

The literal meaning of "tantra" is to expand, to transform, to shape shift, to weave ... that part of our consciousness which is ready for a formidable gateway to a deeper understanding. Puja means ritual worship, offering, pure intent, communion with the Deities. The intention is to embrace a path of more direct awareness, and in a ritualistic way, commit to self realization. In the path of the sanatan dharm we honor the navagrahas and their presiding deities whose blessings and benevolence we seek thru the Tantric Pujas. During a Tantric Puja we commune with the divine and take an initiation toward deeper aspects of inner and outer peace. Thru the various rituals we connect with the inner, astral planets to realize more of the connection between the planets and matter and the five tattwas.

Tantric Pujas are performed here at the Yogavidya Mandir, as per navagraha tradition at the beginning and end of major astrological maha dasha transitions, mantra merit accumulation, the ensoulment of a gemstone and or numerological kavach, as well as naming ceremonies. Weddings, require the additional presence of an ordained pundit. The pujas, whenever possible are done outdoors with a traditional Homa (sacred fire ritual) and are sometimes preceded by fasting and other purifications for which detailed instructions are given, ahead of time, to the aspirant.

The pujas are offered free of charge, however in the case of a visiting Pundit it is customary to make a suitable monetary donation to honor the time spent and help defray the travel costs.

It is also the sole responsibility of the person for whom the Puja is performed to pay for the ingredients used in the worship, and sponsor a vegetarian feast for the participants which is traditionally partaken after the Puja with shared prasad for everyone.

Further is is good to bring flowers/fruit/candles, incense and an appropriate offering for the temple upkeep on the day of the puja. In the event of donations made to charitable institutions, as per planetary yoga indication, resources are provided ahead of time.

The Pujas are selected in accordance with the nakshatras (lunar mansions) and need to be ordered well in advance as considerable preparation is involved. A list of observances, yamas and niyamas, bathing/clothing/dietary

instructions are provided and are necessary to honorably adhere to. Specific mantras are given by oral transmission and in the case of merit accumulation need to be completed during the ascending Moon cycle only.

Siddha Yogi Rupnathji examines your business and career which venture and investment decisions to consider, all these concerns and sound recommendation by an expert. Your marriage and love horoscope shall be evaluated astrologically. People who are suffering from property loss, health, debts, misunderstandings, family tension and frustration get perfect suggestions. People who suffer from negative attitude and nuisance...the final and vital answer is Vastu. People who go after Vastu get their required aims and desired joy.

Home Building Rules

Vastu Shastra considers the astrological location of the Sun, Earth, and other planets during the construction of any building, be it residential or commercial. It guides us as to where the building site should be located, the shape of the site, the proposed shape of the building to be constructed, the direction the building will face, the location of gates, doors, windows, and the building's general design as a whole. The house or the place where we live can influence our life's happiness, wealth, health, and prosperity. This truth told by ancient sages ages ago is known as Vastu Shastra. The Vastu Shastra is the Vedic science of building or architecture. Vastu shastra helps us to create buildings that favorably influence our lives and brings us happiness.

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***SELECTING A PLOT:-**

It is best to buy land where happy and successful people have lived. A house sold by a person in distress or who is impoverished, should be purchased only with caution. A dilapidated or haunted house should not be purchased at all. The land should be cultivatable. It is best not to build on nonarable land. Land that contains many rocks, anthills, many worms, bones, broken pottery, sludge, and thorny trees should not be purchased. If the center of the land is humped like the shell of a turtle, it should not be purchased. The color of the soil should also be considered. White soil is good for brahmans (priests, teachers, scientists, or intellectuals), red for ksatriyas (rulers, soldiers, or administrators), yellow for vaisyas (businessmen, farmers or bankers), and black for sudras (laborers, artisans, craftsmen, or servants). Assessing the soil is also important. According to Vastu Shastra, black and clayey soil is not good for building. If the soil is crumbly rock, money can easily be gotten. Yellow soil is good for businessmen. It is usually best not to purchase land next to a bridge. It is also usually best not to purchase land that shares a well with another property. The land can be purchased, however, if the water supply is a common well on the north, east, or northeast side. A plot of land situated on a hill is also not a good purchase in most cases. It is better to purchase level ground. If the land to be purchased is on the side of a hill, however, and the land slopes down toward the north or east, that is all right. If the land slopes to the west, do not purchase it. After choosing and purchasing land, plants should be grown on the land. Also, if possible, keep a cow and her calf on the land for a while to make it more auspicious.

