

Name: _____

Period: _____

Medieval Coat of Arms/ Shield Project

In the 12th century, knights began wearing helmets that completely concealed their faces except for two narrow slits for the eyes. It made knights unrecognizable to both his friends and his enemies. Symbols on the knights shields were used to aid in recognition during a battle. By the 15th century, shield designs became more complex. Each knight had his own heraldic design marked on his shield, his tunic, and even on the cloth covering his horse. This design of the knights was known as a coat of arms.

For this project you will create your own Coat of Arms as well as write a 1 page paper describing your shield.

The shield you create must....

1. Include **NO MORE than 4 colors**
2. Include an accurate **Mark of Cadency**
3. Include **3 Heraldic Symbols**
4. Be **Neat** and contain **Accurate Heraldic Symbols**

The 1 Page Paper must **explain why you choose the colors, mark of cadency, and heraldic symbols you did**, as well as answer three of the following questions. You may need to research information in order to answer the questions.

1. What is a coat of arms?
2. Why did knights start using coat of arms and what were they used for?
3. What are heraldic symbols and why were they used and supposed to represent?
4. Who used coat of arms and where and what did knights put their coat of arms on?
5. What types of steps were there to become a knight? Describe each step.
6. What is the code of Chivalry?
7. What was the expected of all knights, what was their job (Daily Life)?

How to Site your Sources

Books:

Author's last name, author's first name. Title of book. City of publication: name of publisher, date of publication.

One author:

Banter, Nej. Fantastic Jewelry Designs. New York: Silversmith Publishing, Inc., 1976.

Two or more authors: ABC order

Jordan, Sandra, and Mike L. Angelo. What's Under the Paint. Rome: Easel Books, 1929.

Internet:

Author's last name (if given), author's first name (if given). "title of the article." Internet: <Internet address>
Date you got the information.

Bryant, Bonnie. "Horse With Their Saddles Off." Internet: <http://www.whinnyandneigh.com> May 21, 2000.

Shield and paper is due -----> _____

Medieval Coat of Arms/Shield Project Rubric

Name: _____ Class Period: _____

Shield Components:	100-93%	92-85%	84-77%	76-70%	69-0%	Points Earned
Mark of Cadency and Heraldic Symbols	Student accurately chose a Mark of Cadency and has three different detailed Heraldic Symbols.	Student used at least one but no more than 4 colors and met all expectations for coloring and neatness.	Student used only one color or more than 4 colors and met expectation for coloring and was somewhat neat.	Student used only one color or more than 4 colors for coloring and few expectations were met and little effort toward neatness.	Student used no color and there was no effort toward neatness.	Student has no Mark of Cadency and has only one Heraldic Symbols.
Shield Color and Neatness	Student used at least one but no more than 4 colors and went above expectations for coloring and neatness.	Student used at least one but no more than 4 colors and met all expectations for coloring and neatness.	Student used only one color or more than 4 colors and met expectation for coloring and was somewhat neat.	Student used only one color or more than 4 colors for coloring and few expectations were met and little effort toward neatness.	Student used no color and there was no effort toward neatness.	
Paper Components:						
Paragraph Explanation of Shield: explain the colors used, explain the cadency, explain each heraldic symbol	Student composed a well written detailed paragraph to explain the colors used, the cadency, and each heraldic symbol.	Student composed a well written paragraph to explain the colors used, the cadency, and each heraldic symbol.	Student composed a paragraph to explain the colors used, the cadency, and each heraldic symbol or is missing one of the elements.	Student composed a few sentences to explain the colors used, the cadency, and each heraldic symbol or is missing two of the elements.	Student created a few sentences that do not explain the colors used, the cadency, or each heraldic symbol.	
Paragraph explanation of chosen questions	Student composed a well written and detailed paragraph to explain three prompts chosen.	Student composed a well written paragraph to explain three prompts chosen.	Student composed a paragraph to explain three prompts chosen.	Student composed a paragraph to explain two prompts chosen.	Student composed a paragraph to explain one prompt chosen or had minimal sentences for more than one prompt.	
Conventions- (spelling, grammar, punctuation) and work cited	0-4 errors Accurate work cited.	5-8 errors	9-12 errors Work cited but not correct format.	13-16 errors	More than 17 errors No work cited.	

10% grade reduction when turned in late

Total Points Earned: _____ /500

Comments:

Grade _____

Heraldry

Heraldry began as badges of recognition. The symbols which are called charges were first painted on the shields of knights during the twelfth century. The custom spread during the Crusades and became popular in tournaments where knights, unrecognizable in full armor, gathered to fight. In time, combinations of symbols came to be known as a family's coat of arms. Coats of arms to this day are handed down from father to son.

