













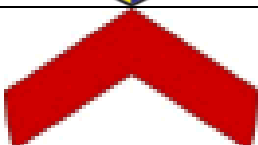




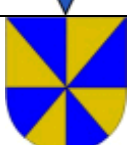
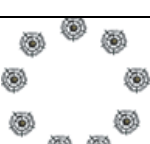
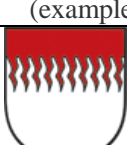
## SYMBOLISM OF HERALDIC COLORS, FURS, LINES & ORDINARIES or...

*What does it mean if your coat of arms bears a red boar's head?*


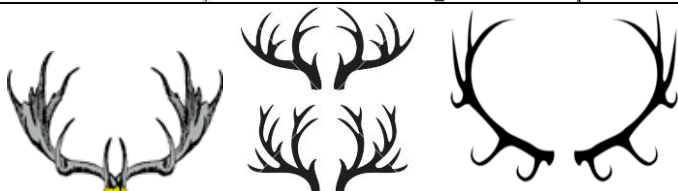




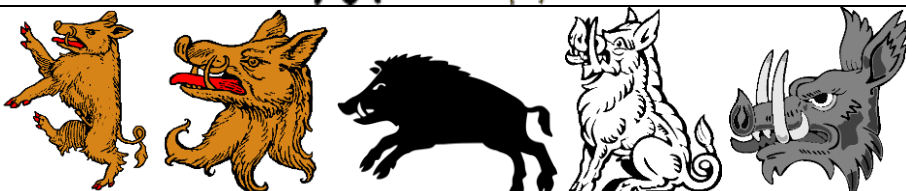


<b>COLORS</b>	<b><i>Even the colors can have special meaning in a "family crest" or coat of arms:</i></b>
Gold (Or)	Generosity and elevation of the mind
Silver or White (Argent)	Peace and sincerity
Red (Gules)	Warrior or martyr; Military strength and magnanimity
Blue (Azure)	Truth and loyalty
Green (Vert)	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



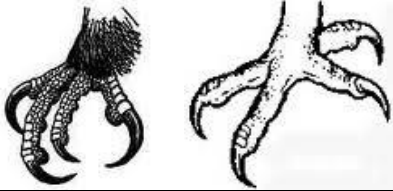
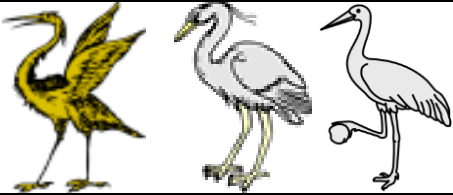

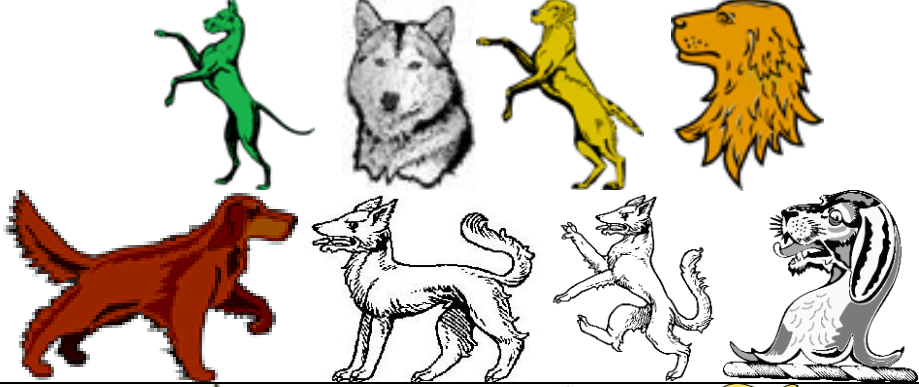
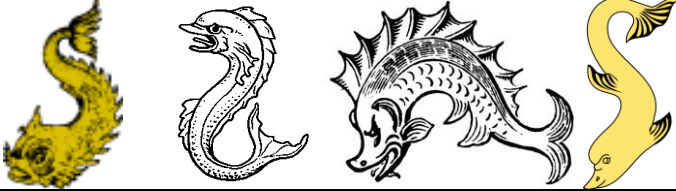
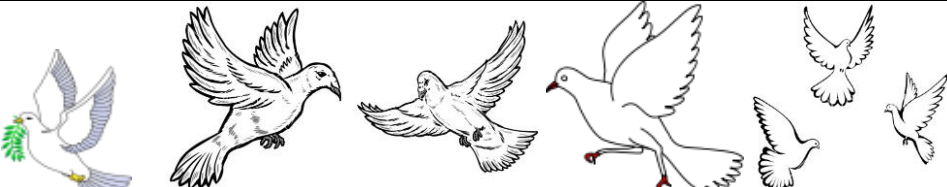
<b>Heraldic Lines and Ordinaries:</b>	
Nebuly Line	Clouds or air 
Wavy Line	Sea or water 
Engrailed Line	Earth or land 
Invected Line	Earth or land 
Indented Line	Fire 
Dancette Line	Water 
Raguly Line	Difficulties that have been encountered 
Embattled Line	Walls of a fortress or town (also, fire) 