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***THE PLOT:-**

The best shapes for plots of land are square or rectangular. A land tilt of 20 degrees, off square by 20 degrees, is acceptable. If the plot is rectangular, it is better that the longer sides run north to south rather than west to east. It is not good to purchase a piece of land squeezed between two larger pieces of land as such land will bring its owner poverty. The northeast side of the land should be the lowest side. The land should either slope down toward the north or east, but not toward the west or south. Land sloping north brings riches, sloping east brings good fortune, sloping south brings ruin, and sloping west brings financial loss. It is auspicious if tall buildings or hills do not obstruct the north, northeast, and

east sides of the land. Do not purchase land with such obstructions to those sides because the sun's rays will be blocked.

A water source located on the southwest side of a building will cause the owner misery. Similarly, there should be a minimum number of doors and windows set into the southwest side of a building; the majority of windows should be set in the northeast side. The boundary walls around a property should be higher in the west and south and lower in the north and east.

It is not auspicious if there is an electrical power supply or large electric pole on the northeast side of the plot. A telephone pole is not negative in the northeast, however. There should not be any valley, a depression in the land, or large pit around the land.

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***LOCATION OF PLOT:-**

The plot or land should not be within twice the distance of the height of the house to a public place—a hospital, factory, temple, church, marriage hall, courthouse, cemetery, or cremation grounds. There should not be a laundry place, shoe shop, meat shop, or workshop with loud machinery opposite the property.

The house should be at least 80 feet from the entrance of a temple. The property's gate should not face a temple or church, and the shadow of a temple or church should not fall on the house.

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***PLOT AND RELATIVE ROADS:-**

A square piece of land surrounded by roads on four sides is considered very good. A person who owns this land will become wealthy, healthy, and happy. If a road runs alongside the property and ends at the northeast corner, that is also very good. If a road ends on any other parts of the property, however, that plot is usually not good. Land should also not be next to a T or Y intersection.

A road on the north side of the property is good, but a road on the south side is not so good. If there is only one road, it is best if it is located on the east side. It is not so good if it is located on the west side. If there are roads on only the east and north side, that is good. If there are roads on the west and north, it is average. It is inauspicious if there are three roads only on the east, south, west.

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***BUILDING MATERIALS FOR CONSTRUCTION:-**

Only new bricks, wood, and materials should be used when building a new house. Materials from an old building should not be used to build a new one in case those old materials repeat negative incidents that occurred in the old house. There is unhappiness in using old things. If there are old materials available,

better to sell them and use the money to buy new materials. Good quality soil, gravel and cement should be used.

Wood from thorny trees should not be used, as it will have a negative effect. Materials that have been stored for a long time should also not be used. Iron grills should only be used when needed.

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***SHAPE OF PLOT:-**

The best shapes are either square or rectangular. If the plot is not a perfect rectangle, it is best if at least the southwest and southeast sides of the land are at 90° angles from one another. Land that extends past the northeast side of the quadrilateral, however, brings wealth, happiness, and good name. Land extending on the northeast side is very good. Extensions on any other side are inauspicious. Extensions of the northwest side will cause loss money and peace.

Round, oval, and triangular plots should be avoided. The house should not be built in the shape of a diamond, with the corner facing north. L-shaped plots are also inauspicious and should not be purchased. It is good if the plot is narrower at the entrance and wider at its rear, but the opposite is not good.

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***WATER SOURCE:-**

It is advised that the first construction project for the new house is to dig the well. If water is used from this well for the construction, it is auspicious for the family who will live in the house. It is best that the well or water source is on the north or northeast side of the land, or if water comes from the municipality, it should enter from the northeast side.

