

A Beginner's Guide to *Little House* Recitation

Note: It is compulsory to perform Daily Recitation before reciting *Little Houses*.

Start your Daily Recitation with the *Great Compassion Mantra* (Da Bei Zhou). The order of reciting other sutras/mantras in Daily Recitation or in *Little House* can be determined at your discretion.

IMPORTANT NOTES IN RECITATION OF LITTLE HOUSE

Filling out the *Little House* : (Do not alter the format of how information is filled in *Little House*)

Before recitation, write the name(s) of the reciter (XXX) and the recipient (YYY) with a **black ink pen**.

Recipient can be "Karmic Creditor of <full name>", "Child of <full name of the mother or father>", "<full name of the deceased>", "Karmic Creditor of the house of <full name of the house owner or any of its occupants>", "<full name> resolves karmic conflicts", or empty for *Little House* for future use.

Saying the prayer before reciting the *Little House*

During recitation of *Little House* , there should not be any element of "wish fulfilling prayer"

**** Sincere gratitude to the Greatly Merciful and Greatly Compassionate Guan Yin Bodhisattva**** (3 times)

**** May the Greatly Merciful and Greatly Compassionate Guan Yin Bodhisattva protect and bless me, <full name>, help me to give these <number> *Little Houses* to <recipient of the *Little House* > (which can be your karmic creditor, a deceased relative/friend, a karmic creditor of your house, or an aborted or miscarried child.)**

[For prayers for *Little House* to resolve karmic conflicts and future use, please refer to page 22 of "A Guide to Reciting the Combination of Buddhist Scriptures - *Little Houses* "]

Effective method of reciting the *Little House* : (wrapping <Da Bei Zhou> around the sutras)

- a. 12 times *Da Bei Zhou* (9 + 3)
- b. 49 times *Heart Sutra*
- c. 3 times *Da Bei Zhou* + 84 times *Wang Sheng Zhou*
- d. 3 times *Da Bei Zhou* + 87 times *Qi Fo Mie Zui Zhen Yan*
- e. 9 times *Da Bei Zhou*

Note : Essentially, the *Little House* recitation starts and ends with *Da Bei Zhou* , in between are the recitation of other sutras and mantras. The above combination is not the only method, it may not be necessary to follow strictly if there is a constraint in time or environment. Most importantly, the recitation must be done sincerely and conscientiously.

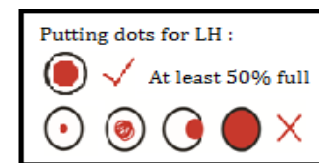
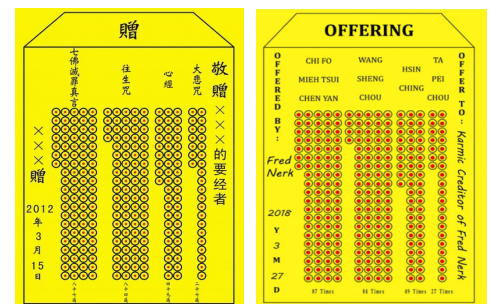
Method of putting the dot :

Place a piece of **60cm x 60cm red fabric or paper** underneath the *Little House* while dotting. The red cloth or paper can be folded into a size not smaller than A4. **Use a red ink pen/marker** to fill the dots inside the circles, starting from bottom to the top of the *Little House* . The dots can either be filled after each sutra recitation or after the entire *Little House* recitation. (Remember to **dot at the center of the circle with at least 50% - 80% full** and not to put a tick or fill up the entire circle).

After dotting the *Little House* , conclude by reciting 3 or 7 times of <*Qi Fo Mie Zui Zhen Yan* > and <*Mantra For Rectifying Errors In Recitation* >.

Use a **black ink pen** to write the recitation completion date or the date of burning.

The date should follow the Gregorian calendar instead of the lunar calendar.



How to burn *Little House*

With Altar

Offer incense, make full prostrations to Guan Yin Bodhisattva

Say "I express my sincere gratitude to the Greatly Merciful and Greatly Compassionate Guan Yin Bodhisattva" - (3 times)

Raise the *Little Houses* slightly above your head and then place it on your Buddhist altar. Then kneel to pray.

(Note: Do not place the plate on the altar)

Without Altar (offer Heart Incense)

Form a mental image as follows:

An image of Guan Yin Bodhisattva of whom you are familiar with right in front of you.

Light up the oil lamp, incense, raise the incense above your forehead and place the incense into the incense burner.

Visualise that you kneel and say,

"I express my sincere gratitude to the Greatly Merciful and Greatly Compassionate Guan Yin Bodhisattva" - (3 times)

Recite 1x *Great Compassion Mantra (Da Bei Zhou)*,
1x *Heart Sutra (Xin Jing)*

Raise the *Little Houses* slightly above your head.

[Note: DO NOT light any incense or kneel without altar.]