Shield Designs:



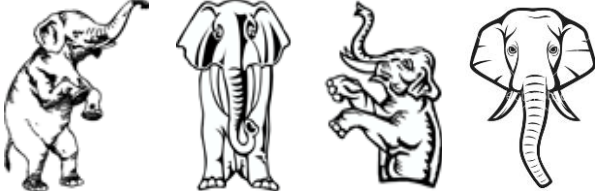

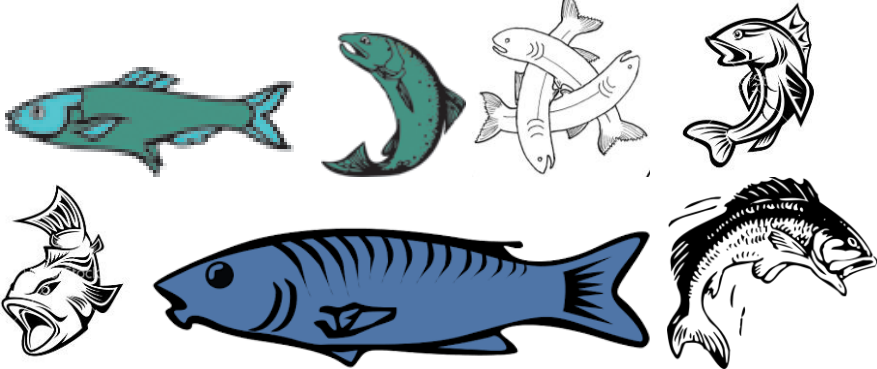
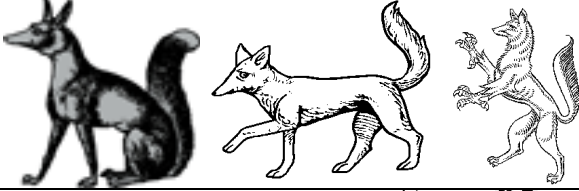
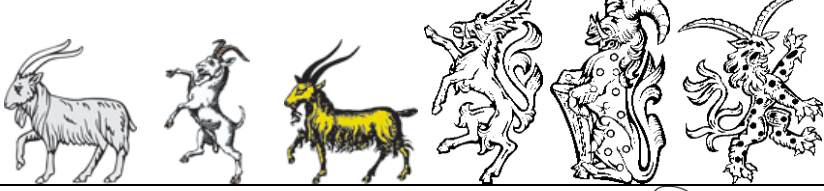

<b>Bar, Barry, Barrulet</b>		One who fights against angry passions and evil temptations; an honest heart
<b>Barry Wavy</b>		Change is continuous; reminders of fate (as waves in a storm at sea)
<b>Border</b>		Unity among different groups
<b>Chequy</b>		Dependability
<b>Chevron</b>		Protection; Accomplishment of some work of faithful service
<b>Chief</b>		Signals authority; often granted as a special reward for prudence and wisdom
<b>Fess/Fesse</b>		Military belt or girdle of honor; represents readiness to serve the public
<b>Flanchi/flasque/flanches (Also flaunches)</b>		Given by a king for virtue and learning
<b>Fusil (narrow lozenge)</b>		Devotion and hard work
<b>Gyronny</b>		Unity among many members (six- or eight-part division of the shield)
<b>Orle</b>	 (example with roses)	Circle of something; Preservation or protection of something
<b>Ray or Rayonnee</b>		Glory and magnificence; fountain of life; intelligence and enlightenment