Lions were a favorite charge in English heraldry, while fleur-de-lis were popular in France. Other popular charges were eagles, unicorns, dragons, along with a variety of birds, fish, seashells, leaves, trees, and flowers. Inanimate objects such as castles, towers, tools, keys and musical instruments were also used.

Heraldry had a practical side, also. Popular during a period of history when leaders in battle could not be identified because of their armor, the symbols on their shields made them recognizable. Coats of arms displayed on flags or banners from a nobleman's castle were used to indicate that he was in residence, and in death his coat of arms often marked his tomb. Coats of arms were also carved into rings. This symbol when pressed into soft wax was used almost as a signature for identification purposes and as a seal for documents. The French did much in organizing the science of heraldry, and the standard colors used in heraldry are known by their Old French names. The names of the seven colors, called tinctures, used in heraldry are: *argent* for white or silver, *or* for gold, *azure* for blue, *gules* for red, *sable* for black, *vert* for green, and *purpure* for purple. There are also two fur patterns, *ermine* and *vair*.

Shield Direction

Create a heraldic design for a personal coat of arms. Using the blank shield on the back of this paper, create a rough draft of your shield.

Do the following...

1. Use the **Heraldry Division** worksheet to figure how you will divide your shield.
2. Then pick a **color or colors** for your shield that describes your personality, based on the meaning of each color.
3. Next choose the **Mark of Cadency** that represents your family status.
4. Finally, choose **3 heraldic symbols** that best represent who you are.
5. After deciding on your colors and symbols **fill in the information** below describing why you picked each symbol and color.
6. When you finish, **show the teacher** your rough draft so you can begin working on your actual shield at home.

Why you chose the following color(s): _____

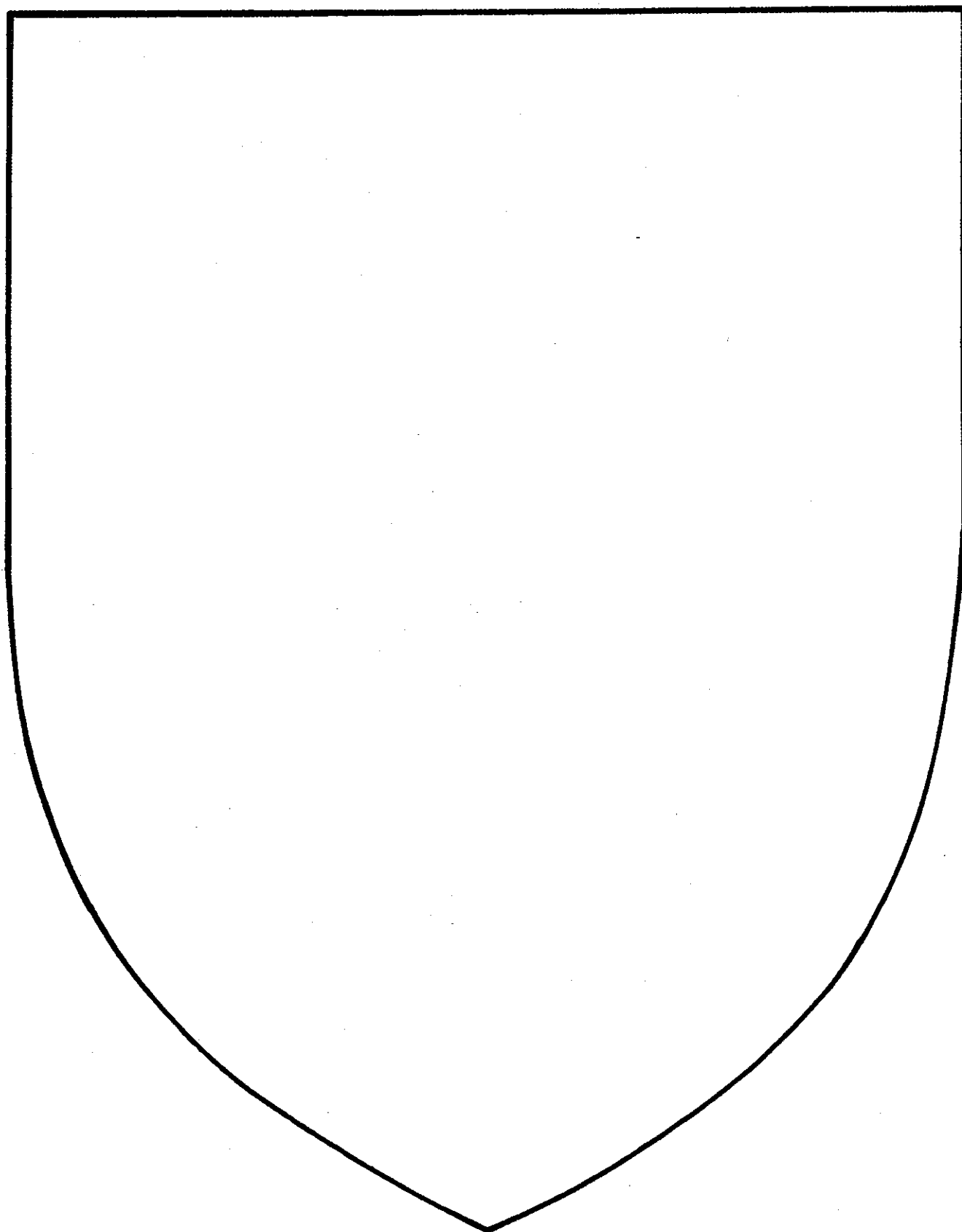
Why you chose the following mark of cadency: _____

