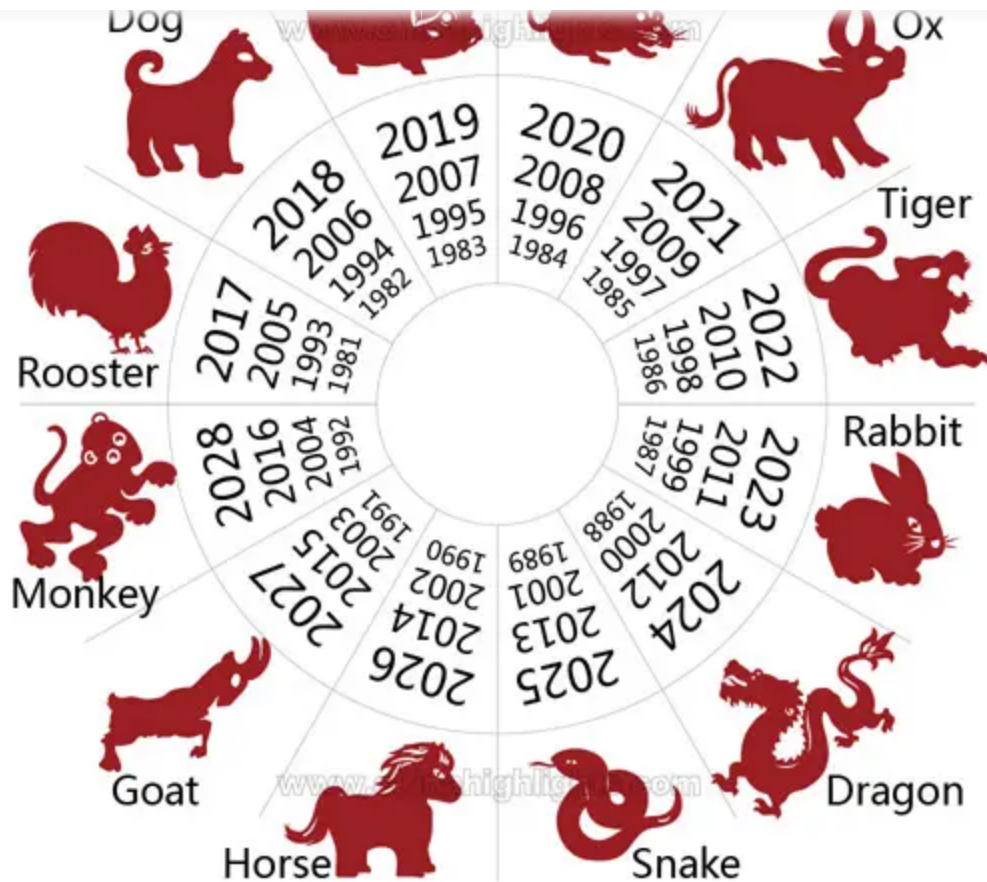



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Chinese Zodiac

Written by **Ruby Zhao** | Updated Sep. 12, 2023

Chinese zodiac, or shengxiao (/shnng-sshyao/ 'born resembling'), is represented by **12 zodia animals**. In order, they are the Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig.

Chinese zodiac years begin/end at Chinese New Year (in January/February). Each year in the

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2023 is a year of the Rabbit, starting from January 22nd, 2023, and ending on February 9th, 2024. 2024 is a year of the Dragon, starting from February 10th, 2024 and ends on January 29th, 2025.

Chinese people believe that a person's horoscope, personality, and love compatibility are closely associated with his/her Chinese zodiac sign, determined by his/her birth year.

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Here you can find out all about the Chinese zodiac, including how to discover your Chinese zodiac sign and Chinese horoscope.

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2023 is a year of the Rabbit. Why is the Rabbit ranked 4th in the Chinese zodiac? The video below unveils the secret .

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What is My Chinese Zodiac Sign?

Each Chinese zodiac year is represented by an animal. The table of Chinese zodiac years below will help you find your zodiac sign fast.

For example, 1991 is a year of the Goat. If you were born in 1991, your Chinese zodiac sign is the Goat, and you are known as a "Goat".

Chinese Zodiac Years

Chinese Zodiac Sign	Years
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Dragon	... 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012, 2024 ...
Snake	... 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001, 2013, 2025 ...
Horse	... 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002, 2014, 2026 ...
Goat	... 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003, 2015, 2027 ...
Monkey	... 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004, 2016, 2028 ...
Rooster	... 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, 2017, 2029 ...
Dog	... 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006, 2018, 2030 ...
Pig	... 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007, 2019, 2031 ...

You may want to read more about [Chinese zodiac years](#).

