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Coat of Arms
Colors

Even the colors can have special meaning in a “family crest” or coat of arms:

**Gold**  Generosity and elevation of the mind.

**Silver or White**  Peace and sincerity.

**Red**  Warrior or martyr; Military strength.

**Blue**  Truth and loyalty.

**Green**  Hope, joy, and loyalty in love.

**Black**  Constancy or grief.

**Purple**  Royal majesty, sovereignty, and justice.

**Orange**  Worthy ambition.

**Maroon**  Patient in battle, and yet victorious.

Heraldic Lines and Ordinaries:

- **Nebuly Line**: Clouds or air.
- **Wavy Line**: Sea or water.
- **Engrailed Line**: Earth or land.
- **Invected Line**: Earth or land.
- **Indented Line**: Fire.
- **Dancette Line**: Water.
- **Raguly Line**: Difficulties that have been encountered.
- **Embattled Line**: Walls of a fortress or town (also, fire).
Animals, Objects, & Symbols

Anchor: Hope; religious steadfastness.

Angels: Dignity, glory, and honor; missionary; bearer of joyful news.

Antlers: Strength.

Arm (or Hand) in Armor: A person with qualities of leadership.

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 friend.

Beaver: Hard working, perseverance.

Bee: Hard working.

Bells: Power to disperse evil spirits.

Coin: Worthy of trust of treasure.

Bishop’s Mitre: Authority.

Boar: Bravery; fights to the death.
Boar’s Head: Hospitality.

Bomb: One who has dared the terror of such a weapon in battle.

Bones: Mortality.

Buck (deer with antlers): One who will not fight unless provoked; peace and harmony.

Bull/Buffalo: Valour, bravery, generosity.

Bull’s Horns: Strength.

Butterfly: Soul.

Camel: calm, patience, and perseverance.

Candle (Lamp): Light, life, and spirituality.

Carnation: Admiration.

Castle (Tower/Chateau): Safety.

Cat: Courage.
Chains: Reward for acceptable service.

Chess Rook: Strategic thinking.

Chough (Cornish Crow): Watchful for friends.

Cinquefoils: Hope and joy.

Clarion: Ready for war.

Clouds: Mystery.

Cock (Male bird): Courage and perseverance; hero.

Column: Wisdom.

Compass: Direction.

Crane (Stork): Close parental bond.

Cushions: Authority.

Dog: Courage and loyalty.
Dolphin: Swiftness, charity, and love.

Duck: Person of many resources.

Eagle: Person of strength, bravery, and alertness; high-spirited.

Eagle with two heads: Joining of two forces.

Elephant: Great strength, wit, longevity, happiness, royalty, good luck, and ambition.

Falcon (Hawk): One who does not rest until objective achieved.

Flowers: Hope and joy.

Fox: One who will use all that he/she may possess of wisdom and wit in his/her own defense.

Fret: Persuasion.

Fruit: Peace.

Greyhound: Courage, and loyalty.

Hand: Pledge of faith, sincerity, and justice; two right hands conjoined represent union and alliance.
**Rabbit:** One who enjoys a peaceable and retired life.

**Harp:** Well-composed person of good judgment.

**Heart, Flaming:** Intense, burning affection.

**Heart, Human:** Sincerity.

**Horseshoe:** Good luck and guard against evil spirits.

**Hourglass:** Flight of time; mortality.

**Ivy Leaves:** Strong and lasting friendship.

**Keys:** Guardianship.

**Knight (especially on horseback):** Man’s journey through life.

**Label:** Indicates first-born.

**Lamp/Lantern:** Light, life, and spirituality.

**Leg:** Strength, stability.
Lion: Bravery, courage.

Mascle: Persuasive.

Oak Tree, Leaves, Bush: Great age & strength.

Ostrich/Ostrich plumes: Willing obedience.

Otter: One who lives life to the fullest.

Ox: Generosity.

Paschal Lamb: Faith, innocence, bravery, gentleness, purity, resolute spirit.

Peacock: Beauty, power, and knowledge defense.

Pelican: Self-sacrifice and charitable nature; When feeding her young (“in her piety”), symbolizes the duties of a parent or parental love.

Pine Cone: Life.

Portcullis (Castle Gate): Protection in an emergency.

Proboscides: Elephant trunks; usually represented in pairs; the elephant symbolizes longevity, strength, royalty, dignity, patience, wisdom, happiness, and good luck.
Quatrefoil (Primrose): Brings good tidings.

Rainbow: Good times after bad.

Ram: Authority.

Rhinoceros: Ferocious.

Rock: Safety and protection; refuge.

Rose, Red: Grace and beauty.

Rose, White: Love and faith.

Salamander: Protection.

Serpent/Snake/Lizard: Wisdom.

Skull: Mortality.

Stag: One who will not fight unless provoked; peace and harmony.

Swan: Poetic harmony and learning, or lover thereof; light, love, grace, sincerity, perfection.
Tree Trunk/Stump/Branch: New life sprouting from the old.

Unicorn: Extreme courage; strength.

Vine: Strong and lasting friendship.

Vol (Set of Wings): Swiftness and protection.

Wheel: Fortune; cycle of life.

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