

# May the Furs Be With You

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## Introduction

The intent of this article is to show the variety of styles and layouts of fur that were used in the SCA period. Though I do discuss the relative popularity of some elements, this is not intended to be a quantitative analysis.

The majority of the article will deal with how vair was used in armorials and rolls of arms; mainly manuscripts, but with some printed books as well. The final section 'In Other Media' presents some non-paper sources.

All armorials referenced are currently available online, with links provided in the References section. The page or folio numbers given are based on those from the document viewers currently in use for the manuscripts and could change, as could the links themselves.

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When images which demonstrate an important or interesting point exist but are under copyright or have unknown rights, I've provided a description and a full reference with page number so the original image can be; or, in one case I've re-drawn the image using artwork from HeraldicArt.org and my own ermine spot image.

A few things to note:

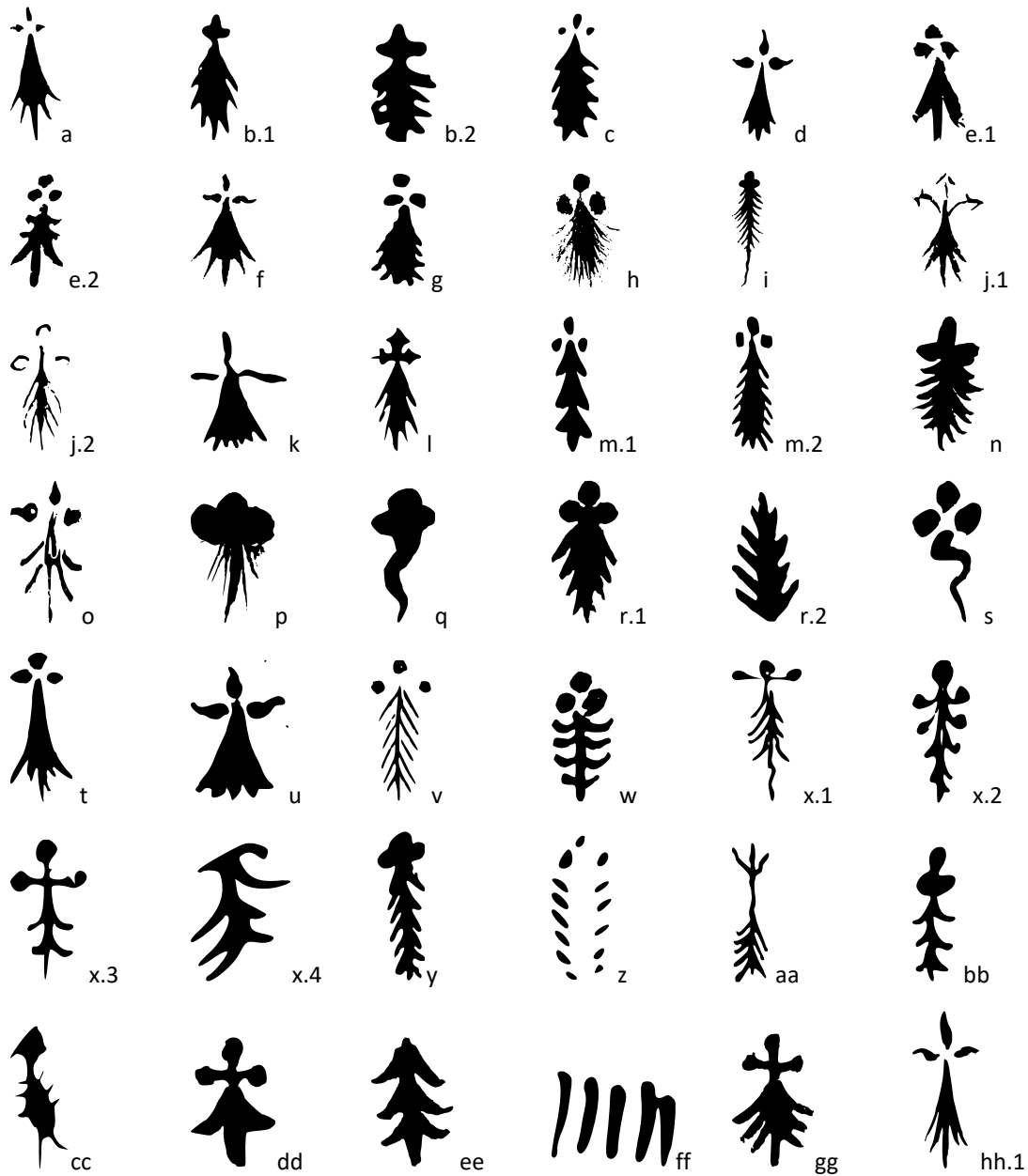
- For ermine I've separated the Appearance and Layout sections, but for vair appearance and layout are so entwined that I've combined them into one section.
- In the layout sections I've treated multiple diminutives of ordinaries as equivalent to multiply divided fields (eg. 'ermine, three pallets sable' would be treated as 'paly ermine and sable').
- The number of traits for vair is counted at the widest point of the escutcheon, field division, or ordinary.

