



A Lunar New Year's Guide

(Mandarin & Simplified Chinese Characters)



General New Year's Greeting

xīn nián kuài lè
新年快乐 = Happy New Year!

xīn nián
新年 = new year
kuài lè
快乐 = happy

gōng xǐ
恭喜 = to congratulate
fā cái
发财 = to be prosperous

gōng xǐ fā cái
恭喜发财
Wishing you a happy and prosperous new year

shēn tǐ jiàn kāng
身体健康
(I) wish (you) good health

shēn tǐ
身体 = body
jiàn kāng
健康 = healthy

dà jí dà lì
大吉大利 = good luck and prosperity

Did you know?














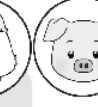
During lunar new year, it is very common for Chinese people to display and decorate a tangerine tree in their houses, similar to western traditions of decorating a Christmas tree. Tangerine is viewed as a the lucky charm of Chinese new year due to its pronunciation 桔 (jí), which is the same as 吉 (jí), which means lucky.

dà jí
大吉 = propitious

Original phrase: dà jí dà lì
大吉大利 = good luck and prosperity

With the tangerine pun: dà jí dà lì
大桔大利 = good luck/tangerine and prosperity

shēng xiào
12 Zodiac Signs 生肖

											
RAT shǔ 鼠	OX niú 牛	TIGER hǔ 虎	RABBIT tù 兔	DRAGON lóng 龍	SNAKE shé 蛇	HORSE mǎ 馬	GOAT yáng 羊	MONKEY hóu 猴	ROOSTER jī 雞	DOG gǒu 狗	PIG zhū 豬
2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911

shé nián dà jí
蛇 年 大 吉 = good luck in the year of the snake!

wǒ shǔ shé
我 属 蛇 = My Chinese zodiac sign is a snake.

wǒ bú shì shǔ niú
我 不 是 属 牛 = My Chinese zodiac sign is not an ox.

nǐ shǔ shén me
你 属 什 么 ? = What is your zodiac sign?



Did you know?

A common mistake that most non-native speakers would make when they mention zodiac sign is saying “我係...(wǒ shì) I am ...” You will never use the “我係... (wǒ shì) I am ...” structure to indicate your zodiac sign because comparing a person to an animal can be degrading. For example, saying “我係豬 (wǒ shì zhū) I am a pig” would imply that you exhibit the undesirable traits of a pig such as being indolent and unintelligent.

Personalities for 12 Zodiac Signs

dà fāng cōng míng yǒu xī yǐn lì
大方、聪明、有吸引力
generous, smart, charming



jīng lì chōng pèi dú lì méi yǒu nài xīn
精力充沛、独立、没有耐心
energetic, independent, impatient



hài xiū hé ǎi hé mù
害羞、和蔼、和睦
shy, kind, peaceful



yǒu qù jīng lì chōng pèi jī jí
有趣、精力充沛、积极
fun, energetic, active



dú lì xiàn shí qín láo
独立、现实、勤劳
independent, practical, hardworking

yǒu nài xīn dà fāng zhōng chéng
有耐心、大方、忠诚
patient, generous, faithful



yǒu ài xīn kuān róng lǎo shí
有爱心、宽容、老实
loving, tolerant, honest



cōng míng yǒu xī yǐn lì kǒu cái hǎo
聪明、有吸引力、口才好
smart, charming, persuasive



yǒu nài xīn hé ǎi gù zhí
有 耐 心 、 和 蔼 、 固 执
patient, kind, stubborn



gān qíng fēng fù yǒng gǎn dà dǎn
感 情 丰 富 、 勇 敢 、 大 胆
emotional, brave, fearless



shòu huān yíng hé ǎi zhēn chéng
受 欢 迎 、 和 蔼 、 真 诚
popular, kind, sincere



jīng lì chōng pèi dà dǎn rè xīn
精 力 充 沛 、 大 胆 、 热 心
energetic, fearless, warm-hearted



Describing someone's zodiac sign

tā shǔ yáng
他 属 羊。
My zodiac sign is a sheep.

tā shǔ shé tā hěn dà fāng
她 属 蛇 ； 她 很 大 方。
His/her zodiac sign is a snake, and he/she is very generous.



shǔ shé de rén hěn dà fāng
属 蛇 的 人 很 大 方。
Those with a snake zodiac sign are very generous.

shǔ lóng de rén hěn rè xīn
属 龙 的 人 很 热 心。
Those with a dragon zodiac sign are very warm-hearted.

My Zodiac Sheet

shǔ niú hǔ tù lóng shé

鼠	牛	虎	兔	龙	蛇
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mǎ yáng hóu jī gǒu zhū

马	羊	猴	鸡	狗	猪
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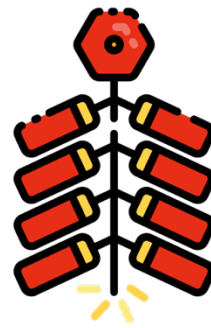
wǒ jiào _____ 。
我叫 _____ 。
My name is

wǒ shǔ _____ 。
我属 _____ 。
My zodiac sign is a

shǔ _____ de rén hěn _____ 。
属 _____ 的人很 _____ 。
Those with a ... zodiac sign are very

dàn shì qí shí wǒ _____ 。
但是，其实我 _____ 。

Here is a picture of my zodiac sign:



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