The well can also be in the north or east sides of the property. The well should not be in the northwest or southeast corners, as this is inauspicious. It is especially inauspicious if the well is dug in the southwest corner. It is also inauspicious to have a well in the middle of a house. Wells should be round. Ideally, the well water should be exposed to sunlight for five hours a day. It is not recommended to share wells between two properties.

The well should be dug under an auspicious star, such as Rohini, Hasta, Uttara Bhadrapada, Uttara, etc. It should be dug on an auspicious day—a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. The well should be dug during a downward-facing constellation or star, such as, Kritika, Purva Phalguni, Mula, Bharani, Ashlesha, Purva Bhadrapada, or Purvashadha.

Water departing from the kitchen and bathroom should flow to the northeast and leave the house from this side.

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***COMPOUND WALLS & GATES:-**

The compound wall should be built before the house is constructed. Construction should begin during an auspicious constellation, and on a favorable day—a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. The compound wall should not be higher than the house, and construction of it should begin on the southwest side.

The southwest part of the wall should be higher than the rest of the wall. Do not set the gate on the south side. It is best that there are two gates to the compound, so evil things entering one gate will exit from the other.

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***INSIDE THE COMPOUND:-**

It is best if the house is built on the southwest section of the land. Any open space should be to the north and east. Open space on the west side of the land is not good for the family's male members. It is also good to keep a tulasi plant in the northeast corner. The electric generators should be situated on the southeast section of the plot, not the northeast, which is inauspicious.

If there is to be a swimming pool, waterfalls, or fountains, they should be set to the north, east, or northeast. Gardens, plants, or the lawns should also be set to the north, east, or northeast. Plants should be less than 1m in height. Swings should be to the north or east, and should swing from east to west. It is considered inauspicious to block the entrance to a house, such as with a tree or telephone pole.

Trash or dirty water should not be kept near a house's entrance. An unclean stream or pool of unclean water should not be located in front of the house. Annexes or outhouses should not be on the north or east sides of the house, and they definitely should not touch the eastern or northern boundary walls.

A garage, building, or servants' quarters built separately from the house should be located to the southeast or northwest of the main house but should not touch any of the boundary walls. Ideally such quarters should not touch the southeast corner, but should be slightly west.

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***GARDEN:-**

It is always good to grow a tulasi plant on one's property. Tulasi should be located on the north, northeast, or east sides of the house, or in front of the house. Trees should not be planted directly in front of the house's main entrance. There should be an even number of trees on one's property, not an odd number.

Trees should be planted on the south or west sides of the house. It is not good to plant a tall tree on the north, northeast, or east sides of a building. Smaller trees may be planted on the east or north sides, but no trees should be planted in the northeast corner. A tree's shadow should not fall on the house. Large

trees should not be located too near the house as their roots can damage the foundation and compound wall. Do not allow tree branches to touch the house.

Thorny plants should not be planted near the house. Cactus should not be planted at all. Thorny plants other than roses have a negative energy. Good trees to plant are coconut, neem, betel, sandalwood, lemon, pineapple, almond, jackfruit, pomegranate, mango and amla. Banyan and pipal are sacred trees; they should usually only be planted near a temple or at a sacred place. Creepers or other plants should not be grown by using the building or compound wall as support. When cutting the tree, it should fall east or north, not south or west.

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***PARKING LOT:-**

Cars should be parked facing east or north. A car should never be parked facing south. If a car is parked facing west or northwest, the owner will spend a long time traveling. The parking lot should be in the northwest corner of the property. It should not be located to the southwest or northeast.

A parking garage should not be connected to the compound wall or the main building. The parking garage should be painted a light color, not a dark color.

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***BALCONIES / VERANDAHS:-**

Balconies, verandahs, and terraces should ideally be built on the north, northeast, or east sides of the house, not on the south or west sides. If a balcony is on the southwest side of a house, it should be covered and closed.

The floor or roof over a balcony or terrace should be lower than the floor or roof of the main building. It is best if the verandah's roof is slanted toward the northeast. The verandah's corners should not be rounded, and balconies should not have arches.

Flowerpots on the verandah should be small. No creepers should be planted on a verandah.

