

Frequently Asked Questions about Water Features

Due to the high volume of questions I receive regarding water, please scan the common questions below to find your answer. If your question is not answered fully to your satisfaction, please let me know.

How much water do I need?

For an indoor fountain, it is good to have one which holds at least a few quarts of water. It is also fine to have even more water, several gallons or even a larger quantity of water for a large room.



For outside fountains, you want many gallons of water to be effective. An outside fountain should hold at least 25 gallons of water and even more if possible and affordable to you. Ponds and pools are great water remedies.



How many hours a day should I run the fountain?

Run your fountain continuously as the pump will probably last longer. You can have a fountain on an automatic timer and run it at least a few hours a day.

Does it matter how fast the water circulates?

The speed of the water should look pleasing and relaxing to you and the sound should be pleasant, not raging water or a harsh sound.

Do I have to run a fountain at night in a bedroom?

No, you can turn a fountain off at night if it needs to be in a bedroom.

Can I turn off a fountain if I leave town?

Yes, you can turn off your fountain(s) when you leave town. But make sure they are attended to by someone, so as not to get dirty or stagnant if you are away for weeks or more.

Does it matter what material the fountain is made of?

You will have been instructed in your report as a client of mine, if it matters whether the fountain is made of metal, wood, or stone. Sometimes it matters, sometimes not. If you have enough water, it does not matter what the material is made of.

Does it matter what color the fountain is?

Fountains can come in a variety of colors, from natural stone to metals to glass or a colored ceramic container. The only really counter-productive color for a fountain would be bright red. This is because water and fire are a clash. If you were going to make your own fountain, do not use a bright red container.

Is it okay to have a fountain with lights?

Using a light on a fountain is a little counter-productive because water and fire clash. Disconnect the light.

In fact, there is something called a “Feng Shui fountain” which tries to incorporate all five elements, including a light. This is a marketing gimmick and not a superior fountain.

Does it matter what direction the water flows?

Most fountains are designed to pump the water up from a base container and then rise up in the center, trickling back down to the base. This is fine. Some fountains have a front and back. For these fountains, the water should appear to flow toward a house and not away from the house or building.



Does it matter when I install the fountain?

You can always check with me regarding “Date Selection” for the ideal time to implement your water adjustment. Just placing a fountain in a certain area can be done almost any time, whereas preparing for a fountain with some kind of construction or landscaping, digging, etc. then the timing should be taken into consideration.

How do I keep a fountain clean?

Both indoor and outdoor fountains need maintenance. Once a month you should turn off your indoor fountain and wipe it down with a mild cleaner and some solvent that will remove hard water deposits. In damp environments, a fountain might even get moldy if you don’t clean it.



Outside fountains can collect dirt, leaves, bird droppings or other outside debris. You can hose dose an outside fountain and also add pool cleaner or bleach to keep the water clean and clear, as often as is needed.

Can a bird bath work as a water remedy?

No, a bird bath might be a quaint touch to any garden, but the volume of water can hardly make any difference in the usual ways we want to use water for Feng Shui purposes.

Can I use an aquarium for a water feature?

An aquarium can hold a lot of water in a small space. You don't even need to have fish in the aquarium. The lid of the aquarium must be partly open so the water can touch the qi in the room.



In the photo above of the “aquarium coffee table,” that is a cool design, but a totally sealed up water source cannot work like an indoor fountain. (A water bed doesn't count as a water adjustment either.)

Does it matter how many fish I have in an aquarium?

In Chinese folklore there are recommendations for the number of fish to use and the color of the fish, as well as the type of fish. The fish are mostly an excuse to move the water around. If you want to use the mystical prescription for fish it can be six gold fish and one black fish. This is symbolic of the Qian trigram (6 metal) strengthening the Kan trigram (1 water). Remember, however, that water is the remedy, not the fish.

Can I use an aquarium without fish?

You can use an aquarium just as a convenient container and with a pump it will circulate the water like a fountain.

Does the water feature have to be audible?

Some people like the sound of water and others find it distracting. Some fountains allow for you to adjust the speed of the water and lower settings can yield a nearly silent fountain. For structures that are in a Locked Phase, you need to see and hear the water to make it more

effective. My clients are told in their consultation and written report if the house or business is in a locked phase.

How do I keep a fountain from splashing?

Turning a fountain pump down to a lower setting can help prevent splashing. Keeping a fountain filled high can also help prevent splashing. Some fountains are designed better than others however and some fountains will splash over the container no matter what setting they are on. It is important to find one with good construction.

Is there an area where I should not place water?

My clients are informed in their consultation and report as to the best area for water as well as the areas to avoid. Refer back to your report is need be.

Can I use a cat drinking fountain as a water remedy?

Yes, you can use cat drinking fountain since the water is continuously circulating and I can assume the water is replenished frequently.

Can I use blue or black color as a water remedy?

The colors associated with water are usually poor substitutes for real water and should be used only as back up reinforcement.

Can I just use a bowl or vase of water instead of a fountain?

A bowl of water should be changed daily so that water does not become stagnant. While a bowl of still water is not as good as circulating water, it is certainly better than just using colors.

If a bowl is used, then the opening or mouth of the bowl should be wide, to allow for a larger surface area of water to touch the qi in the room.

Can a picture of a lake or the ocean work as a water remedy?

No, pictures of water have their own nice psychological benefit, but they do not change the magnetic field like real H₂O.

Will my house always need water in the area where you instructed me to place it?

In your report I should have noted how long to have outside water in a certain location, and usually the direction is long term. Indoor fountains may need to shift from year to year due to annual influences.

Can I use a fountain if I was told by an astrologer that I can have a water-related accident?

This is a rare prediction for any astrologer to make, but it is definitely a reference to large bodies of water and not fountains. Someone with this

aspect in their personal chart might need to stay away from boats or bridges.

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