

# Designs for harmony

**Arun Biswas**

TO THE hardcore believers of feng shui, the traditional art of living in a harmonious relationship with the environment transcends everything in life.

Good feng shui attracts positives such as good health, wealth and personal relationships.

This search for harmony can include choosing the location and site of a home, arranging furniture, bed and table to selecting a burial plot.

It can even extend to architecture and building such as the direction and location of doors, walls and windows.

There are complex rules such as not building homes at the end of a dead-end road, round pillars being better than square ones and ceilings that should be high and well-lit for free and easy *qi* (pronounced *chi*) flow.

For those building new homes, a feng shui-compliant architectural plan is just the start, says feng shui expert and master Jodi Brunner.

"There are many factors which contribute to good feng shui," she said.

"It is not a simple matter as saying anyone can have good feng shui.

"All houses have good and bad areas and it is a matter of designing the house such that good areas are located where the lounge room, bedrooms and entrance hall are; bad areas are bathroom, storage and unused areas.

"Traditional feng shui is a lot like house astrology. Using a formula based on age of the house and compass orientation, I can tell what's happening to a person living or working in a particular building. Using this formula, I can make recommendations about which areas are the best for people to use and how they should use them."



**Feng shui balance is created by enhancing windows with plants.**

Feng shui, she says, is ultimately practical and useful, involving a lot of common sense.

**Guide to better feng shui:**

- Avoid a building at the end of a straight road or pathway. It is better for it to meander.
- Avoid red colour in the bedroom and always ensure the headboard is not against a meter box, fridge or electrical source.
- Minimise clutter (yin) in any room to allow yang energies to enter.
- Wind chimes should never be hung inside a home.
- Avoid long corridors and cramped floor plans.



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