For the starting date of a zodiac year, there are two schools of thought in Chinese astrology: [Chinese New Year](#) or the Start of Spring.

- **Chinese New Year**, day 1 of the Chinese lunar year, falls somewhere in the period January 21st to February 20th.
- The **Start of Spring** is the 1st of the [24 Solar Terms](#), beginning on February 3rd or 4th.

Most Chinese people use Chinese New Year as the start of the zodiac year. This is popular Chinese astrology. Only traditionalists and professional astrologers use the first solar term.

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You can use our free Chinese zodiac sign calculator below to be sure.

Chinese Zodiac Calculator

Choose your date of birth and find out about your Chinese zodiac sign.

Dec

19

1981

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Chinese Zodiac Signs' Personality

Chinese zodiac animals have astrological and cultural meanings. Chinese people associate each animal sign with certain characteristics. It's believed that people born in a given year have the personality of that year's animal.

Rat: quick-witted, resourceful, versatile, kind.

Ox: diligent, dependable, strong, determined.

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Snake: enigmatic, intelligent, wise.

Horse: animated, active, energetic.

Goat: calm, gentle, sympathetic.

Monkey: sharp, smart, curious.

Rooster: observant, hardworking, courageous.

Dog: lovely, honest, prudent.

Pig: compassionate, generous, diligent.

Chinese Zodiac Signs' Lucky/Unlucky Things

Lucky Things

Chinese Zodiac Sign	Lucky Numbers	Lucky Colors	Lucky Flowers	Lucky Directions
Rat	2, 3	blue, gold, green	lily, African violet	west, northwest and southwest

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<i>Rabbit</i>	3, 4, 6	red, pink, purple, blue	plantain lily, jasmine	east, south and northwest
<i>Dragon</i>	1, 6, 7	gold, silver, grayish white	bleeding-heart glory bower, dragon flowers	east, north, south and west
<i>Snake</i>	2, 8, 9	black, red, and yellow	orchid and cactus	east, west, and southwest
<i>Horse</i>	2, 3, 7	yellow and green	calla lily and jasmine	east, west, and south
<i>Goat</i>	2, 7	brown, red, and purple	carnations and primroses	north
<i>Monkey</i>	4, 9	white, blue, gold	chrysanthemum, crape myrtle	north, northwest west
<i>Rooster</i>	5, 7, 8	gold, brown, and yellow	gladiola, cockscomb	south, southeast
<i>Dog</i>	3, 4, 9	red, green, and purple	rose, cymbidium orchids	east, south, and northeast
<i>Pig</i>	2, 5, 8	yellow, gray, brown, gold	hydrangea and daisy	east and southwest

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Sign	Numbers	Primary Colors	Primary Directions
Rat	5, 9	yellow, brown	south and southeast
Ox	5, 6	blue	southwest
Tiger	6, 7, 8	brown	southwest
Rabbit	1, 7, 8	dark brown, dark yellow, white	north, west, and southwest
Dragon	3, 8	blue, green	northwest
Snake	1, 6, 7	brown, gold, white	northeast and northwest
Horse	1, 5, 6	blue, white	north and northwest
Goat	4, 9	blue and black	southwest
Monkey	2, 7	red, pink	south, southeast
Rooster	1, 3, 9	red	east
Dog	1, 6, 7	blue, white, gold	southeast
Pig	1, 7	red, blue, green	southeast

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Best Matches for the 12 Chinese Zodiac Signs

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Chinese Zodiac Compatibility Calculator

Enter date of birth and test now

Boy's date of birth:



Girl's date of birth:



[Take the test](#)

Best Matches for the 12 Zodiac Signs

- **Rat:** Rat, Ox, Dragon, or Monkey
- **Ox:** Rat, Snake, or Rooster
- **Tiger:** Horse, Dog, or Pig
- **Rabbit:** Goat, Dog, or Pig
- **Dragon:** Rat, Monkey, or Rooster

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- **Dog:** Tiger, Rabbit, Horse, or Monkey
- **Pig:** Tiger, Rabbit, or Goat

What is the luckiest/unluckiest Chinese zodiac sign?

In Chinese culture, the top 5 luckiest/most popular zodiac signs are **Dragon**, **Snake**, **Pig**, **Rat**, and **Tiger** conventionally.

There is a popular Chinese folk saying that 9/10 Goats are inadequate (十羊九不全 '10 Goat 9 incomplete'), which implies that most people born in a year of the Goat are destined for bad luck. Most Chinese people also believe that people born in a Goat year will grow up to be followers rather than leaders. Although this is an outdated superstition, it has a real effect on Chinese society.

Conversely, the **Dragon is the most coveted zodiac sign**, with Chinese births peaking in Dragon years.

