










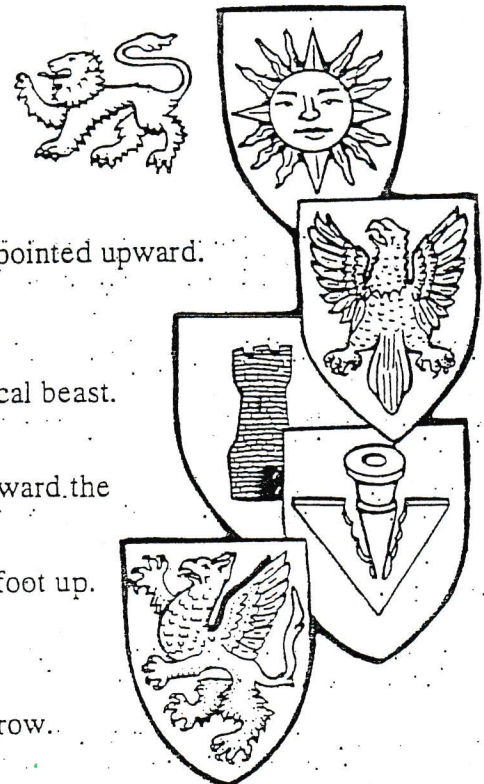
# Coat of Arms

In the Middle Ages, knights and royalty displayed symbols on the shields they carried in battle and displayed around the castle. Banners, shields, and crests revealed the characteristics of the person or family.

- Shields may be divided into halves, quarters, or thirds. The divisions do not need to be exact but should be balanced.
- Marks of cadency (the descent of a younger branch from the mainline of a family) were used to distinguish the sons of a particular family.

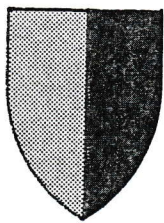
|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|   |   |  |
| Oldest—file or label   | Fourth—martlet   | Seventh—rose  |
|   |   |  |
| Second—crescent  | Fifth—annulet  | Eighth—cross moline   |
|  |  |  |
| Third—the mullet   | Sixth—fleur-de-lis   | Ninth—octofoil  |

- Lions were a favorite symbol of the English. They were shown in four positions.
  - Rampant - lion standing on hind feet ready to climb.
  - Couchant - lion lying down with head raised.
  - Passant - lion walking with distant forepaw raised.
  - Statant - lion standing on four legs.
- Other symbols that you may want to use are:
  - Crescent: victory over adversity; always shown with horns pointed upward.
  - Eagle: strength of mind; shown with wings spread.
  - Falcon: bravery; shown looking to the right of the shield.
  - Griffin: valor and vigilance; half eagle, half lion mythological beast.
  - Hand: generosity - open hand; strength - closed hand.
  - Leopard: wisdom and agility; sometimes shown walking toward the right, but usually only shown as a full face.
  - Stag: purity and strength of spirit; usually shown with one foot up.
  - Pheon: speed and directness; head of an arrow.
  - Sun: splendor and royalty; usually shows a face of the sun.
  - Heart: loyalty and love; sometimes shown pierced by an arrow.
  - Tower: strength and protection; symbol of defense.

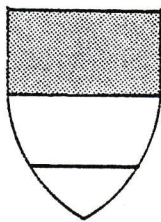


# Heraldry

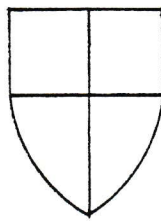
The first divisions of a shield are as shown below.



Per Pale



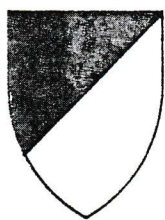
Per Fesse



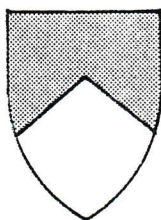
Quarterly



Per Bend



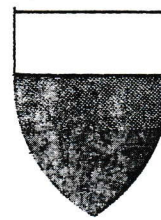
Per Bend  
Sinister



Per Chevron

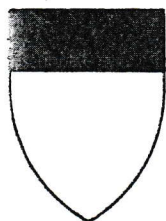


Tersed in  
Pairle Reversed

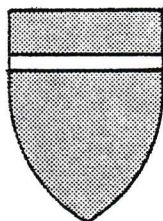


Tersed in  
Fesse

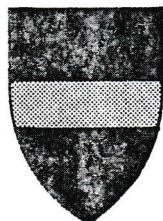
Shields are divided further. The second divisions are called ordinaries. Ordinaries can be divided again into subordinaries; only the ordinaries and their names are given below.



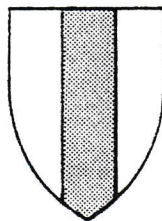
Chief



Filet



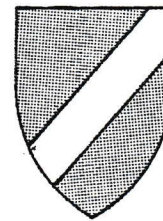
Fesse



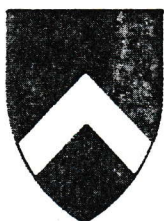
Pale



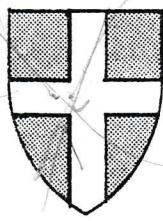
Bend



Bend  
Sinister



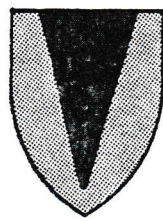
Chevron



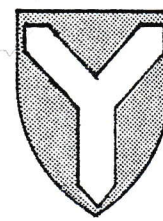
Cross



Saltire



Pile



Pall or  
Shakefork