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***MAIN DOOR:-**

The main door of the house should be larger than the other doors entering the house. The main door should have two shutters and open to the inside of the building. Teak is a good material for the entrance door. It is best that a house has two entrances. The exit door should be smaller than the entrance, and it should have only one shutter. If there are two external doors for the house, they should not be set in a straight line.

When one enters the house, there should not be a wall in front of the entrance. There should be a door that opens to the next room. The main door of the house should not be below ground-level. Neither should the main door be in the center of the house, nor in the extreme corners.

To figure out where to place a main door, divide the house into nine parts. The door should be in the fourth section of the house from the left hand side. From the right side of the house, the entrance is in the sixth division from the right. The entrance doors of two houses should not be exactly opposing one another. Neither should two houses share a common entrance.

It is considered auspicious if the entrance to the property and the main door of the house are on the same side. It is not considered good if the main door to the house is on the opposite side to the entrance of the property. There should not be an underground tank, septic tank, or canal under the main entrance. There should not be any abandoned, wrecked buildings in front of the main entrance.

It is good to decorate a house's entrance with pictures or statues of Lakshmi, Ganesh and auspicious signs such as OM or the Swastika. Inauspicious pictures should not be on the door. The door should not be slanted, sliding, or circular.

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*INTERIOR OF HOUSE:-

Furniture should be placed in the southeast, south, or west sides of a room. The house's owner should sit facing north or east, and his guests should sit facing west or south. It is best that the northeast corner of each room in the house be left empty.

Do not align doors within the house. One door should not lead directly into another. A table in a study room should be placed in the south or west sides of the room. Books should be stored in the southwest side of the room. Do not keep money in a place facing south. When one prays, he should face either north or east.

Beds should face either west or south to insure that when a person rises in the morning, he is facing either north or east. While asleep, one should place his head to the south, east, or west, not north. Mirrors should be placed on the north or east walls, not on the south or west walls. Do not keep broken mirrors in the house. Clocks should be placed on the west, north, or east walls. Clothes should be washed in the southeast corner of the house.

Medicine should be kept in the northeast corner of the house. It is best to nurse those who are ill in the southwest corner of the house. Rainwater and wastewater should leave the house from the northeast side. It should flow west to east or south to north. There should be an even number of columns and beams in the house, not odd. Doors should generally be made from a single piece of wood and should open on the left side.

A television can be placed in the southeast side of a room. An overhead water tank should be located in the southwest side of a building. Stairways should be on the south, southwest, or west sides of a

building. Pictures such as nudes, fighting animals, hunting scenes, trees without fruits or flowers, snakes, owls, bats, vultures and pigeons should not be hung in a house .

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***OVERHEAD WATER TANK:-**

The overhead water tank should be in the southwest or west corners of the building. An overhead water tank should not be located in the northeast or southeast corners, or in the middle of the roof. It is also best that it is not located in the northwest . The tank should be elevated at least 1m above the roof, on a platform.

If possible, the tank should not be made of plastic. If it must be plastic, however, it should either be black or dark blue plastic, because such colors aid the absorption of sunlight. A dark water tank while absorbing sun for heat doesn't encourage microbial growth as quickly as a light-colored tank would do. If possible, there should be different tanks for the kitchen and bathrooms.

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***PUJA/ WORSHIP ROOM:-**

Worship should be done in the northeast, north, or east sides of the house. It is best that the temple room is in the northeast corner of the house. The worship room should not be to the south. The place of worship should be on the ground floor and not upstairs.

The altar should be located on the northeast side of the temple room. The deities or pictures of the deities should either face east or west, and should not face north or south. It is best that the Deities face west and the worshipers face east. The altar should not be set into the wall but should be at least an inch from it. The door to the temple room should have two shutters.

Toilets should never be above or below the place of worship. White, light yellow, or light blue are good colors for a temple room. It is good if the worship room is shaped like a pyramid.

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***KITCHEN:-**

The kitchen should ideally be in the southeast corner of the house, its windows on the east and south sides. There can also be a window on the west side. If the kitchen cannot be in the southeast corner, it is all right to place it in the northwest corner. The kitchen should not be next to or across from a toilet, nor should it be directly in front of the main door.