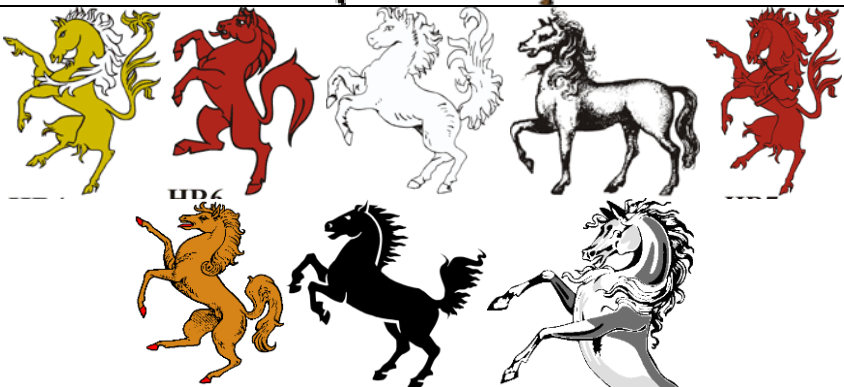
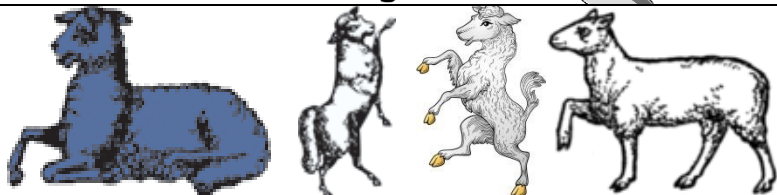
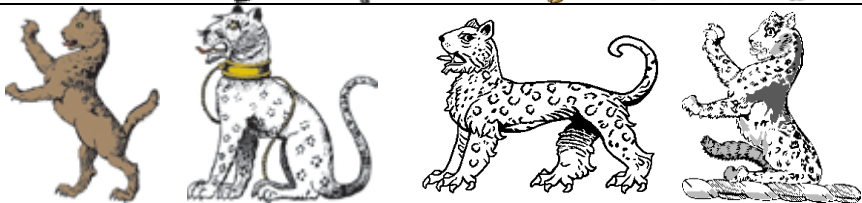
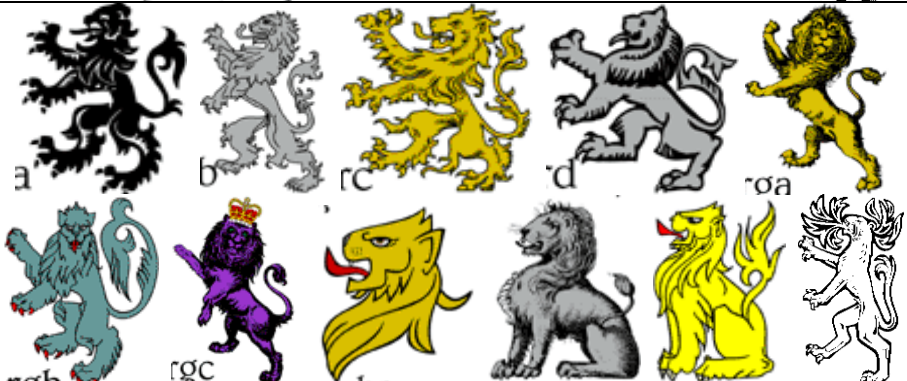
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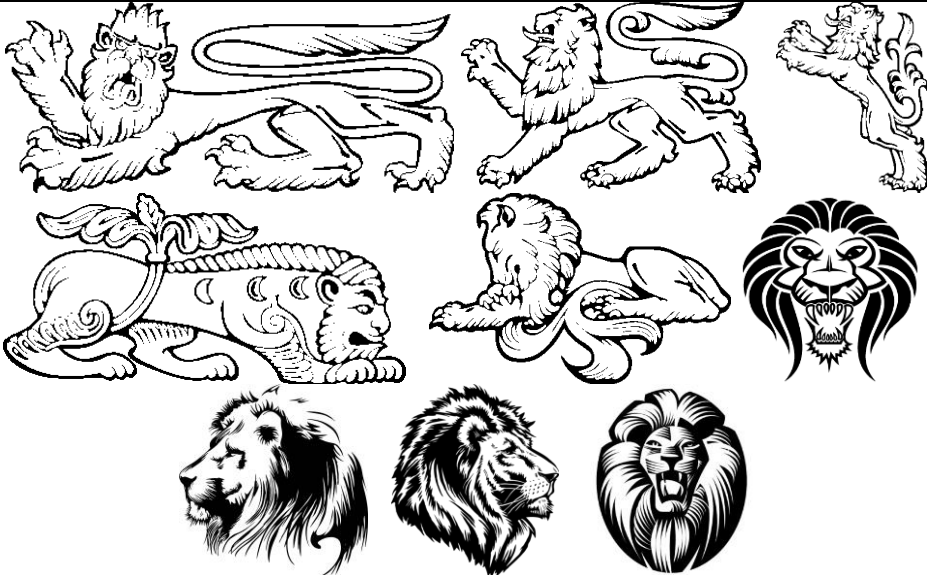
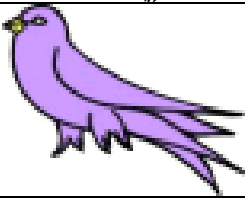



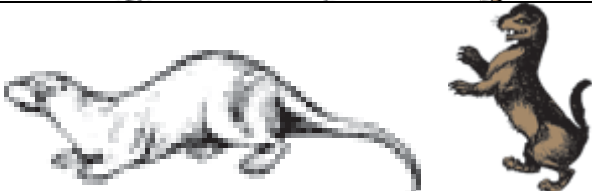


Ant		Great laborer and internal strength
Antlers		Strength and resilience
Bat		Awareness of the powers of darkness and chaos.
Bear		Strength, cunning, ferocity in the protection of one's family
Beaver		Production and perseverance
Bee		Efficient work
Boar		Bravery; fights to the death
Bull/Buffalo		Stubbornness, bravery, persistence
Butterfly		Psyche or Soul

