

Heraldry

THE
PORTLAND
COLLECTION



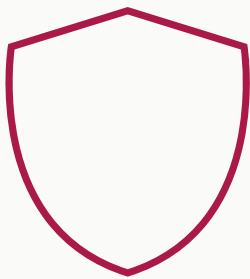
**Learn More About Heraldic Devices
and Design your own Coat of Arms**

What are Heraldic Arms?

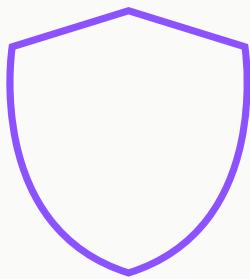
From the 12th century on, English Knights used heraldic arms to tell people who they were. When knights wore helmets into battle, people couldn't recognise them. So the knights began to decorate their shields with unique combinations of colours, shapes, plants, animals, and objects. They called these their heraldic arms. Each design was unique to a knight and his family.

The choice of colours, shapes and animals became a code, so that knights could tell people about their background, their beliefs and even their personality! Here are some examples...

Heraldic Colours



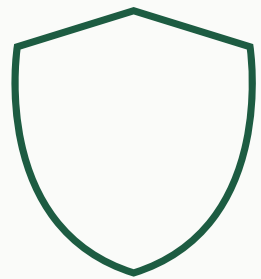
Red/Gules
Military Strength



Purple/Purple
Justice/Royalty



Gold/Or
Generosity



Green/Vert
Hope



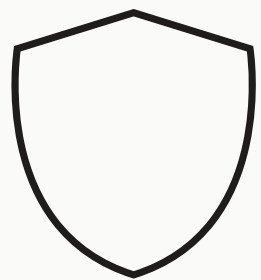
Blue/Azure
Loyalty



Silver/Argent
Peace



Orange/Tennet
Ambition



Black/Sable
Grief

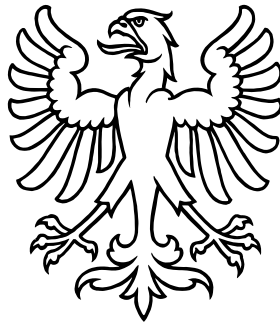
Which two colours would you choose? If your favourite colour isn't listed, you could always come up with your own meaning for that colour. Write your choices below:

Heraldic Charges

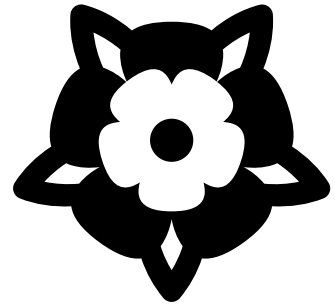
The plants, objects and animals used on heraldic arms are called charges. Like colours, there are lots of hidden meanings associated with these shapes and animals. Here are some examples...



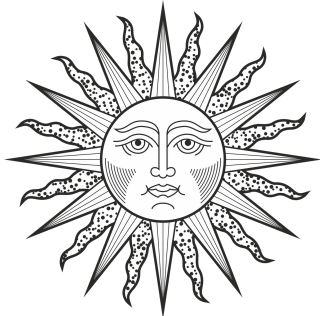
Lion
Bravery



Eagle
Power & Nobility



Rose
Beauty & Joy



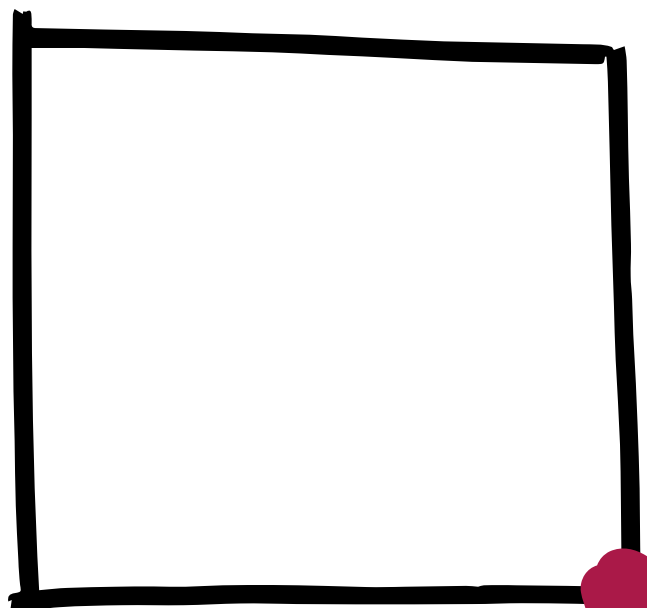
Sun in Splendor
Hope & Glory



Dragon
Defender of Treasure

Use the space to the right to draw your own charge. It can be an animal, plant or object.