Cooking should be done in the southeast corner or on the east side of the kitchen. It is best to cook while facing east, but facing north is also all right. It is advisable not to put the stove on the northern wall. The stove should not be in front of the kitchen's door.

Electrical items such as microwaves, grinders, and mixers should be placed in the southeast corner of the kitchen. The sink should be in the northeast corner. The southwest wall should be used for storage. The refrigerator should be in the northwest, southeast, south, or west. It should not be placed on the northeast side. If it is on the southwest side of the kitchen, be sure to set it away from the wall.

If there is a dining table in the kitchen, it should be placed on the north or west side. The door to the toilet should not face the dining table. Kitchens should be painted yellow, rose, red, orange, or chocolate brown. If possible, do not paint the walls white or black.

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***LIVING ROOM:-**

The living room should be on the north side of the house. Furniture should be square or rectangular, not round or oval. It is good if the ceiling slopes down toward the northeast direction. The air-conditioner should be in the west, not the southeast. Furniture should mainly be in the west and south section of the room. The walls should be painted white, yellow, green, or blue, never red or black. Depressing paintings should not be placed on the walls.

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***BEDROOM:-**

The main bedroom should be on the southwest or northwest side of the house. If there is an upper story in the house, the master bedroom should be on this floor, in the southwest corner. Bedrooms on the northeast side of the house will also cause trouble.

The children's bedrooms should be in the northwest or west. The younger children's bedroom can also be on the east side of the house, newly married couples should not use a bedroom on the east side. Guest bedrooms are best located in the northwest corner, but can also be located in the northeast corner. Bedroom walls should be painted a light rose, dark blue, dark green, gray, etc. The door should be set in the east, west or north, and should ideally be one shutter.

One should sleep in his own house with his head facing east or south. One should never sleep with his head facing north. Upon rising from bed, the right foot should be placed on the floor first. If one is to study in the bedroom, the east side should be used. The wardrobe should be located on the northwest or southwest side of the bedroom. TV, heaters, and air conditioners should be located in the southeast corner.

The southwest corner of the room should not be vacant. An attached bathroom could be built on the west or north sides of the room. It is best not to keep the safe in a bedroom, but if this is the only place for the safe, it should be located on the south wall, opening north.

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***BATHROOMS / TOILETS:-**

Bathrooms can be on the west or northwest sides of the building, but not on the eastern or northeastern sides. The toilet room should also not be located on the southeast, the southwest, or in the center of the building. The morning sun falling on the body after bathing is good, so windows should be set in the north or east sides of the room.

Ideally, toilets should face south, not east or west . The toilet should be located on the west or northwest side of the room and should be built 1 or 2 feet above the ground. An attached bathroom should be on the west or northwest side of a room, never on the northeast side. Sinks should be placed on the northeast, north, or east sides of the room. Bathtubs should be located on the northeast, west, or east sides.

Bathroom walls should be painted white, sky blue, or another light shade. Do not use black or dark red. Water should leave the bathroom from the east or northeast side. Water should not leave from the southwest or southeast directions. The overhead septic tank should be on the northwest side of the house.

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***SAFE ROOM:-**

Money, valuables, or a safe should be stored in a room on the north side of the house. This is the side of the god of wealth. The door to this room should be facing north or east. The walls should be painted yellow, because yellow leads to an increase of wealth.

If a safe is large, it can be placed in the south, southwest, or west sides of the house, but it should always be set a few inches from the wall. It should not be in the southwest or southeast corner, and should definitely not be in a northeast corner. The safe should face north and open toward the north or east. It is inauspicious to have a safe opening to the south—this will cause a loss of money. The safe should not be located under any beams.

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***DINING ROOM:-**

The dining room should be located on the west , east or north side of the building. If the kitchen is on the ground floor, the dining room should not be on an upper floor but should also be located on the ground floor. The door leading into the dining room should be on the east, north, or west side of the room. It should not have arches. The house's main entrance door should not face the dining room's door.