# Ermine

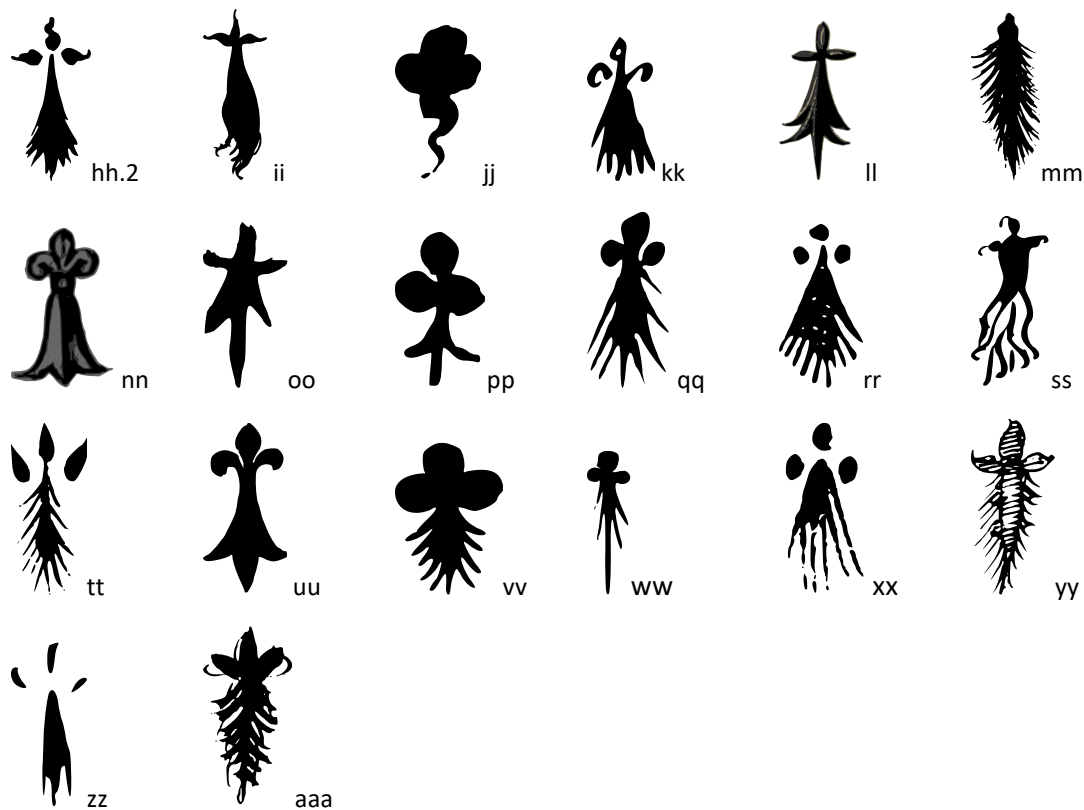
## Appearance

### Styles

The following images are an attempt to show the variety of ermine spots that were used in period. It's not at all an exclusive list – if I'd already adapted a spot from one source I didn't take examples from ones I came across later in other sources if they were similar. Some sources had a few interesting and distinct styles – those are marked with a number after the identifying letter.







- a) *Armorial Le Breton*, c 1292-1530 French (Paris, Archives Nationales, AE I 25, no. 6 (MM 684))
- b) *Powell's Roll*, 1345-1351 English (Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 804 pt. IV)
- c) *Bellenville Armorial*, 1355-1380 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5230)
- d) *Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier*, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985)
- e) *Armorial général, d'origine vraisemblablement lorraine, précédé de deux courts traités de blason*, 15<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18651)
- f) *Armorial of the Herald of Navarra*, 15<sup>th</sup> French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 24920)
- g) *Traité de blason*, 15<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 14357)
- h) *Armorial*, 1416-1418 English (Manchester University Library Latin MS 28)
- i) *Armas de los Condes, Vescondes, Vervefores, marqueses, barones etc. de Cataluña, de Castilla, de Portugal, de Navarra y de Aragon y de Valencia*, 1450-1550 Spanish (München, BSB, cod. icon. 290)
- j) *Sir Thomas Holme's Book of Arms*, c 1446 English (London, British Library, Harley MS 4205)
- k) *Armorial de la Table ronde*, 1490-1500 French (Paris, Bibliothèque de l' Arsenal, ms. 4976)
- l) *Wappenbuch Beyeren (French copy)*, c 1480 French (Detmold, Lippische Landesbibliothek, Mscr 3a)
- m) *Ce sont les noms, armes et blasons des chevaliers companions de la Table ronde*, 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 15<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, Bibliothèque de l' Arsenal, ms. 4976)
- n) *Chronik des Konstanzer Konzils*, 1464 German (Prague, Národní knihovna České republiky, XVI.A.17)
- o) *Description des trente-deux quartiers de noblesse de Pierre de Luxembourg et de sa femme Marguerite des Baux*, 1471 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 23989)

- p) *Wernigeroder (Schaffhausensches) Wappenbuch*, last quarter of 15<sup>th</sup> German (München, BSB, cod. icon. 308n)
- q) *Wappen besonders von deutschen Geschlechtern*, 1475-1560 German (München, BSB, cod. icon. 309)
- r) *Des Conrad Grünenberg Ritters und Bürgers zu Constanz Wappenbuch*, c 1480 German (Berlin, Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preußischer Kulturbesitz, VIII. HA II, Nr. 21.)
- s) *Das Wappenbuch Conrads von Grünenberg*, c 1480 German (München, BSB, Cgm 145)
- t) *Armorial des chevaliers de la Table ronde*, 1485-1495 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 1437)
- u) *Noms, armes et blasons des chevaliers de la Table Ronde*, c 1500 French (New York, Morgan Library MS M. 16)
- v) *Armorial catalan*, 1500-1521 Spanish (Toulouse, Bibliothèque Municipale, ms.798)
- w) *Armorial*, 16<sup>th</sup> French (Arras, Bibliothèque municipale 0263 (0181))
- x) *Nobiliario / original de Juan Pérez de Vargas*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 3061)
- y) *Blasón de armas de todos los reyes, emperadores, caballeros e hidalgos de España*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 3094)
- z) *Nobiliario de armas de Valencia, Aragón y Cataluña*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 3096)
- aa) *Escudos de armas, la mayor parte de Portugal*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Portuguese (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 3243)
- bb) *Libro de linajes de España*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 11604)
- cc) *Nobiliario de Gratia Dei*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 18053)
- dd) *Grand armorial colorié*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232)
- ee) *Armorial*, 16<sup>th</sup> German (Philadelphia, Free Library of Philadelphia, Lewis E 17)
- ff) *Libro de armas y blasones de diversos linajes y retratos*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 1196)
- gg) *Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5233)
- hh) *Armorial colorié de la Maison de Savoie et de ses alliances*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18982)
- ii) *Livro da Nobreza e Perfeição das Armas*, 1516-1528 Spanish (Casa Real, Cartório da Nobreza, liv. 20)
- jj) *Sammelband mehrerer Wappenbücher*, 1530 German (München, BSB Cod.icon. 391)
- kk) *Insignia Anglica*, mid-16<sup>th</sup> C English (München, BSB Cod.icon. 291)
- ll) *Insignia equitum Gallici ordinis Sancti Michaelis*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 280)
- mm) *Insignia Neapolitanorum, Genuensium*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 279)
- nn) *Insignia pontificum Romanorum et cardinalium II*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 267)
- oo) *Wapenboek*, 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 16<sup>th</sup> C Dutch (The Utrecht Archives 421)
- pp) *Virgil Solis: Wappenbuchlein*, 1555 German (Heidelberg, UB, 82 A 10094 RES)
- qq) *Universeel Wapenboek*, 1558 Dutch (Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België, ms. 18088 – 18106)
- rr) *Workes of Armorie*, 1572 English
- ss) *Livro de Armas de Portugal e Outras Curiosidades*, 1576 Portuguese (Livros de Linhagens, n.º 179)