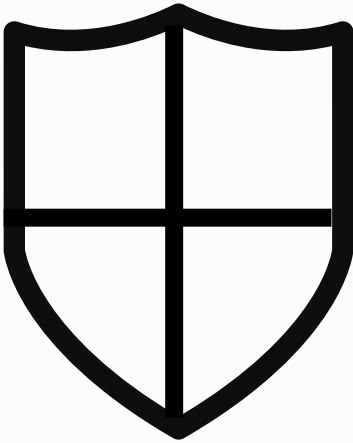
Write its meaning below



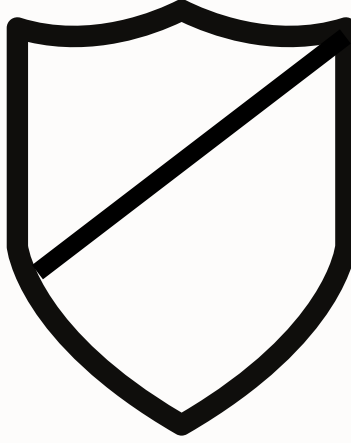
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Heraldic Ordinaries

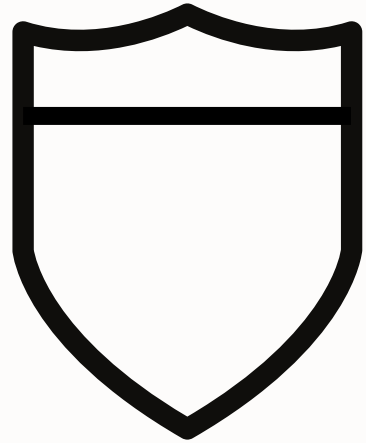
Finally, the simple shapes, lines and patterns used on heraldic shields.
Here are some of most common ordinaries:



