“依” (yi1) is “according to,” “様” is “shape,” “appearance,” “a sample,” “a pattern” and “葫蘆” (hu2 lu2) “a gourd.” The idiom is shorthand for the expression “依樣葫蘆” (yi1 yang4 hua4 hu2 lu2). The additional character “畫” (hua4) means “to draw,” “to paint.”

Literally, “依樣葫蘆” (yi1 yang4 hua4 hu2 lu2) or “依樣葫蘆” (yi1 yang4 hu2 lu2) is “to draw a gourd from the model.” It means “to follow suit,” “to copy mechanically,” “to imitate what was done by others.”

Tai said he might not do strategic voting again in the next election. So “ThunderGo” is now effectively “ThunderGone.” But he still thinks the idea is practical. That may be so, but at least some customizing is needed.

Terms containing the character “依” (yi1) include:
- 依賴 (yi1 lai4) – to depend on
- 依然 (yi1 ran2) – still; as before
- 依照 (yi1 zha4) – according to
- 不依 (bu4 yi1) – not to comply