

十二支を円形に並べた時に、 ちょうど反対側(向かい側)にくる干支、 自分の生まれ干支から6つ目が「向かい干支」です。 「向かい干支」は、自分とは正反対の性質を持つため、 互いに補い合い、相性が良いと言われています。 この「向かい干支」、江戸時代より縁起が良いとされ、 アイテムや柄を身に付け大切にすることで ラッキーが訪れるとされてきたようです。 ※「守り干支」「逆さ干支」「裏干支」などとも呼ばれています。

Chinese zodiac

The Chinese zodiac (jūnishi or "12 branches" in Japanese) has 12 signs.

Opposite signs

When the 12 signs are arranged in a circle, signs that are opposite each other, that is, six signs or birth years away, are called mukai eto or "facing branches" in Japanese. Japanese tradition holds that people who have opposite signs have opposite personalities and therefore complement each other. Opposite signs have been considered good luck since the Edo period. People came to believe that fortune would come to them if they carried opposite signs in accessories or patterns and treasured them.

(There are actually various words for opposite signs in Japanese, also including mamori eto or "protection branches," sakasa eto or "opposite branches," and ura eto or "reverse branches.")