Camel		Obedience, patience, and perseverance
Cat (Also Wildcat or Lynx)		Independence, vigilance, cleverness, and courage
Claw of a Bird		Hunter
Crane (Stork)		Close parental bond; Vigilance if holding a rock
Deer (See also Stag)		One who will not fight unless provoked; promoter of peace and harmony
Dog		Loyalty and devotion, alertness, obedience, and courage
Dolphin		Swiftness, diligence, charity, and love
Dove		Loving steadiness and peace; with an olive branch in its bill, it signifies a harbinger of good will

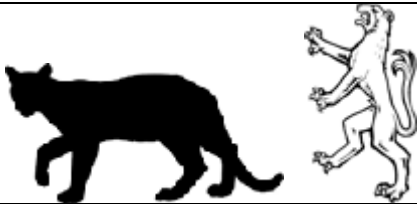
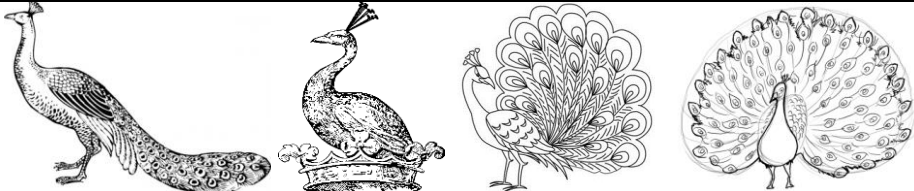




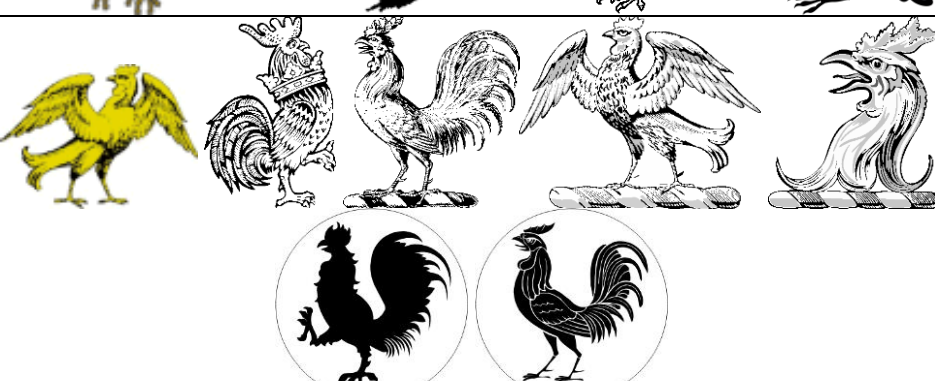
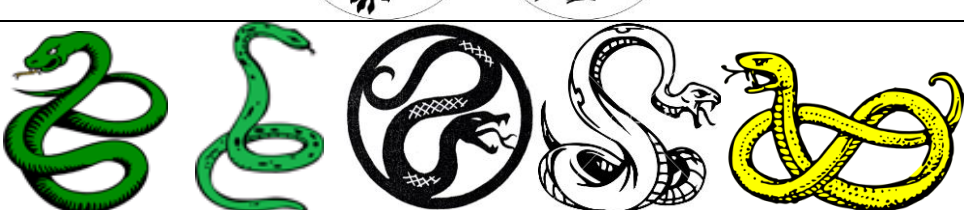


Duck		A person of many resources
Eagle		Person of noble nature, strength, bravery, and alertness; or one who is high-spirited, ingenious, quick-witted, and thoughtful; If wings "displayed," it means protection
Elephant		Great strength, wit, longevity, happiness, royalty, good luck, and ambition
Falcon (Hawk)		One who does not rest until their objective is achieved
Fish		A true, generous mind; virtuous for himself, not because of his heritage
Fox		One who will use all that he/she may possess of wisdom and cleverness in his/her own defense
Goat		One who wins through politics rather than war
Goose		Resourcefulness

