



The Chinese Calendar

The Chinese Calendar was developed across many Ancient Chinese dynasties, but it was during the Han Dynasty that the calendar as we know it was defined. It was called the Taichu calendar. In the Taichu calendar, every year is named after an animal in a 12-year cycle. The Chinese people believe that a person takes on the characteristics of the animal of their birth year.

Animal	Years	Characteristics
rat	...1984, 1996, 2008, 2020, 2032...	quick-witted and resourceful
ox	...1985, 1997, 2009, 2021, 2033...	diligent and dependable
tiger	...1986, 1998, 2010, 2022, 2034...	brave and confident
rabbit	...1987, 1999, 2011, 2023...	quiet and elegant
dragon	...1988, 2000, 2012, 2024...	confident and intelligent
snake	... 1989, 2001, 2013, 2025, 2037...	intelligent and wise
horse	...1990, 2002, 2014, 2026...	active and energetic
sheep	...1991, 2003, 2015, 2027, 2039, 2051...	calm and gentle
monkey	...1992, 2004, 2016, 2028...	sharp and smart
rooster	...1993, 2005, 2017, 2029...	observant and hardworking
dog	...1994, 2006, 2018, 2030, 2042...	loyal and honest
pig	...1995, 2007, 2019, 2031, 2043...	compassionate and generous

In which year (animal) were you born? _____