Lunar New Year (also known as the Spring Festival, Tet, Seollal) is one of the biggest holidays for many Asian countries and starts February 12 and lasts for 15 days, until the Lantern Festival. In the Chinese zodiac, 2021 is the Year of the Metal Ox, symbolizing hard work and honesty.

PREPARING FOR THE NEW YEAR

- **Cut your hair** before or after the first lunar month!
- Purchase **candy and sweets** to usher in happiness.
- **Clean your house** before the new year to sweep away bad luck. Avoid sweeping until after the first lunar month.
- Decorate with fresh flowers and **red**! Red lanterns, good wish greetings, couplets, and wall hangings add to festivities.
- **Tangerines** symbolize good luck and prosperity. Give as gifts when visiting family and elders.
- Prepare **gifts** to give for New Year celebrations.

CELEBRATING THE NEW YEAR

- Usher in the new year with **firecrackers** and the **lion dance**, which scare away bad spirits and bring good fortune.
- Wear something **new**, such as clothes or jewelry.
- Give **red envelopes** (hong bao or lai see) with money, especially to children.
- Gather with family to **eat**! Many foods carry symbolism for the new year, because of their shape, color, or name. For example, fish symbolizes abundance. See the reverse for special new year’s eats in AsiaTown!

See more at [www.asiatowncleveland.org/lunarnewyear](http://www.asiatowncleveland.org/lunarnewyear)
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