- tt) *Armorial de los condes de Argillo*, 1578 Spanish (Zaragoza, Archivo Histórico Provincial de Zaragoza, P, 002105/000001)
- uu) *Wapenboek van Gent*, 1578 Flemish (Ghent University Library, BIB.G.005873)
- vv) *Wappenbuch des Heiligen Römischen Reichs*, 1581 German
- ww) *Nobleza del Andaluzia*, 1588 Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS R10805, R26842)
- xx) *Spencer Family Book of English Heraldry*, 1589 English (Baltimore, Walters Art Museum, Walters Ms. W.847)
- yy) *Genealogía de D. Antonio de Quintela*, 1592 Spain (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 9645)
- zz) *The armes of all the cheife corporatons [sic] of England*, 1596 English (LUNA: Folger Digital Image Collection, STC 26018)
- aaa) *Sammlung von Wappen aus verschiedenen, besonders deutschen Ländern*, c 1600 German (München, BSB Cod.icon. 307)

## Other Tincture Combinations

### Erminois

The earliest examples of erminois found were in *Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier* (fig. 1) and in *Armorial général* (fig. 2). 16<sup>th</sup> C examples include *Wappenbuch des Aegidius Tschudy* (fig. 3), *Wapenboek van Gent* (fig.4), and an example which shows up in both *Blasón de armas de todos los reyes, emperadores, caballeros e hidalgos de España*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish, p.69, and *Nobiliario / original de Juan Pérez de Vargas*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish, p.92, ('Azure, 3 bars erminois').



Figure 1: *Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier*, mid-15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 90r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 2: *Armorial général*, 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18651, f. 135r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 3: *Wappenbuch des Aegidius Tschudy*, 1530-1572 Swiss, Source: St. Gallen, Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. Sang. 1085, p. 446 ([www.e-codices.ch](http://www.e-codices.ch))



Figure 4: Wapenboek van Gent, 1578 Flemish, Source: Ghent University Library, BIB.G.005873, p. 143

#### Counter-ermine

The only 15<sup>th</sup> C examples found of counter-ermine were in *Sir Thomas Holme's Book of Arms*, c 1446 English, ff. 21v ('Counter-ermine, three bezants') and 28r ('Ermine, a cross fleury counter-ermine'). 16<sup>th</sup> C examples include *Llyfr Edward ap Roger* (fig. 5); *Insignia Anglica* (fig. 6, plus ff. 34v, 37r, 48v); and *Gilbert Dethick: Book of arms* (fig. 7).



Figure 5: Llyfr Edward ap Roger, 16<sup>th</sup> C Welsh, Source: National Library of Wales, Peniarth MS 128, p. 302



Figure 6: Insignia Anglica, mid-16th English, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 291, f. 41v



Figure 7: Gilbert Dethick: Book of arms, 1564 English, Source: New Haven, Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, MS 97, f. 11r

#### Peau

The only real usage example found of pean was in *Grand armorial colorié* (fig. 8), though it also appears in *Sammelband mehrerer Wappenbücher* (fig. 9) and in *Ingeram Codex*, 1459 Austrian (Wien, Kunsthistorisches Museum, Inv.Nr. A 2302), p. 29, in the attributed arms of Hector of Troy (despite resembling trefoils, they are an exact match for the shape of the spots used for Brittany in *Sammelband mehrerer Wappenbücher*).





Figure 8: Recueil de traités et documents divers se rapportant principalement à l'art héraldique, 16<sup>th</sup> French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 66v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 9: Sammelband mehrerer Wappenbücher, 1530 German, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 391, f. 6v

#### Other variants

- 'Azure ermined Or': appears in the 16<sup>th</sup> C *Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique* (fig. 10). Although this manuscript does contain a section with attributed arms of the Knights of the Round Table, this item appears in a different section which appears to show the arms of real people.
- 'Gules ermined Or' can be found in the arms of Leefvelt in both the 1567 *Le iardin d'armoiries contenant les armes de plusieurs nobles royaumes* and in *Armorial de Flandres* (fig. 11).
- A bordure 'vert ermined argent' appears on a shield in the frontspiece of *Carta executoria de hidalguía a pedimento de Gerónimo de Oviedo*, 1571.
- 'Argent ermined gules' appears on bendlets in *Armorial de Flandres* (fig. 12).



Figure 10: Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5233, f. 92v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 11: Armorial de Flandres, 16<sup>th</sup> C Flemish, Source: Arras, Bibliothèque municipale, 0154 (0108), f. 11v

Figure 12: Armorial de Flandres, 16<sup>th</sup> C Flemish, Source: Arras, Bibliothèque municipale, 0154 (0108), f. 12r

- There are also a few surprising examples of 'gules ermined sable' (figs. 13-15). The second example is from a section of the armorial showing 'occupational arms', possibly the arms of

corporations or guilds. In a nearly identical set of shields in *Wapenen vanden edelen porters van Ghendt*, 1524, the same arms are displayed on standard ermine. The third example could be a tricking error, since the nearly illegible name accompanying it *could* be Volkenstorfer, and the gold buckles on the ermine spots are typically only found on the arms of that family.

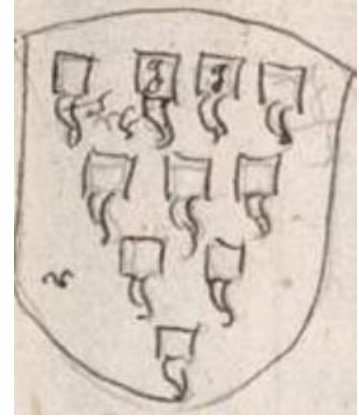


Figure 13: Recueil historique et héraldique, c 1452 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5930, f. 60r ([gallica.bnf.fr / BnF](http://gallica.bnf.fr/BnF))

Figure 14: Flandria - Chorographie Flanderns in Portraits der Landesfürsten, 1562 Flemish, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 265, f. 71v