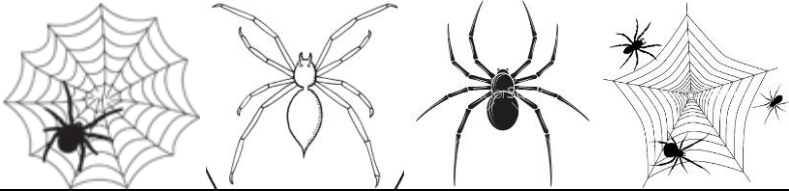



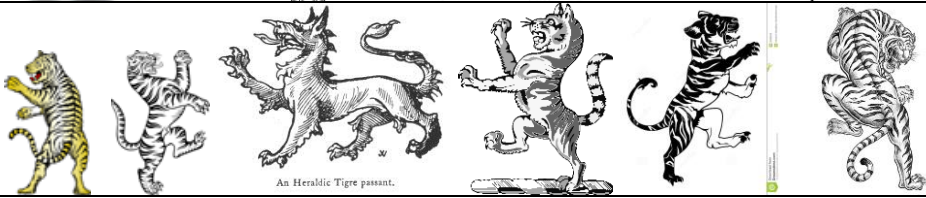
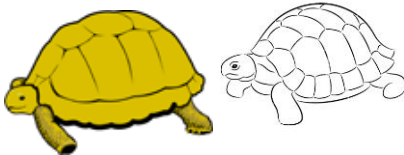
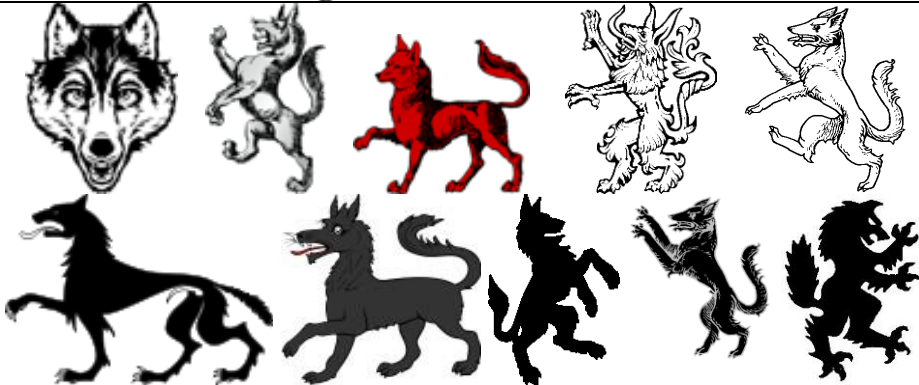

Grasshopper		Noble and home-bred
Greyhound		Courage, vigilance, and loyalty
Hind (female deer)		Peace and harmony
Horse		Readiness for all service to one's master
Lamb or Ewe		Gentleness and patience under suffering
Leopard		Valiant and hardy warrior who overcomes danger through force and courage
Lion		Confident courage; the most relentless fighter in the face of life's challenges; assertiveness; personal power

		
Martlet (footless swallow)		May signify one who has to survive by virtue and merit, not inheritance
Monkey		Ability to “live in the moment” and celebrate today
Moor fowl or Moor-cock		Association with the law or the legal profession
Ostrich/Ostrich plumes		Willing obedience and serenity
Otter		One who lives life to the fullest
Owl		One who is a keen observer; often refers to someone of high intelligence and deep wisdom
Ox		Power and sheer strength

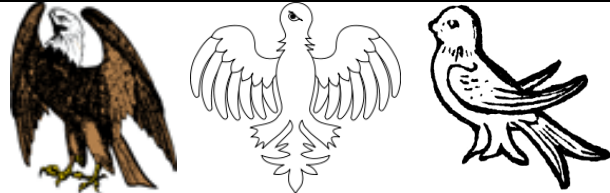

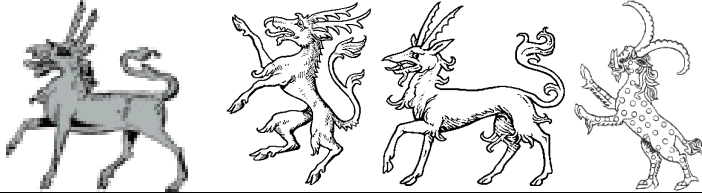
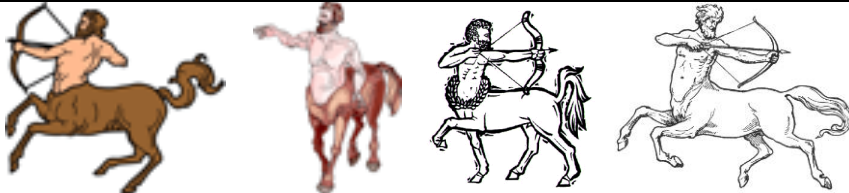


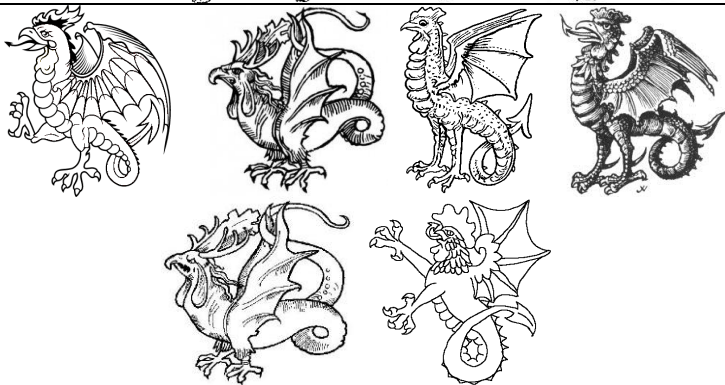



Panther		Fierce, but tender and loving to children and will defend her children with her life
Peacock		Beauty, power, and knowledge
Pelican	 <small>Heraldic Pelican in her piety.</small>	Self-sacrifice and charitable nature; When feeding her young, symbolizes the duties of a parent
Pheasant		Person of many resources
Ram		Authority; associated with action, initiative, and leadership
Raven		Symbol of good fortune from the divine
Rooster		Courage and perseverance; hero; able man in politics
Serpent/Snake/Lizard		Keeper of hidden knowledge; connected to the Earth's energy; cunning; symbol of rebirth and renewal







