

# COAT OF ARMS

In the Middle Ages, a coat of arms was used to identify each noble family. Each item in the design had meaning. They used personal and family banners and shields to express their identity and status in society. Think of your school logo, or the logo of a professional sports team. These logos are so distinctive that you can recognize your school banner or your favorite team simply by their logo. Heraldry is the same kind of thing, but a bit more structured. Heraldry includes a family motto and a family coat of arms. The actual design of the coat of arms followed a pattern, although each was unique. As time went on, a family's heraldry was recorded so that no one could copy the pattern or take it for themselves.

**Draw how you think your family's coat of arms would look!**