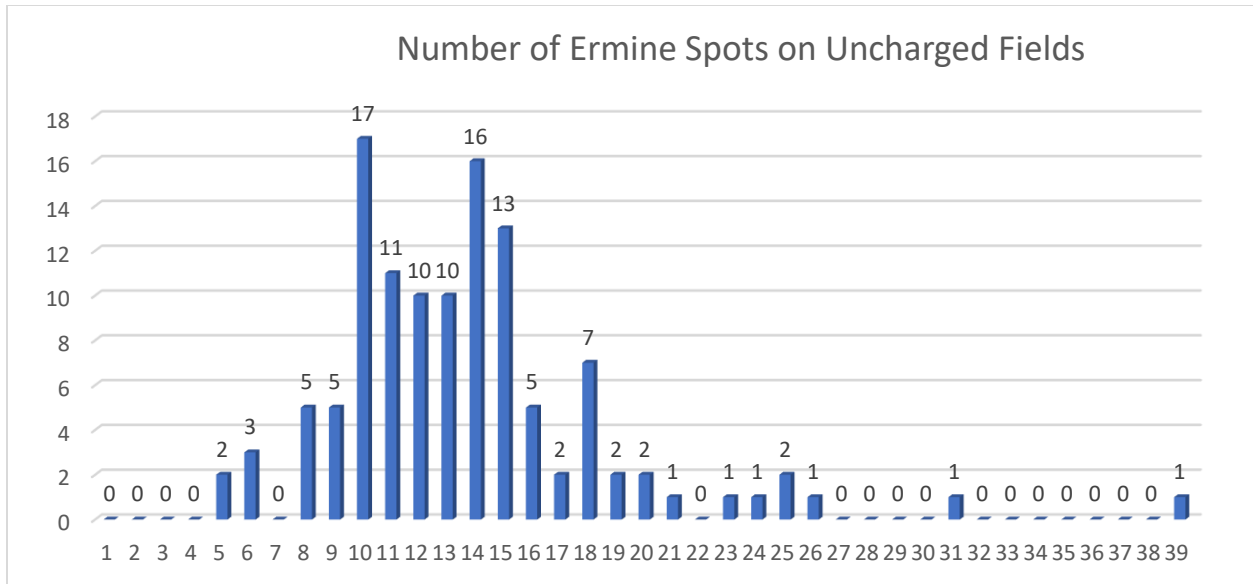
Figure 15: Sammlung von Wappen aus verschiedenen, besonders deutschen Ländern, c 1600 German, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 307, p. 586

- ‘Or ermined vert’, the attributed arms of the Knight of the Round Table “Le Chasseur d'Outre les Marches de Gallone”, appears in: *Les noms, armes et blasons des chevaliers et compagnons de la Table ronde* f. 64v; *Traité de blason* f. 22v; *Armorial de la Table ronde* f. 149r; *Ce sont les noms, armes et blasons des chevaliers companions de la Table ronde* f. 12v; *Noms, armes et blasons des chevaliers de la Table Ronde* f. 67r; and *Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique* f. 13v.
- ‘Or ermined azure’ appears in a few treatises: *Le Jouvenel* f. 179v; *Armorial (Français 25183)* f. 9r; and *Le blason des armes, avec les armes des princes et seigneurs de France* p. 08.

## Layout

### Plain Field

There was a huge range in the number of ermine spots that could appear on an uncharged field, with the most common being 10, 14, and 15 (Graph 1). Within those numbers, the actual arrangement of the spots could vary widely as well. For example, 8 spots could be arranged 3, 2, 3, or 3, 3, 2 (fig. 11), or 3, 4, 1; 10 spots could be arranged 3, 2, 3, 2, or 4, 3, 2, 1 (fig. 15), or 3, 3, 3, 1; and 15 spots could be arranged 3, 4, 3, 4, 1 (fig. 10) among many others.



*Graph 1*

When a field of ermine had a complex charge on it, the spots were typically laid out wherever they fit around the charge, sometimes with partial spots at the edges of the field, and sometimes with partial spots at the outline of the charge; and these features were quite independent of each other, sometimes being present or absent within arms on the same page in an armorial. True 'cut from cloth' layouts with an overlying complex charge were typically only found on the rare occasion when the entire ermine field was painted first and then the charge was painted over it.

#### Fess

Fesses typically had either a single row of 4-6 spots (fig. 16), or two rows of 4-6 spots offset from each other (fig. 17). Starting in the 16<sup>th</sup> C it became common for partial spots, cut off by the top and bottom of the fess, to be present as well, in a more 'cut from cloth' style (fig. 18).



*Figure 16: Armorial, 16<sup>th</sup> French, Source: Arras, Bibliotheque municipale 0263 (0181), f. 48r*



*Figure 17: Armorial de l'Europe et de la Toison d'or, late 1440s French, Source: Paris, Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal, ms. 4790, f. 76r (gallica.bnf.fr / Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal)*



*Figure 18: Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5233, f. 130v (gallica.bnf.fr / BnF)*



## Barry/Bars

The vast majority of bars or barry fields studied were drawn with a single row of spots on each bar (fig. 19), with the remainder having two offset rows (fig. 20); there doesn't appear to be any geographical or temporal correlation for the distinction. Bars gemel only appear twice, but both instances are drawn with the spots cut in half, with the upper halves on the top gemel, and the lower halves on the bottom (fig. 21).



Figure 19: Commonplace book on heraldry, c. 1500 French, Source: New Haven, Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library ms. 648, f. 37v

Figure 20: Insignia Anglica, mid-16<sup>th</sup> C English, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 291, f. 18v

Figure 21: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: 164v Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 164v ([gallica.bnf.fr / BnF](http://gallica.bnf.fr/BnF))

## Pale

Only 9 ermine pales were found in the data. Of those, 6 had alternating rows of 1 and 2 spots (fig. 22), 2 had alternating rows of 2 and 3 spots (fig. 23), and 1 had a single column of spots (fig. 24).



Figure 22: Wappenbuch des Aegidius Tschudy, 1530-1572 Swiss, Source: St. Gallen, Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. Sang. 1085, p. 22 ([www.e-codices.ch](http://www.e-codices.ch))

Figure 23: Das Wappenbuch Conrads von Grünenberg, c 1480 German, Source: München, BSB, Cgm 145, p. 166

Figure 24: La Réception faite à la reine de Hongrie dans ses États, 1502 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 90 ([gallica.bnf.fr / BnF](http://gallica.bnf.fr/BnF))



## Paly/Pallets

The three different ways of emblazoning ermine pallets in the data were: a single column on each pallet, by far the majority pattern (fig. 25); 2 offset columns (like footprints) (fig. 26); and alternating rows of 2 and 1 spots (fig. 27).



Figure 25: Insignia equitum Gallici ordinis Sancti Michaelis, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 280, f. 83r



Figure 26: Bellenville Armorial, 1355-1380 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5230, f. 38v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 27: Armorial d'Auvergne, 1450-1459 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 22297, p. 34 ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

## Bend

The bends didn't show a strong preference for layout between a single column of spots, sometimes with partial cut-off spots on the sides (figs. 28, 29) and alternating rows of 2 and 1 spots (fig. 30). 2 offset columns (fig. 31) was about half as common as the other two arrangements. Bends typically had the ermine spots bendwise, but there were a few instances of palewise spots in various configurations (figs. 32, 33).