Spider		One who benefits from hard work and patience
Squirrel		Lover of the woods
Stork		Parental duty; close parental bond; If holding a rock, symbolizes vigilance
Swan		Poetic harmony and learning; light, love, grace, sincerity, perfection
Tiger		Fierceness and fearlessness; dangerous if disturbed
Tortoise		Invulnerability to attack
Wolf		Possessing a sharp intelligence and extraordinary instinct; confident and self-reliant
Wren		Seeker of freedom

## Mythical Creatures:




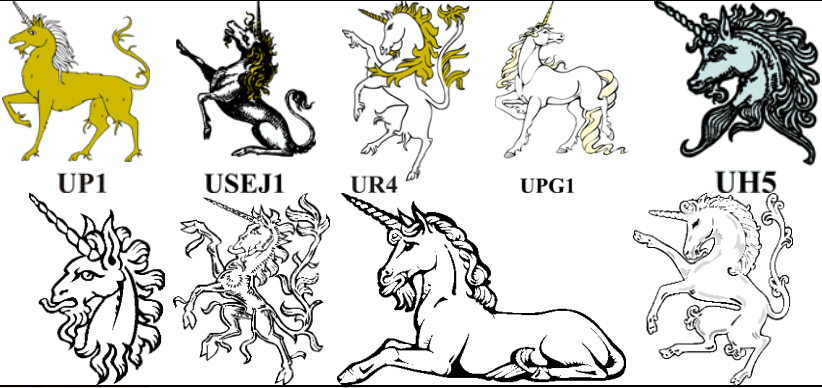

<b>Allerion (Mythical creature, similar to an eagle, but without beak or claws)</b>		Strength of will and authority of mind
<b>Angels</b>		Representing hope, innocence, all that is good; a helper to those in need
<b>Antelope/Yale (A mythical animal with the body of a stag, the tail of a unicorn, a tusk at the tip of the nose)</b>		Harmony, political cunning, peace
<b>Centaur</b>		Dominated by passions
<b>Cerberus</b>		A fierce guardian; Sometimes represents past, present, and future
<b>Chimera (lion head, goat body, serpent tail)</b>		Pure evil; a sign of natural disasters to come
<b>Cockatrice (small serpent)</b>		A symbol of terror; often a representation of the devil
<b>Dragon</b>		Sometimes viewed as aggressive evil.  Sometimes seen as a valiant sole defender of something of great worth.  Possessors of keen sight and











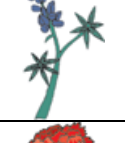
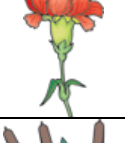
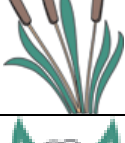

		overwhelming power.
Eagle with two heads		A joining of two noble forces
Enfield		Mythical beast said to have protected fallen chieftains' bodies for proper burial
Griffin		(Head, wings, and talons of an eagle with the body of a lion);  Heroism and death-defying bravery; vigilance; a guardian of something of great treasure














Hydra (dragon with seven heads)		A very powerful enemy
Pegasus		A representation of the soul's immortality; Poetic genius and inspiration
Phoenix		Symbol of resurrection; ability to take new forms; triumph over adversity
Sea Horse/ Sea Dragon		Power of the water
















Seal/Sea lion		Dauntless courage at sea
Seraphim		(Angel with three pairs of wings) Dignity, glory, and honour; missionary; bearer of joyful news
Sphinx		All-knowing and protector of secrets
Unicorn		Extreme courage and goodness; proud and untamable; purification
Wyvern (Dragon with only two legs and armed tail)		A symbol of bravery and strength














Flowers & Plants:









<b>Acacia Branch or Leaves</b>		Eternal and affectionate remembrance
<b>Acanthus Leaves</b>		Admiration of the arts
<b>Acorn</b>		Ancient knowledge
<b>Apple/ Apple Tree</b>		Cheerfulness; ongoing agreement
<b>Aspen Leaves</b>		Determination; overcoming fears and doubts
<b>Azalea</b>		Passion
<b>Beech</b>		Tolerance, knowledge of history
<b>Bird of Paradise</b>		Freedom
<b>Bluebonnet</b>		Grace, forgiveness, mercy
<b>Carnation</b>		Admiration; fascination
<b>Cattails (Bulrushes)</b>		Peace and prosperity
<b>Cherry Blossom</b>		Education; transience of life