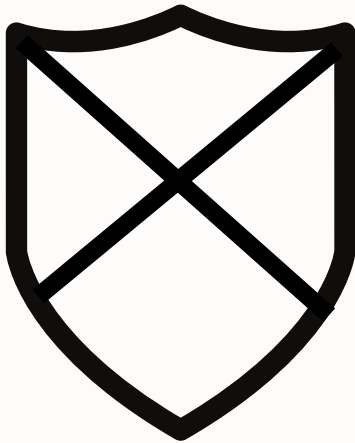
Cross



Bend



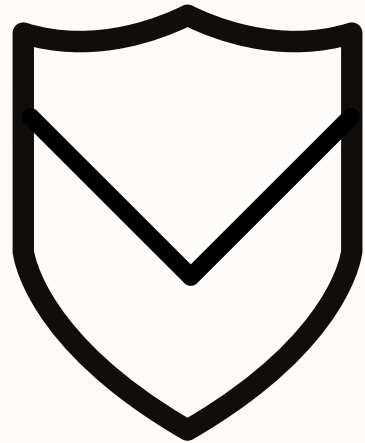
Chief



Saltire

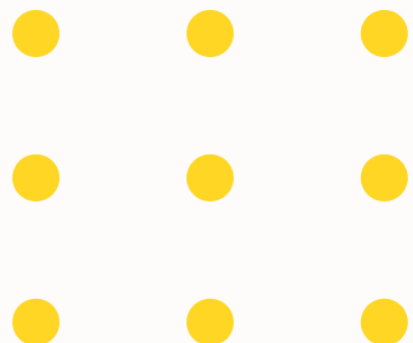


Pile



Chevron

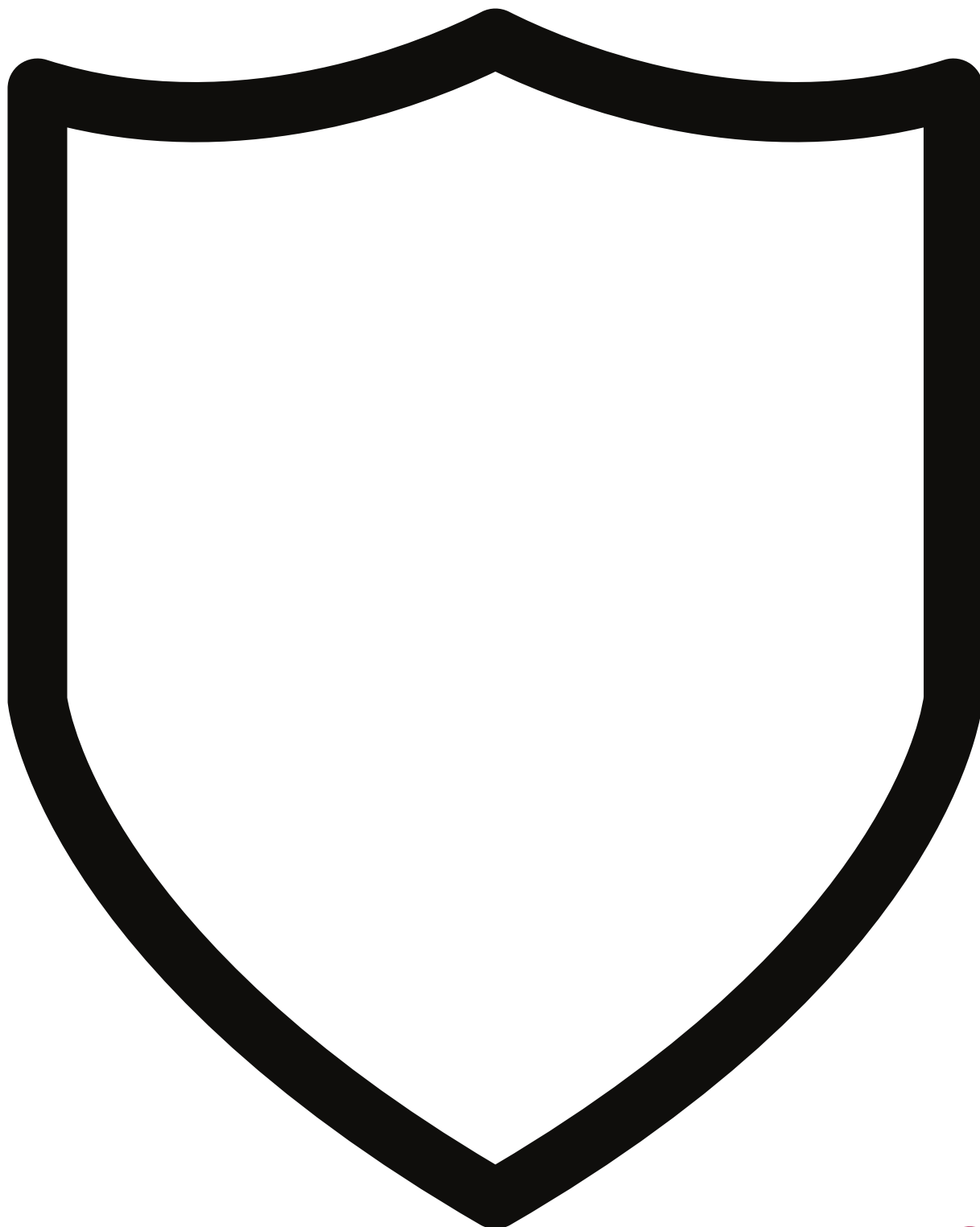
Which shape do you like best? Circle your favourite.





Design your own Heraldic Arms

Now that you have learned about some of the different choices that make up a heraldic design, have a go at drawing your own coat of arms in the space below. Try to include at least: **2 Colours**, **1 Charge** & **1 Ordinary**.



Make a Shield Decorated with your Arms



Now you have designed your arms, you can create your own shield and decorate it with your devices.

You will need:

cardboard around the size of a piece of A4 paper, scissors, masking tape and either crayons, pens or paint.

Start by cutting out your shield. If you like, you can use the shield outline on the previous page as a template. To do this, cut it out and then draw around it onto a piece of cardboard. You can then cut out your cardboard shield. You can also come up with your own shield shape. If you would like to do this, draw your shape directly onto your cardboard before cutting out. Little hands may need an adult to help with cutting out.

Then, decorate your shield with your chosen design using the pens, crayons or paint.

Finally, create a handle, cut out another piece of cardboard about the size of the rectangle to the right. Use masking tape to attach the ends of the cardboard to the back of the shield. Leave enough of a gap that you can wiggle your hand through the handle.