Figure 28: Armorial général, 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18651, f. 11v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 29: Armorial de Nicolas de Lutzelbourg, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Nancy, Bibliothèque Médiathèque, Ms 1727, p. 120



Figure 30: Powell's Roll, 1345-1351 English, Source: Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 804 pt. IV, p. 4 ([digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk](http://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk))



Figure 31: Insignia Anglica, mid-16th C English, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 291, f. 32v

Figure 32: Grand armorial colorié, 16th C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, ff. 104v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 33: Grand armorial colorié, 16th C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 551r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

### Bendy/Bendlets

Bendlets show an even stronger preference for a single column (figs. 12, 34) than pallets do – only a handful showed any variation from that arrangement (figs 35, 36). The majority of the spots on bendlets were bendwise, but there were a small number of palewise spots (fig. 37).



Figure 34: Armorial de Flandres, 16th C Flemish, Source: Arras, Bibliothèque municipale, 0154 (0108), f. 9r

Figure 35: Armorial Le Breton, c 1292-1530 French, Source: Paris, Archives Nationales, AE I 25, no. 6 (MM 684), p. 18

Figure 36: Flandria - Chorographie Flanderns in Portraits der Landesfürsten, 1562 Flemish, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 265, f. 52r





Figure 37: Armorial des familles d'Artois et de Flandre, 16<sup>th</sup> French, Source: Arras, Bibliothèque municipale, 0145.2 (0921), f. 174r

### Chevron

With chevrons we see a wide variation in ermine spot layouts. The most common was a single row of 5 or 7 spots (figs. 6, 7, 38, 39), but there were also those with 2 or 3 rows of spots (fig. 40), or those where the spots were not arranged in 'in chevron' rows at all (fig. 41). The spots were typically palewise, but they could also be found quite frequently angled along the chevron (fig. 42), or occasionally perpendicular to the chevron (fig. 43).



Figure 38: 'Clothworkers' from The armes of all the cheife corporatons [sic] of England, 1596 English, Source: LUNA: Folger Digital Image Collection, STC 26018

Figure 39: Armorial de Flandres, 16<sup>th</sup> C Flemish, Source: Arras, Bibliothèque municipale, 0154 (0108), f. 14v

Figure 40: Bellenville Armorial, 1355-1380 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5230, f. 36r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 41: Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5233, f. 150v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 42: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 146r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 43: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 115r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

### Chevronelly/Chevronels

Chevronels always consist of a single row of spots. The most frequent arrangement has the spots palewise (fig. 44), but spots tilted to follow the chevron were common as well, sometimes with a palewise spot at the center (fig. 45) and sometimes without (fig. 46).



Figure 44: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 8v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 45: Recueil de traités et documents divers se rapportant principalement à l'art héraldique, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5229, f. 71r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 46: Armorial d'Auvergne, 1450-1459 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 22297, p. 373 ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

### Cross

The most common arrangement on a cross was a single row and column of palewise spots, most often 5 (fig. 47), but up to 8 or 9 wasn't rare (fig. 48). There were a lot of variations, though, which are better shown than described (figs. 49-52).





Figure 47: Matriculation Register of the Basel Rectorate, 1460-1600 Swiss, Source: Basel, Universitätsbibliothek, AN II 3, 75r ([www.e-codices.ch](http://www.e-codices.ch))

Figure 48: Armorial général, d'origine vraisemblablement lorraine, précédé de deux courts traités de blason, 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18651, f. 87r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 49: Armorial de Nicolas de Lutzelbourg, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Nancy, Bibliothèque Mediathèque, Ms 1727, p. 221



Figure 50: Armorial général, d'origine vraisemblablement lorraine, précédé de deux courts traités de blason, 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18651, f. 153r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 51: Insignia equitum Gallici ordinis Sancti Michaelis, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 280, f. 107r

Figure 52: Armorial de Flandres, 16<sup>th</sup> C Flemish, Source: Arras, Bibliothèque municipale, 0154 (0108), f. 15r

## Saltire

Ermine saltires weren't common enough for there to be a strong preference as to placement and orientation of spots. Figures 53-55 show a selection of variations.



Figure 53: Armorial général, d'origine vraisemblablement lorraine, précédé de deux courts traités de blason, 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18651, f. 154r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 54: Armorial de Ribeaupierre, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Colmar, Bibliothèque Municipale, 1107 (064), f. 5v

Figure 55: Insignia Anglica, mid-16th C English, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 291 f. 49v

### Bordure

The two broad categories of ermine spot arrangement on a bordure are all spots palewise (figs. 56, 57), or with the spots tilting to match the line of the bordure. The latter category is somewhat more common, and can be further subdivided based on whether the spots along the top are palewise (fig. 58), fesswise facing all one direction (fig. 59), fesswise facing into the center (fig. 60), or fesswise facing outwards (fig. 61). Ermine bordures are particularly common in Iberian heraldry, such as in Figure 57.



Figure 56: Insignia Anglica, mid-16th C English, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 291, f. 27v

Figure 57: Armas de los Condes, Vescondes, Vervefores, marqueses, barones etc. de Cataluña, de Castilla, de Portugal, de Navarra y de Aragon y de Valencia, 1450-1550 Spanish, Source: München, BSB, cod. icon. 290, f. 50r

Figure 58: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 417v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)





Figure 59: Armoiries, pour la plupart coloriées, 1515-1547 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5240, f. 58r (gallica.bnf.fr / BnF)

Figure 60: Based on the arrangement of spots in Nobiliario de Gratia Dei, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 18053) p. 123

Figure 61: Armorial de Nicolas de Lutzelbourg, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Nancy, Bibliothèque Mediathèque, Ms 1727, p. 40

### Orle

Only two orles appeared in the data, so it's difficult to draw any overall conclusions; but in general I'd expect them to have similar layouts to bordures, and the two examples (figs. 62, 63) bear that out.



Figure 62: Armorial Le Breton, c 1292-1530 French, Source: Paris, Archives Nationales, AE I 25, no. 6 (MM 684), p. 30

Figure 63: Powell's Roll, 1345-1351 English, Source: Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 804 pt. IV, p. 55

### Chief

Chiefs follow much the same pattern as fesses: a single row of 4-6 spots (fig. 64), or two rows of 3-6 spots offset from each other (fig. 65), with partial spots around the edges appearing in the 16<sup>th</sup> C (fig. 66).



Figure 64: Insignia pontificum Romanorum et cardinalium II, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 267, f. 216r



Figure 65: Armorial de l'Europe et de la Toison d'or, late 1440s French, Source: Paris, Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal, ms. 4790, f. 81v



Figure 66: Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5233, f. 81r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

### Flaunches

Only one example of ermine flaunches appeared in the data (fig. 67).



Figure 67: Insignia Anglica, mid-16<sup>th</sup> C English, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 291, f. 46v

### Fretty

3 general arrangements appear for fretty: spots palewise at the intersection of the laths (fig. 68), spots following the laths with 1 spot per segment (so there are 4 spots surrounding each lozenge-shaped opening, fig. 69), and spots following the laths with fairly random placement (fig. 70).