<b>Chrysanthemum</b>		Abundance, cheerfulness, optimism, truth, hope, rest, friendship
<b>Cinquefoils</b>		Hope and joy
<b>Dahlia</b>		Dignity, elegance, togetherness forever
<b>Daisy</b>		Gentleness and innocence
<b>Dogwood</b>		Love and adversity
<b>Fern</b>		Magic, fascination, confidence, shelter
<b>Geranium</b>		True friendship
<b>Grapes</b>		A sign of abundance
<b>Heliotrope</b>		Pleasure; Eternal love & devotion
<b>Hibiscus</b>		Delicate beauty
<b>Holly</b>		Truth; Foresight and defense
<b>Hyacinth</b>		Games, Sports, Playfulness
<b>Ivy Leaves</b>		Strong and lasting friendship



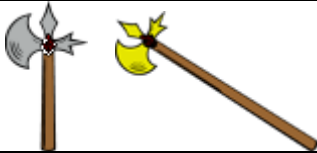


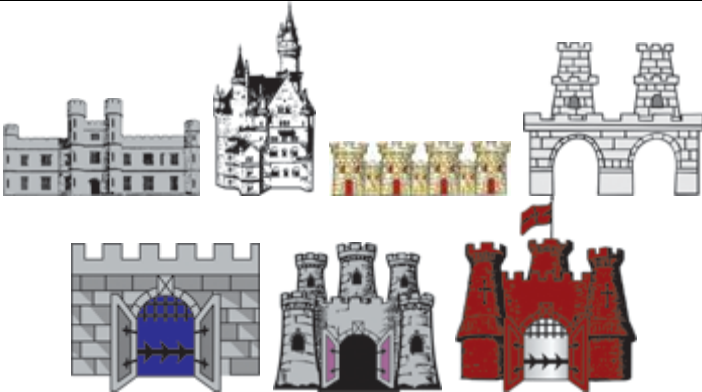




<b>Iris</b>		Faith and wisdom
<b>Jasmine</b>		Attachment
<b>Lavender</b>		Loyalty and dependability
<b>Lilac</b>		Beauty, pride, youth, innocence
<b>Lily</b>		Purity; goodness
<b>Linden branch or leaves</b>		Life, vitality, energy, resurrection
<b>Lotus</b>		Mystery and truth; perfection, purity
<b>Lupine</b>		Imagination
<b>Magnolia</b>		Nobility, perseverance, love of nature
<b>Marigold</b>		Devotion and piety; Splendid beauty and sweetness
<b>Morning Glory</b>		Affection
<b>Oak Tree, Leaves, Bush</b>		Great age and strength; Heroism and victory
<b>Olive Branch or Leaves</b>		Peace and concordance; reconciliation

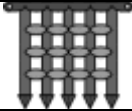
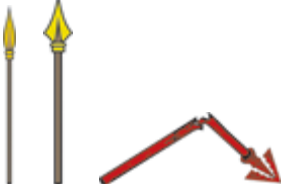







<b>Orchid</b>		Magnificence
<b>Pear</b>		Joyousness and peace
<b>Petunia</b>		Soothing presence
<b>Pine Cone</b>		Life
<b>Rose, Red</b>		Grace and beauty; Love and desire
<b>Rose, White</b>		Love and faith; Charm and innocence
<b>Rose, Yellow</b>		Jealousy
<b>Sage</b>		Wisdom, long life, esteem
<b>Shamrock</b>		Good luck; eternity
<b>Snapdragon</b>		Graciousness and strength
<b>Thyme</b>		Bravery, courage and strength
<b>Tiger Lily</b>		Wealth and pride
<b>Tree Trunk/Stump/Branch</b>		New life sprouting from the old

<b>Tree</b>		Life and the mystical connection of the earth with heaven
<b>Tulip</b>		Imagination and dreaminess; Fame and perfect love
<b>Vine</b>		Strong and lasting friendship; Peace and plenty; luck and strength
<b>Violet</b>		Modesty, virtue, affection, faithfulness, love
<b>Water Lily</b>		Eloquence and persuasion
<b>Willow (Weeping)</b>		Patience & Perseverance
<b>Wisteria</b>		Welcome; playful spontaneity
<b>Wreath of laurel leaves (and berries)</b>		Triumph

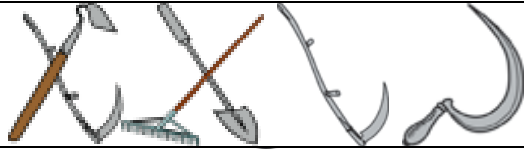



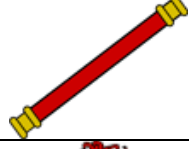


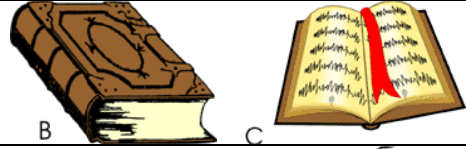





Weapons, Armor, and Warfare:

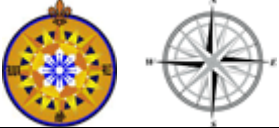






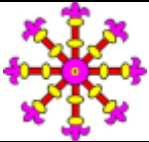




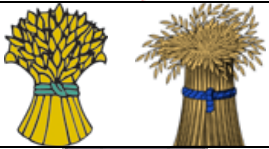
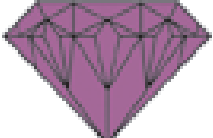
<b>Arm (or Hand) in Armour or Embowed</b>		A person with qualities of leadership
<b>Arrow or Dart</b>		Readiness (for battle); if depicted with a cross, represents an affliction
<b>Axe</b> (Also Halbert, Halberd, Hatchet)		Execution of military duty
<b>Banner</b>		A reward for valiant service; leadership
<b>Bow and Arrow</b>		Accuracy; possessing fine skill
<b>Castle (Tower/Chateau)</b>		Providing safety and protection
<b>Clarion</b>		Ready for action
<b>Dagger or dart</b>		Justice and military honor
<b>Gauntlet</b>		Armed for combat
<b>Knight (especially on horseback)</b>		The soul guiding the body; man's journey through life














Portcullis (Castle Gate)		Protection in an emergency
Spear/Pike		Honorable warrior; valiant knight
Stirrup		Preparedness for active service
Sword/Dagger/Dart Sabre/Cutlass/Scimitar		Justice and military honor
Tower		Able to see danger from a distance
Trident		Power at sea
Trumpet		A call to action















Inanimate Objects:

<b>Agricultural Tools</b>		Labouring in the earth and depending upon good fortune
<b>Anchor</b>		Hope
<b>Anvil</b>		Honor through one's trade
<b>Baguette (gem ring)</b>		Fidelity; able to uphold a promise
<b>Baton</b>		Token of authority
<b>Beacon</b> (Also Lantern or Lighthouse)		One who is watchful, who gave the signal in time of danger
<b>Bones</b> (Crossed Thighbones)		Mortality
<b>Book</b>		If open, a sign of creation; if closed, a sign of knowledge
<b>Candle/Lamp</b>		Symbol of light, life, and spirituality
<b>Chess Rook</b>		Strategic thinking
<b>Clouds</b>		Mystery, obscured truth
<b>Column</b>		Fortitude and constancy; with serpent coiled around it, wisdom with fortitude
<b>Comet</b>		Sign of change

<b>Compass</b>		Direction
<b>Cornucopia (horn of plenty)</b>		The bounty of nature's gifts
<b>Crescent (or combination of crescents)</b>		One who has been honored by the king
<b>Crosier/shepherd's crook</b>		The shepherd's watchfulness; Christian faith
<b>Drum</b>		Ready for war
<b>Ermine Spot</b>		Mark of dignity
<b>Escallop (scallop shell)</b>		Traveller to far places
<b>Escarbuncle</b>		Supremacy; brilliant gem
<b>Estoile (star with six wavy points)</b>		Goodness from the heavens; noble person
<b>Eye</b>		Wisdom; ability to predict events and foresee dangers
<b>Feathers</b>		(usually ostrich feathers) Sign of obedience, devotion, and respect
<b>Fire</b>		Passion
<b>Garb (wheatsheaf)</b>		The harvest of one's hopes has been secured
<b>Gem or Jewel</b>		Supremacy

<b>Hammer</b>		Honor through hard work
<b>Harp</b>		Well-composed person of measured judgment; contemplation
<b>Heart, Flaming</b>		Intense, burning affection
<b>Heart, Human</b>		Charity and sincerity
<b>Horseshoe</b>		Good luck and safeguard against evil spirits
<b>Hunting Horn</b>		One who is fond of the chase, of high pursuits
<b>Increscent/Increment</b>		One who has been honored by the king; hope of greater glory
<b>Inkhorn or Inkwell</b>		Art of writing and educated employment
<b>Keys</b>		Guardianship and dominion; someone entrusted with responsibility
<b>Ladder (Scaling Ladder)</b>		A symbol of overcoming a barrier or obstacle
<b>Lightning Bolt</b>		Swiftness and power
<b>Musical Pipes</b>		Festivity and rejoicing
<b>Parchment/Scroll/Diploma</b>		Possible reference to academic or scholarly achievement

Peacock Feather		Beauty, power, and knowledge
Pen		Art of writing and educated employment
Plume of feathers		Sign of willing obedience and peace of mind
Rainbow		Good times after bad; unity among diversity
Rock		Safety and protection; refuge; ability to resist forces
Scepter		The emblem of justice and ruling authority
Ship		Ancient sea voyages
Star (estoile or mullet)		Heavenly goodness; noble person; Excellence
Sun		Glory and splendour; fountain of life
Torch		Life; zealously; truth and intelligence
Vol (Set of Wings)		Swiftness and protection
Wheel		Fortune; cycle of life