Sincerely invite Guan Yin Bodhisattva by saying the following three times **"I express my sincere gratitude to the Greatly Merciful and Greatly Compassionate Guan Yin Bodhisattva"**

"May the Greatly Merciful and Greatly Compassionate Guan Yin Bodhisattva protect and bless me, <your full name>, help me to give these <number> *Little Houses* to <name of the recipient> (which can be your karmic creditor, a deceased person, an aborted or miscarried child, a karmic creditor of someone's house or someone who resolves karmic conflicts)."

Light the *Little House* using a match or a lighter, starting to burn from the upper right-hand corner where it says "Offer To:". While you are burning *Little Houses*, please do not recite or say anything further. You should only say the prayer, **"May the Greatly Merciful and Greatly Compassionate Guan Yin Bodhisattva protect and bless me with your compassion."**

Burn the *Little House* one after the other. Do not burn several pieces simultaneously.

After burning the *Little Houses*, you can say the following prayer, **"I bow in gratitude to the Greatly Merciful and Greatly Compassionate Guan Yin Bodhisattva for helping me, <your full name>, offer these *Little Houses* to <name of the recipient>."**

You can also say corresponding prayers. E.g. if you offer *Little Houses* to your karmic creditor, you could **pray to Guan Yin Bodhisattva to grant you good health, safety and good fortune**. If the *Little Houses* are for the purpose of resolving karmic conflicts with someone, you could **pray to Guan Yin Bodhisattva to help you resolve the negative karmic affinity between you and that person**.

I express my sincere gratitude to the Greatly Merciful and Greatly Compassionate Guan Yin Bodhisattva for protecting and blessing me!" (Followed by one prostration)

Note: Ensure the *Little Houses* are burnt thoroughly. Do not handle the ashes with your bare hands.

Wrap the ashes with a clean tissue or an envelope. Do not discard the ashes into bins with filthy food waste/ into the toilet. However, you may discard it with the other waste papers.

Clean the bowl, wrap it with a piece of red cloth or bag and put it upright (standing position), do not use the bowl for other purposes.

Gentle reminder:

Time of recitation may start from dawn 5am till 12 midnight.

Performing daily recitation homework is compulsory when reciting the *Little Houses*. Doing *Little House* without homework is prohibited.

The best times for burning the *Little Houses*: 8am, 10am, 4pm. (or anytime in the day from 5am to sunset under fair weather conditions)

If there is no altar at home, *Little House* can be burned at your balcony, near the window in your living room, or in your backyard. Do not burn the *Little House* in the toilet, kitchen or outside the house.

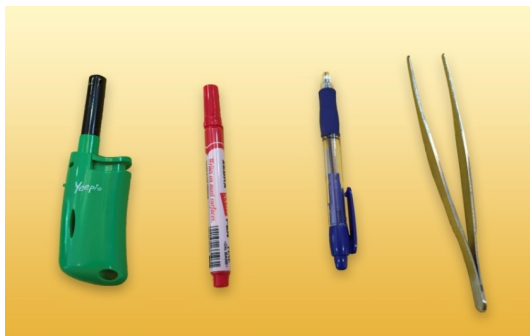
For an erroneous or stained *Little House*, you may dot the recited scriptures onto another blank *Little House* and say, "The Greatly Merciful and Greatly Compassionate Guan Yin Bodhisattva, I, <your full name>, have made a mistake on this *Little House* and it is now invalid."

The recipient and the reciter fields on the invalid *Little House* should be crossed out. After folding it into the smallest size possible, wrap it in a piece of paper or an envelope before disposal. (**NOTE: DO NOT BURN!**)

**** Please refer to <A Guide to Reciting the Combination of Buddhist Scriptures: *Little Houses*> for more information.**

ITEMS TO PREPARE

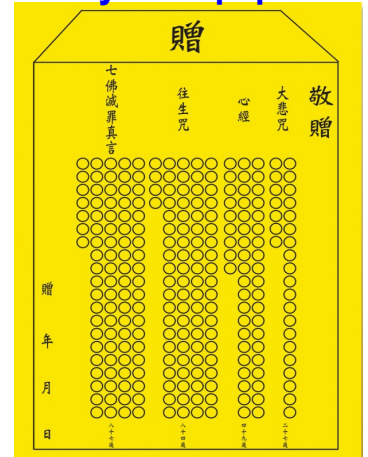
lighter, red marker, black pen,
brand new tweezers



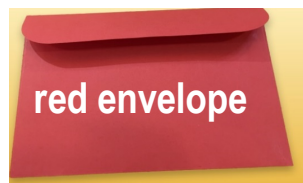
plain white porcelain or
chinaware plate



Little House printed
on yellow paper



red envelope



a brand new stool
or a block of wood



red cloth
(at least 60cm x 60cm in size)



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Opening hours : Mon - Fri (10am-5.30pm)
Sat-Sun & Public Holiday (10am-8pm)