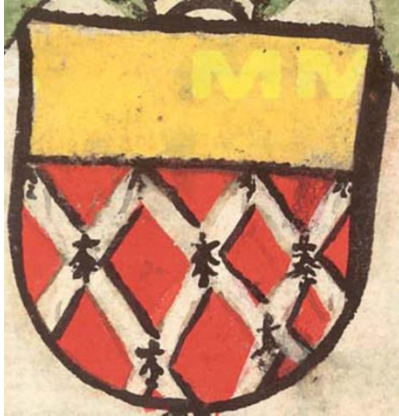


Figure 68: Chronik des Konstanzer Konzils, 1464 German, Source: Prague, Národní knihovna České republiky, XVI.A.17, f. 209r



Figure 69: Argentaye Tract, 1401-1450 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 11464, f. 36v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 70: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 189v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

### Lozengy

All the lozengy fields in the data had 1 ermine spot per lozenge (fig. 71).

### Checky

The majority of the checky fields in the data had 1 ermine spot per check (fig. 72). One also had partial ermine spots (fig. 73), and one had 2 spots per check, side by side (*Universeel Wapenboek*, 1558 Dutch (Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België, ms. 18088 – 18106), p. 119).



Figure 71: Armorial d'Auvergne, 1450-1459 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 22297, p. 382 ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 72: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 106v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

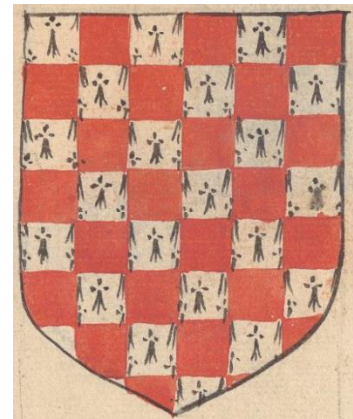


Figure 73: Armorial, 1515-1547 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 25183, f. 46r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

### Gyronny

Spots on a gyronny field could be oriented either palewise (fig. 74), or radially (fig. 75). With only a few examples found it's difficult to say if one was more common.



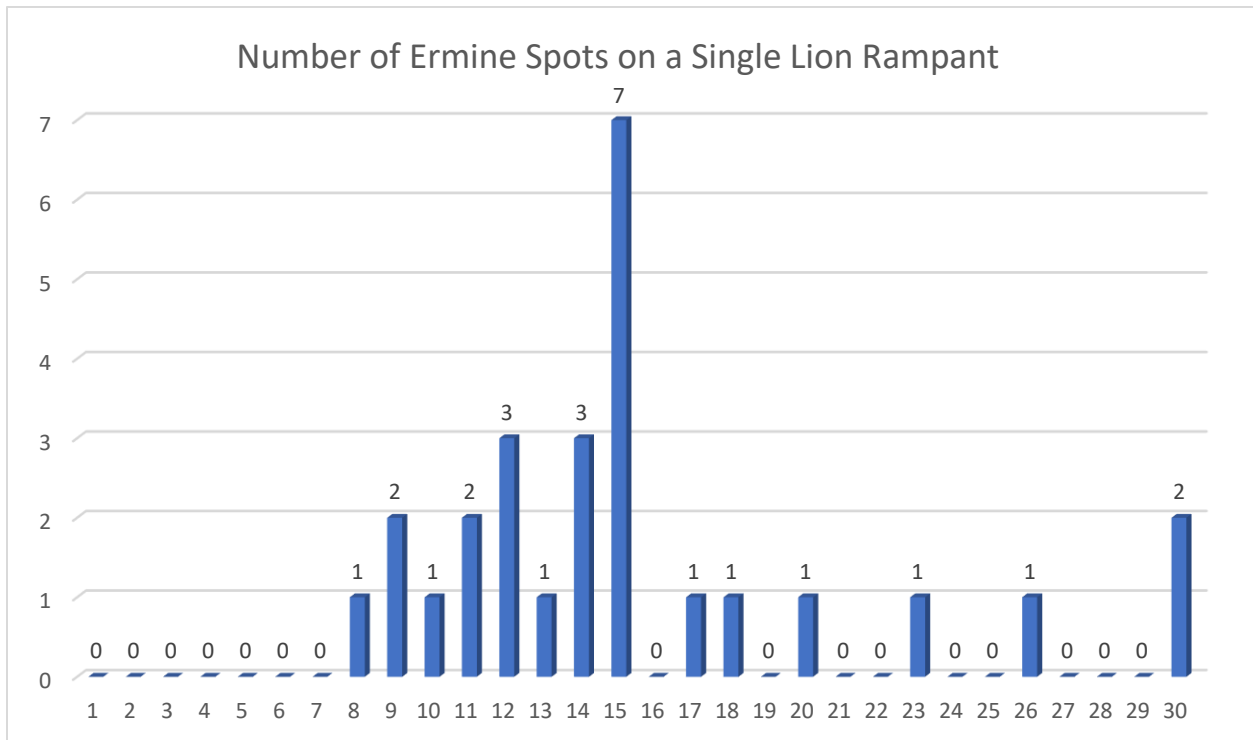
Figure 74: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 107v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 75: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 130v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

## Complex Charges

### Lions

The most frequently found ermine complex charge was a single lion rampant. There was a large variation in the number of spots on a single lion, but over half the time it was in the 12-15 range (Graph 2). Figures 76 to 78 show 9 spots, 15 spots, and 30 spots respectively, and figure 8 shows 12 spots. Spots were often tilted to follow the shape of the lion, particularly on limbs and tail.



Graph 2





Figure 76: Armorial catalan, 1500-1521 Spanish, Source: Toulouse, Bibliothèque Municipale, ms.798, f. 10r

Figure 77: Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5233, f. 122r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 78: Armorial colorié de la Maison de Savoie et de ses alliances, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18982, f. 5r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

As the number of lions on the field increased, the average number of spots per lion decreases, but there weren't enough examples to draw any stronger conclusions. Pictured are two lions with 3-5 spots each (fig. 79), two lions passant with 7-9 spots each (fig. 80), and three lions with 9-10 spots each (fig. 81). The *Dering Roll*, c 1270-1280 England (London, British Library, Add Roll 77720), item 53, shows six lions with 2 spots each.



Figure 79: Armoiries, pour la plupart coloriées, 1515-1547 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5240, f. 55r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 80: Powell's Roll, 1345-1351 English, Source: Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 804 pt. IV, p. 6

Figure 81: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 116v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

### Cinquefoils

The most common arrangement for ermine spots on a single cinquefoil was one spot per petal, all palewise (fig. 82), but up to 18 on a single cinquefoil can be found, as can 5 spots arranged radially. Surprisingly, the number of spots doesn't change much when there are 3 cinquefoils on the field, with 5 being the most common (fig. 83), up to 17 (fig. 84), and with a mix of palewise and radial orientations.