It is best to face east or west while eating. The head of the family should face east during meals. Other members of the family can face east, north, or west, but it is not advisable to face south. The dining table should not be round or oval but either square or rectangular. It should not fold from the wall or be

attached to the wall. A sink can be located in the northeast corner of the dining room, or on the north or east sides of the room. No toilets should be attached to the dining room.

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***BATHROOMS:-**

Bathrooms can be on the west or northwest sides of the building, but not on the eastern or northeastern sides. The toilet room should also not be located on the southeast, the southwest, or in the center of the building. Ideally, toilets should face south, not east or west. The toilet should be located on the west or northwest side of the room and should be built 1 or 2 feet above the ground.

An attached bathroom should be on the west or northwest side of a room, never on the northeast side. Sinks should be placed on the northeast, north, or east sides of the room. Bathtubs should be located on the northeast, west, or east sides. Bathroom walls should be painted white, sky blue, or another light shade. Do not use black or dark red. Water should leave the bathroom from the east or northeast side. Water should not leave from the southwest or southeast directions. The septic tank should be on the northwest side of the house.

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***STUDY ROOM:-**

The study room should be located on the west side of the building, but should not be located in the corners of the house. When studying, it is best to sit facing east or north. The bookshelves should not be in the northwest or southwest corner. Books should be in the east, north, or west sides of the room.

The door should be two-shuttered and should be located in the northeast, north, or west. Windows can be set on the east, north, or west walls. The walls should be painted white, sky blue, cream, or light green.

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***STORE ROOM:-**

The storage areas or room should be located in the northwest part of the building, but not in the north or east. The storage room door should not be on the southwest side of the room. Storage cabinets should be located on the west or north sides of the room. Butter, ghee, oil, and cooking gas should be kept in the southeast corner.

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***STAIRCASES:-**

It is best to build stairways on the southwest, or if necessary, on the south or west sides of the house. Do not build stairways on the northeast side, as it will cause loss of wealth. The staircase should go up

from east to west or north to south. The same stairway that goes to the upper floor should not also go down to the basement.

Stairways should be built with an odd number of stairs. The number of stairs should not end with a zero if you must build an even number—there should not be 10 or 20 steps—because it is best to begin climbing steps with the right foot and also to end the climb on the right foot. This is not possible when there is an even number of stairs. The right foot is equated with gain, the left with loss.

Circular stairways are not good. The stairway should be painted a light color. The worship room, safe, or toilet should not be located under a staircase.

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***BASEMENT:-**

Basements should ideally not be built under the entire house. Use only the northeast section. Heavy equipment can be kept on the south and west sides. It is best that the basement should only be in the northeast side of a house. It can also be located on the east side of the house. It should not, however, be located only on the south, southeast, or west side.

The floor of the basement should slope downward towards the northeast. The walls should be at least 9 feet high. The basement should be painted white but should not be blue. The heater, water heater, or electrical panels should be in the southeast corner of the basement. A basement should not be used for living as far as possible. Basements are also not good places to conduct business.

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***UPPER FLOOR:-**

There should be fewer windows and doors on the upper floors than on the lower ones. It is also said that the number of doors and windows on the upper floor should not equal to the amount of doors and windows on the ground floor. The ceiling height of the rooms on the upper floor should be less than the ceiling height of the rooms on the ground floor.

If only part of the upper floor is used, this part should be built in the southwest area. The balcony should be on the north, east, or northeast side. The balcony should not be in the southwest corner. Bedrooms and studies should be located on the upper floor.

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***HOUSE WARMING:-**

Before entering a new house, a house-warming ceremony should be performed. A good time to enter a new house is in the period from June 21 through December 20, in the months of Vaishaka, Shraavan, and Margashirsh, in the constellation of Uttara, Magha, Ashwini, Swati, Pushya, and Revati, on an auspicious day. It is good to confirm this time with a qualified astrologer.

Ganesh-puja, Navagraha-puja (worship of the nine planets), and worship of the Vastupratima (building deity) should be performed. The residents of the building should then circumambulate the building. Then puja should be done to the threshold.

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