Why you chose the following symbol: _____

Why you chose the following symbol: _____

Why you chose the following symbol: _____

Shield Pattern



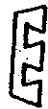
COLORS	<i>Even the colors can have special meaning in a "family crest" or coat of arms:</i>
Gold (Or)	Generosity and elevation of the mind
Silver or White (Argent)	Peace and sincerity
Red (Gules)	Warrior or martyr; Military strength and magnanimity
Blue (Azure)	Truth and loyalty
Green (Vert)	Hope, joy, and loyalty in love
Black (Sable)	Constancy or grief
Purple (Purpure)	Royal majesty, sovereignty, and justice
Orange (Tawny or Tenne)	Worthy ambition
Maroon (Sanguine or Murray)	Patient in battle, and yet victorious

Cadency

Decorating the Shield

Shields were handed down from fathers to sons. To show the order of births of the sons of a family, the shield was marked by a symbol such as the ones shown below. These symbols are called marks of cadency. Marks of cadency were important in order to distinguish the sons of the same family because only the oldest son inherited the original coat of arms, the castle or manor and the land which went with it. If you are a son, you may wish to make your shield more individualized by adding a mark of cadency to show your order of birth.

The file or label, mark of the oldest son



The crescent, mark of the second son



The mullet, mark of the third son



The martlet, mark of the fourth son



The annulet, mark of the fifth son



The fleur-de-lis, mark of the sixth son



The rose, mark of the seventh son



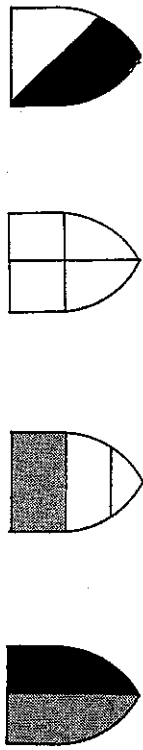
The cross moline, mark of the eighth son



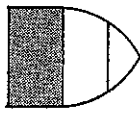
The octofoil, mark of the ninth son

Heraldry

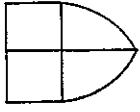
The first divisions of a shield are as shown below.



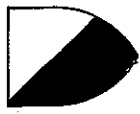
Per Pale



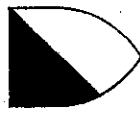
Per Fesse



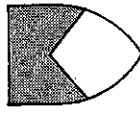
Quarterly



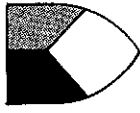
Per Bend



Per Bend Sinister



Per Chevron

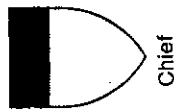


Tersed in Pairle Reversed

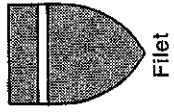


Tersed in Fesse

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.



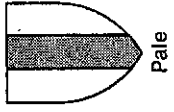
Chief



Filet



Fesse



Pale



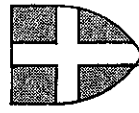
Bend



Bend Sinister



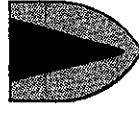
Chevron



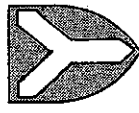
Cross













Saltire














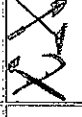









Pile

















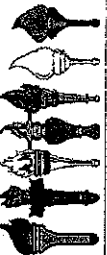




Pall or Shakefork









Trumpet		Ready for war
Unicorn	See Sample Unicorns	Extreme courage; virtue and strength
Vine		Strong and lasting friendship
Vol (Set of Wings)		Swiftness and protection
Wheat Garb or Sheaf		The harvest of one's hopes has been secured
Wheel		Fortune; cycle of life
Wings (See also "Vol")		Swiftness and protection
Wolf		Reward from perseverance in long sieges and/or hard industry
Wreath of laurel leaves (and berries)		Triumph
Wren		Freedom
Wyvern (Dragon with only two legs and armed tail)		Valour and protection