Figure 82: Armorial de l'Europe et de la Toison d'or, late 1440s French, Source: Paris, Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal, ms. 4790, f. 79v

Figure 83: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 158r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 84: Commonplace book on heraldry, c. 1500 French, Source: New Haven, Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library ms. 648, f. 38r

### Roundels

There were no examples found of a single ermine roundel. Groups of three primary roundels had anywhere from 1 to 4 spots on each (fig. 85). Groups of six secondary roundels also could have 1 to 4 spots (fig. 86). The sole example of tertiary roundels (three on a chief) had 4 spots on each (fig. 87).



Figure 85: Bellenville Armorial, 1355-1380 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5230, f. 2v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 86: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 129r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 87: Le Jouvencel, 1475 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 24381, f. 184v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

### Dextrocherses/Maunches

Ermine dextrocherses were well-represented, apparently entirely due to a single family, Villers, and its cadet branches. Always found as a single charge, it could have anywhere from 4 to 21 spots (figs. 88, 89). Maunches were found with 7, 12, and 14 spots (fig. 90).





Figure 88: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 11v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 89: Armoiries, pour la plupart coloriées, 1515-1547 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5240, f. 27r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 90: Powell's Roll, 1345-1351 English, Source: Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 804 pt. IV, p. 36

### Crescents

Single primary ermine crescents typically had 4 spots, but could have up to 10 (fig. 91). The sole example of a primary group of three crescents had 4 spots on each (fig. 92). Secondary crescents had 3 to 5 spots (fig. 93).



Figure 91: Le Jouvenel, 1475 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 24381, f. 162r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 92: Insignia Anglica, mid-16<sup>th</sup> C English, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 291, f. 37v

Figure 93: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 185v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

### Crosses

There are a number of complex crosses ermine in the data, including bottony, fleury, formy throughout, gringoly, moline, patonce, and potent. The number of spots on each could range from 5 to 26, and were typically palewise. Figures 94-96 show crosses bottony, gringoly, and patonce.

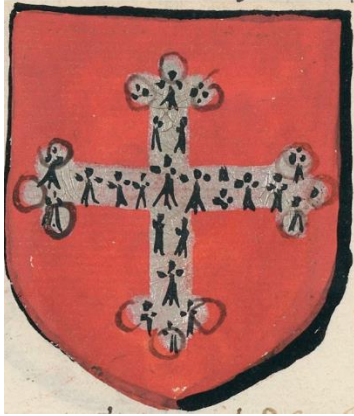


Figure 94: Armoiries, pour la plupart coloriées, 1515-1547 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5240, f. 28v ([gallica.bnf.fr / BnF](http://gallica.bnf.fr/BnF))

Figure 95: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 129r ([gallica.bnf.fr / BnF](http://gallica.bnf.fr/BnF))

Figure 96: Armorial of the Herald of Navarra, 15<sup>th</sup> French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 24920, f. 34r ([gallica.bnf.fr / BnF](http://gallica.bnf.fr/BnF))

#### Other

There were 4 examples of groups of three ermine lozenges, both as secondary (figs. 6, 97) and tertiary (fig. 98) charges; one had 1 spot each, and the other two had 5 spots each.

There was one example of a single primary fleur-de-lys, with 11 spots, and one of a group of three primary fleurs-de-lys, with 4 full and 2 partial spots on each (fig. 99).



Figure 97: Armorial de l'Europe et de la Toison d'or, late 1440s French, Source: Paris, Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal, ms. 4790, f. 80r

Figure 98: Insignia Anglica, mid-16<sup>th</sup> C English, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 291, f. 34v

Figure 99: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 189v ([gallica.bnf.fr / BnF](http://gallica.bnf.fr/BnF))

The remaining charges included a single primary goat passant (fig. 100), a single primary tower (fig. 1), a group of three primary escutcheons (fig. 101), and a group of three secondary boar's heads (fig. 102).





Figure 100: Das Wappenbuch Conrads von Grünenberg, c 1480 German, Source: München, BSB, Cgm 145, p. 317

Figure 101: Powell's Roll, 1345-1351 English, Source: Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 804 pt. IV, p. 13

Figure 102: Powell's Roll, 1345-1351 English, Source: Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 804 pt. IV, p. 11

### As Charge

Ermine spots can also be found as a charge in their own right, particularly in Dutch and Flemish heraldry. The most common tincture combination is sable spots on an argent field. The layouts found are: 3 spots surrounding a chevron (figs. 103, 104), 3 spots surrounding a fess (fig. 105), 3 spots above a fess, a single spot on a bend, and 3 spots in fess (this last is found in Iberian heraldry, and two examples can be seen in *Livro do Armeiro-Mor*, 1509 Portuguese (Lisbon, Arquivo nacional da Torre do Tombo, Cartório da Nobreza, liv. 19), f. 69r & 117r).



Figure 103: Wapenboek van Gent, 1578 Flemish, Source: Ghent University Library, BIB.G.005873, p. 79

Figure 104: Armorial de Flandres, 16<sup>th</sup> C Flemish, Source: Arras, Bibliothèque municipale, 0154 (0108), f. 5v

Figure 105: Armorial de Flandres, 16<sup>th</sup> C Flemish, Source: Arras, Bibliothèque municipale, 0154 (0108), f. 9r

Examples in other tinctures include gules spots on argent (fig. 106), argent on sable (*Bergshammar vapenbok*, c 1440 Dutch (Stockholm, Riksarkivet, Bergshammar vapenbok, SE/RA/720085/Z) p. 157), argent on gules (fig. 107), argent on azure (fig. 108), Or on sable (fig. 109), and the unexpected azure on gules (fig. 110).

One variation that seems to only show up in the arms of one family, Liesvelt, is ermine spots inverted (fig. 111).



