

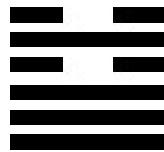
How to cast an I Ching reading

(with three coins)



The building materials

Consulting the I Ching means casting a hexagram – a stack of six lines, like this:



You cast and draw your hexagram one line at a time, from the bottom up.

A hexagram is made of two kinds of line:



Open

Yin

Soft

Receptive



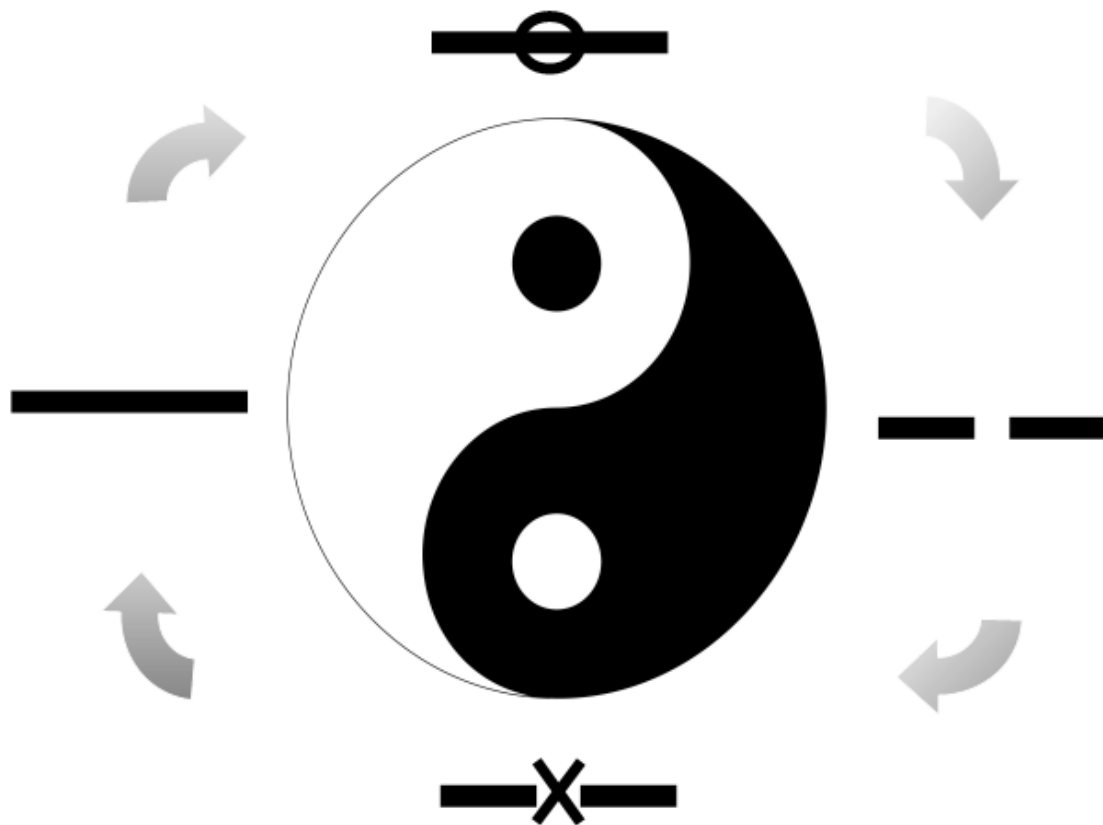
Solid

Yang

Firm

Active

These lines can sometimes **move and change** into their opposite: solid becoming open, open becoming solid. These changing lines are also called *old* lines, because of their position in the cycle of changing yin and yang. Young yang is evolving into old yang; old yang transforms to young yin; young yin is evolving into old yin; old yin transforms to young yang:



NB: although this can be represented as a continuous cycle, **only the old lines change in a reading.**





When you cast a hexagram, each line could be open or solid, and could also be changing or unchanging. So each line is in one of *four* possible states.

How to build it

Each kind of line has its identifying number: 6, 7, 8 or 9.

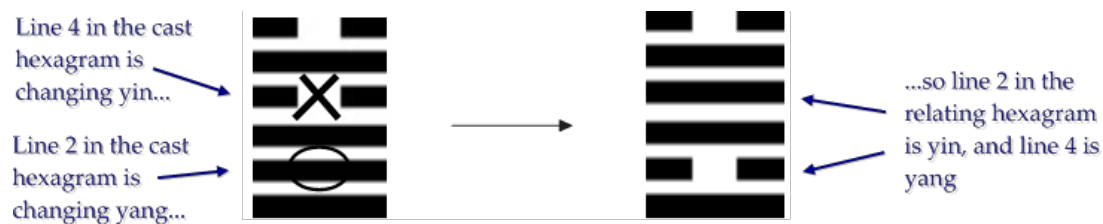
And each side of the coin is given a numeric value: 2 or 3. (One tradition says that the side of the coin that displays the coin value counts 3, and the reverse counts 2. So with modern coins that's heads (H) = 2, tails (T) = 3.)

Then by tossing three coins together and adding up the numbers they show you, you receive a line. The first line you cast, line 1, is the *bottom* of the hexagram.

Line type	Drawn	Value	Coins (H = heads, T = tails)
Young yang		7	H+H+T
Old yang		9	T+T+T
Young yin		8	T+T+H
Old yin		6	H+H+H

The hexagram you cast is the **primary hexagram**.

If any of its lines are changing (values 6 or 9), you transform them to their opposites to reveal the second, *relating* hexagram:

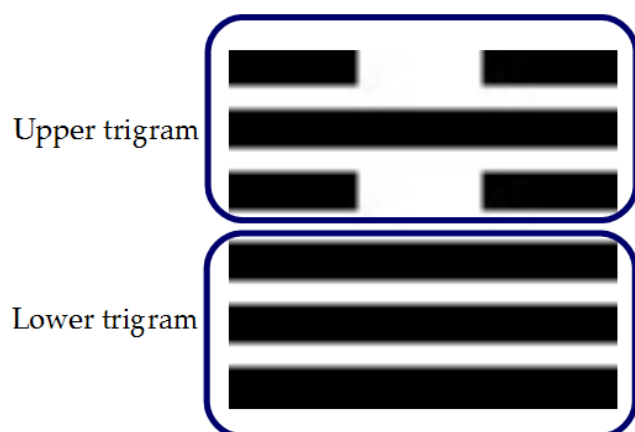


Line 2 is changing yang: it's a solid line in the primary hexagram, and an open line in the relating hexagram. Line 4, changing yin, is an open line in the primary hexagram and a solid line in the relating. The other, young lines remain the same.

















































































Looking up your hexagrams

For this you need your I Ching book's *trigram reference chart*. (Or the Resonance Journal will automatically identify the hexagram you enter.)

Subdivide the 6 lines of your hexagram into two groups of three lines. These are its component trigrams:



Find the row containing your lower trigram and the column containing your upper trigram. Your hexagram is at the intersection of row and column:

	 Qian	 Zhen	 Kan	 Gen	 Kun	 Xun	 Li	 Dui
 Qian	 1	 34	 5	 26	 11	 9	 14	 43
 Zhen	 25	 51	 3	 27	 24	 42	 21	 17
 Kan	 6	 40	 29	 4	 7	 59	 64	 47
 Gen	 33	 62	 39	 52	 15	 53	 56	 31
 Kun	 12	 16	 8	 23	 2	 20	 35	 45
 Xun	 44	 32	 48	 18	 46	 57	 50	 28
 Li	 13	 55	 63	 22	 36	 37	 30	 49
 Dui	 10	 54	 60	 41	 19	 61	 38	 58