Rationally, it's hard to identify the luckiest or unluckiest zodiac signs, as each sign has its own advantages and disadvantages. Socially, different combinations of zodiac signs cause different relational dynamics, which may affect someone's life more, as we don't live in isolation.

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Firstly come Oxes, Tigers, and Snakes. Then, with not quite so much luck, come Dogs, Horses

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sign. Read more on [How to Make Good Luck in Your Zodiac Year Easily](#).

Which Zodiac Animal Signs Are Lucky in the Year of the Dragon 2024?

According to Chinese zodiac predictions, Dragons, Goats, Dogs, Oxes, and Rabbits will face challenges this year due to opposing Tai Sui (Jupiter), the deity governing fortune. The luckiest zodiac signs are predicted to be Monkeys, Roosters, and Pigs. For more insights, we present the fortunes of the 12 Chinese zodiac signs below.

Chinese Zodiac Horoscope 2023/2024

2023 is a year of the Rabbit, and 2024 is a year of the Dragon. Click the animal signs below to learn about each Chinese zodiac animal's horoscope in 2023/2024.

Rat	OX	Tiger	Rabbit	Dragon
Snake	Horse	Goat	Monkey	Rooster
Dog	Pig			

Rats' Horoscope in 2023:

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Rats' Horoscope for 2024

Rats, you can expect some challenges in 2024 and your career will be affected by inauspicious stars. It's also not the right time to make investments. But you should not be too nervous as you will be in harmony with Tai Sui in 2024.

The Chinese Zodiac Story: Explaining the Order and Why There's No Cat

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Do you know why the 12 Chinese zodiac animals are in their fixed sequence from Rat to Pig?

The sequence of the 12 signs is popularly explained by a myth about when the Jade Emperor (the supreme immortal) wanted to **select 12 animals to be his guards**. All creatures on Earth were summoned to **participate in a race**. The earlier one went through the Heavenly Gate, the better the rank one would have.

- **Rat** and **Ox** got up very early. On the way to the Gate, Rat jumped onto the back of the Ox to cross the river. He won first place by suddenly jumping down from Ox's back and dashed to the feet of the Emperor when they're near to the Heavenly Gate. Ox was second.
- **Tiger** and **Rabbit** came third and fourth because both are fast and competitive, but Tiger was faster.
- Good-looking **Dragon** was fifth and was immediately noticed by the Jade Emperor, who said Dragon's son could be sixth. Just then, **Snake** came forward and said Dragon was his adoptive father; so Snake ranked sixth.
- **Horse** and **Goat** arrived. They were very kind and modest and each let the other go first. They were ranked seventh and eighth.
- **Monkey** had fallen well behind. But he jumped between trees and stones, and caught up to be ninth. Last were **Rooster**, **Dog**, and **Pig**.

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Actually, the 12 animals were chosen very deliberately by the ancients, after many revisions. The zodiac animals are either closely related to ancient Chinese people's daily lives or have lucky meanings in ancient Chinese culture.

What are the differences between Chinese zodiac and western astrology?

The **main similarity** between the two systems is that both systems are based on time period of birth, and they both have 12 symbols or signs with associated personalities and fortunes.

However, there are **big differences** in their origins and astrological theory.

With the **Chinese zodiac**, the 12 signs are derived from the ancients' musings about archetypal animals, people's personalities and fortunes, and their relationships with one another and years of birth. A myth about a celestial race was later developed to explain the Chinese zodiac sequence.

This differs from **Western astrology**, where the 12 zodiac signs are based on constellations' positions relative to the earth. The constellations were named according to Greek mythology and astrological theory was developed based on the stars' supposed influence on human personalities and lives.

In addition, the Chinese zodiac is calculated on a **year-by-year** base while the Western zodiac corresponds with "**months**".

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The Chinese zodiac has a great influence on several other Asian countries, such as the **South Korea, Japan, Vietnam, Singapore, Thailand, and Myanmar**. In some countries, the zodiac signs are the same as the Chinese ones, while some of the animals differ in other countries.

The 12 Chinese zodiac animals in order are: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig. These animal signs are exactly the same in **South Korea, North Korea, Singapore, and Cambodia**.

- The 12 **Japanese** zodiac animals in order are: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and **Boar**.
- The 12 **Vietnamese** zodiac animals in order are: Rat, **Buffalo**, Tiger, **Cat**, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig.
- The 12 **Thai** zodiac animals in order are: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, **Naga** (a mythical half-human-half-snake spirit), Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig.
- The 8 **Burmese** zodiac animals are: **Garuda** (a mythical bird), Tiger, Lion, Elephant (with tusks), Rat, **Guinea Pig**, and Dragon.

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