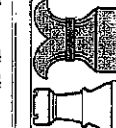

Axe (Also Halbert, Halberd, Hatchet)		Execution of military duty
Baguette (gem ring)		Fidelity
Baton		Token of authority
Battle Axe Bay Leaves	(See Axe) 	Execution of military duty Poet or victor's laurel
Beacon (Also Lantern or Lighthouse)		One who is watchful, who gave the signal in time of danger
Bear		Strength, cunning, ferocity in the protection of one's kindred
Beaver		Industry and perseverance
Bee		Efficient industry
Bell		Power to disperse evil spirits; a hawk's bells denotes one who was not afraid of signalling his approach in peace or war





Acacia Branch or Leaves		Eternal and affectionate remembrance
Acorn		Antiquity and strength.
Agricultural Tools		Labouring in the earth and depending upon providence; see also Scythe and Sickle
Alisaunder (Similar to laurel)		Peace and/or triumph.
Allerion (Mythical creature, similar to an eagle, but without beak or claws)		Strength of will and authority of mind.
Anchor		Hope; religious steadfastness
Antlers		Strength and fortitude
Anvil		Honour; emblem of the smith's trade
Apple/ Apple Tree		Liberality, felicity, and peace
Arm (or Hand) in Armour or Embowed		A person with qualities of leadership
Arm, Naked		An industrious person
Arrow or Dart		Readiness (for battle); if depicted with a cross, represents an affliction








Lion, heraldic		Bravery, strength, ferocity, and valour
Lozenge or Lozengy		Constancy
Lunel (Four crescent moons facing each other)		One who has been honored by the sovereign; hope of greater glory
Pheon (Spear-head)		Dexterity and nimble wit; readiness for battle
Phoenix		Symbol of resurrection
Peacock		Beauty, power, and knowledge
Peacock Feather		Beauty, power, and knowledge
Pear		Felicity and peace
Pegasus		Poetic genius and inspiration; messenger of God
Serpent/Snake/Lizard		Wisdom
Shacklebolt		Victory; one who has taken prisoners or rescued prisoners of war

Stag (Also Reindeer)		One who will not fight unless provoked; peace and harmony
Stag's Antlers Star (estolle or mullet)		Strength and fortitude Celestial goodness; noble person; Excellence
Tiger		Fierceness and valour; resentment; dangerous if aroused
Torch		Life; zealously; engaging in signal service; truth and intelligence
Tortoise		Invulnerability to attack
Tower		Safety and grandeur
Tree Trunk/Stump /Branch		New life sprouting from the old
Tree		Life and the mystical connection of the earth with heaven and the underworld

bridge		Governor or magistrate
Broom Plant		Humility
Buck (See Stag)		One who will not fight unless provoked; peace and harmony
Buckle		Victorious fidelity in authority
Buglass (purple quatrefoil)		Hope and joy.
Bull/Bufalo		Valour, bravery, generosity
Bull's Head		Valour, bravery, generosity
Bull's Horns		Strength and fortitude
Butterfly		Psyche or Soul

Carpenter's Square		Conforming one's actions to the laws of right and equity
Castle (Tower/Chateau)		Safety
Cat (Also Wildcat or Lynx)		Liberty, vigilance, forecast, and courage
Chess Rook		Strategic thinking
Chevron		Protection; Builders or others who have accomplished some work of faithful service

Catherine Wheel		One prepared to undergo great trials for the Christian faith
Centaur		Eminence in the field of battle
Cerberus		Guardian; Past, present, and future
Chains		Reward for acceptable and weighty service; with crowns and collars, this suggests the bearer bore the chain of obligation or obliged others because of services done

Church	(See Sample Churches)	Religion; faith; community
Cinquefoils		Hope and joy
Civic Wreath (of oak leaves and acorns)		One who saved a fellow citizen's life or shown patriotism in defense of one's native land
Clarion		Ready for war
Claw of a Bird		Note the preyer that has been preyed upon
Clouds		Mystery, obscured truth
Cock (male bird)		Courage and perseverance; hero; able man in politics
Cockatrice (small serpent)		Terror to all beholders
Column		Fortitude and constancy; with serpent coiled around it, wisdom with fortitude