

# THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF CHINESE SUPERSTITIONS: 中國人迷信中的做與不做

## Do:

- Hang a dead cat in a tree: Dead cats are supposed to be hung from trees, though a glance at trees in Taiwan suggests that either Taiwan's cats are now immortal, or this practice has died out. •死貓吊樹頭: 死掉的貓應該要吊放在樹上
- Burn money, and cars and houses, and refrigerators.....: Everything your dearly departed might require in the afterlife, from bank notes to VCRs is available in paper form, suitable for burning.
- 燒紙錢、紙車子、紙房子、紙冰箱，任何在往生後可能需要的物品，藉著燒掉這些紙做的形體，你就可以在另一個世界得到這些物資。

## Don't 不能做:

- Pick up a red envelope full of cash lying on the street: It's a preliminary gift for a "ghost marriage" in which a living person is married to a spirit. If you keep the money, you have to keep the supernatural spouse that comes with it. • 隨便撿起在地上的充滿鈔票的紅包，這是冥婚的禮物，也就是活人與靈魂結婚，如果你拿了錢，你就必須和超自然世界的靈體通婚。
- Marry a woman with a line all the way across her palm: She'll be the likely cause of a future fatal accident (fatal to you, that is). • 娶斷掌的女人: 她有可能會造成你未來的意外，也就是克夫
- Point at the moon; it will cut your ear. • 用手指著月亮，就會被割調耳朵
- Pick up female hitchhikers late at night on mountain roads; they could well be a ghost. • 拾起遺留在夜間山路上的女性手帕，你有可能會碰到鬼魂
- Whistle in the dark: It's a good way to attract ghosts. • 在夜間吹口哨會招來鬼魂
- Swim during ghost month: A jealous ghost might drag you under. • 在鬼月下水游泳，有水鬼會拖你溺水陪他們一起作伴
- Place your shoes together too neatly: A passing ghost might be tempted to step into them.
- 將你的鞋子擺放的太近，經過的鬼魂有可能會想留在上頭
- Read a book near gamblers: "Book- is a homonym for "to lose". • 在賭徒附近讀書，書的諧音是"輸"
- Give anyone a clock: A homonym for "sending someone off" at a funeral. • 贈送時鐘給別人，這個諧音表示為他人送終
- Take an infant out at night with his head uncovered: An infants "soft spot" is actually a third eye which lets him see ghosts. He might not recover from the trauma. • 晚上帶嬰兒出門而沒有給他蓋上頭巾: 嬰兒的弱點就是他有第三隻眼可以看到鬼魂，如果沒有給他蓋上頭巾，他有可能會因為看到這些鬼魂而有所創傷
- Don't gamble near a monk: "Baldness" can also mean to "get cleaned out." • 千萬不要在僧侶附近賭博: 禿頭也是表示輸個精光。