

FACE IN CHINESE CULTURE

HANZI	PINYIN	ENGLISH	DEFINITION
有面子	yǒu miànzi	Have Face	Have honor, reputation, self-respect, and pride.
沒面子	méi miànzi	Have No Face	<p>“A loss of honor, reputation or self-respect.</p> <p>In other words, your pride has been destroyed on some level or you have brought the judgment of others upon yourself or other close to you, especially your family.</p> <p>You are ashamed of yourself or something you did.</p>
丟臉	diūliǎn	Lose Face	<p>To experience humiliation in any form.</p> <p>“Losing Face” comes before “Having No Face.”</p>
要面子	yàomiànzi	Want Face	<p>When a person wants “too much Face.”</p> <p>Those who have this attitude will go to great lengths to cover their weaknesses and show off their strengths.</p> <p>They often pay more than the usual attention to their conduct to ensure that they do not incur shame in any form upon themselves, their family or close associates.</p>
不要臉	bùyào liǎn	Don't Want Face	<p>When a person has no sense of shame.</p> <p>This statement is usually in the context of a negative judgment by others.</p>
留面子	liú miànzi	Save Face	<p>This refers to acting in a way that brings honor, a good reputation, and self-respect to yourself and those around you.</p> <p>Chinese people often go out of their way not to embarrass people they interact with, thus “saving their face.”</p> <p>This includes not spreading “face losing” rumors, or calling out the mistakes of others, especially in public.</p>
給面子/賞面	gěimiànzi / shǎng miàn	Give Face	To show deference (humble submission and respect) or publicly praise.

			<p>Often Chinese people will do things they do not necessarily want to do if it saves the face of another person, especially their family members and close associates.</p> <p>Giving face includes not calling out the mistakes of others at any time, especially in a business or academic setting.</p> <p>One of the videos, in this lesson states that if you do not give face in a business-related argument “you may win the battle, but loose the war.” This is much different than the west, where many want to win at all costs without regard for the dignity of others. – Clark Morgan Insights</p>
翻臉	fānliǎn	Flip Face	<p>This refers to having a serious difference or argument with another person that results in a falling out.</p>