Figure 106: Armorial d'Auvergne, 1450-1459 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 22297, p. 441 ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 107: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232 f. 297r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 108: Gilbert Dethick: Book of arms, 1564 English, Source: New Haven, Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, MS 97, f. 7v



Figure 109: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 84v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 110: Armorial d'Auvergne, 1450-1459 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 22297, p. 456 ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 111: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232 f. 319v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

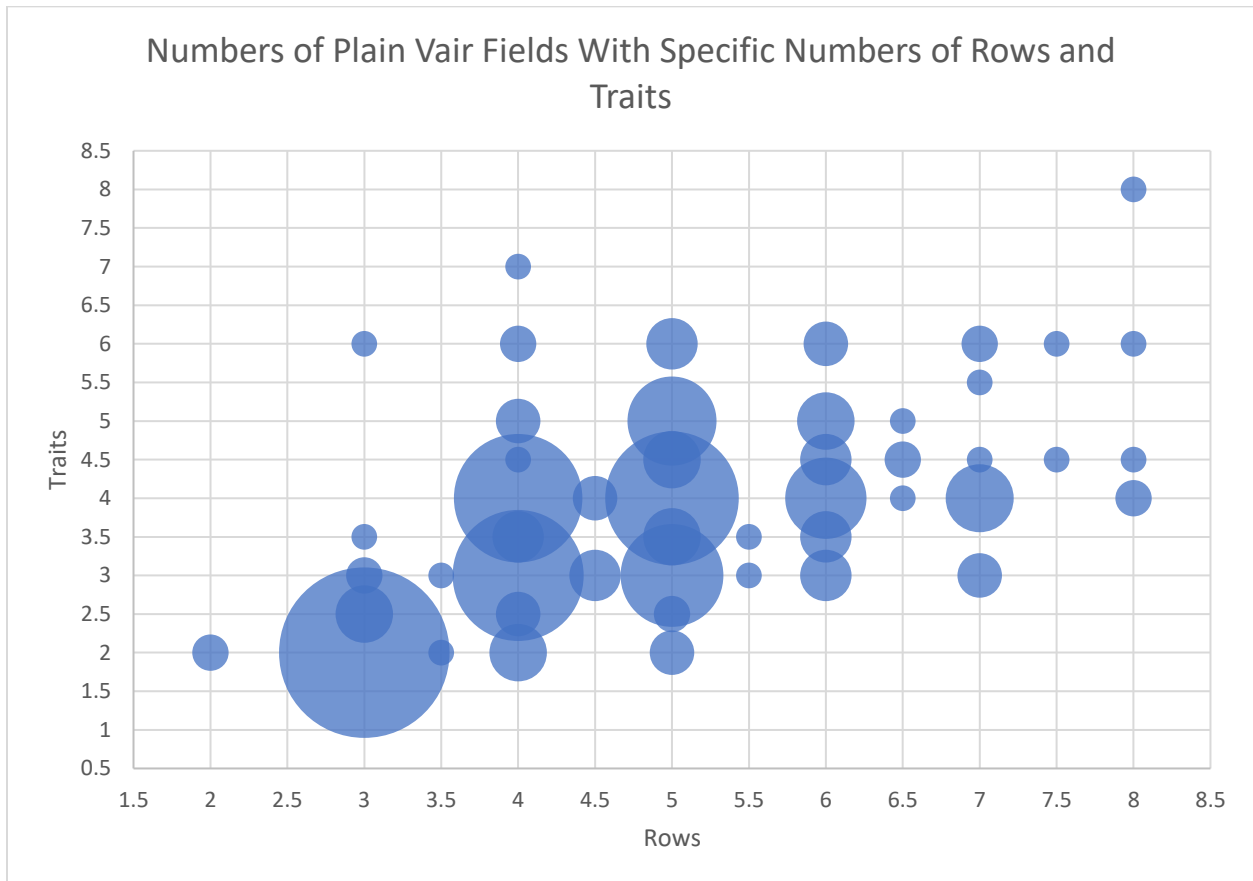


# Vair

## Appearance & Layout

### Plain Field

Graph 3 shows how common various numbers of rows and traits were for plain vair fields. For most of Europe, plain vair fields were typically drawn with 4-6 rows of 3-5 traits (figs. 112, 113). In Germany, however, larger vair was popular, with most having around 3 rows of 2 traits (fig. 114), hence the outlying cluster around that point on the graph. This last is modernly called *gros vair*, but I haven't seen evidence of whether or not this term is period.



Graph 3



Figure 112: Armorial général, d'origine vraisemblablement lorraine, précédé de deux courts traités de blason, 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18651, f. 22r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 113: Armorial d'Auvergne, 1450-1459 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 22297, p. 72 ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 114: Matriculation Register of the Basel Rectorate, 1460-1600 Swiss, Source: Basel, Universitätsbibliothek, AN II 3, f. 103v ([www.e-codices.ch](http://www.e-codices.ch))

There were a few common ways to draw the shape of the vair bells, which I'll call *rounded* (typically called *vair ancien*, but this is both imprecise and inaccurate, fig. 115), *angled* (figs. 112-114), *nebuly* (fig. 116), and *angled nebuly* (fig. 117).



Figure 115: Armorial Le Breton, c 1292-1530 French, Source: Paris, Archives Nationales, AE I 25, no. 6 (MM 684), p. 30



Figure 116: Wappenbuch, 1500-1550 German, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 392 d, f. 186v



Figure 117: Das Wappenbuch Conrads von Grünenberg, c 1480 German, Source: München, BSB, Cgm 145, p. 157

There were also a few main ways to arrange the rows relative to each other: *standard* (figs. 112-117), where each row is offset from the row above it; *in pale*, where each row is aligned with the row above it (fig. 118); and what is modernly called *vair en pointe* (but which the period blazons I've seen call *vair contre vaire*, fig. 119). Between colouring errors and imprecise alignment, sometimes the different forms get mixed together in a single piece of armory (fig. 120).



Figure 118: Bellenville Armorial, 1355-1380 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5230, f. 52r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 119: Armorial de Nicolas de Lutzelbourg, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Nancy, Bibliothèque Mediathèque, Ms 1727, p. 116

Figure 120: Armorial, 16<sup>th</sup> French, Source: Arras, Bibliothèque municipale 0263 (0181), f. 47v

Fields of vair with complex charges were incredibly rare. Out of all the armorials referenced, only 5 instances were found: 4 with a single crescent (*Armorial Le Breton*, c 1292-1530 French (Paris, Archives Nationales, AE I 25, no. 6 (MM 684)), p.38; *Universeel Wapenboek*, 1558 Dutch (Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België, ms. 18088 – 18106), p. 122 (2 instances) and p. 331; and *Descrittione del regno di Napoli*, 1601 Italian, p. 761). One example of 2 axes gules on a vair field also occurs in *Le Jouvencel*, 1475 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 24381), f. 163r, but that is in a part of the treatise that doesn't appear to show real world arms.

## Fess

Vair fesses typically had either 1 row of 2 to 5 traits (fig. 121), or 2 rows of 2.5 to 5.5 traits (fig. 122). *Grand armorial colorié*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232), explicitly blazons the 1 row style as “vairee d'ung ordre”. *Nebuly* and *angled nebuly* shaped vair only appear on the 1 row style, but *angled* and *rounded* show up in both. The 2 row style typically had the vair in *standard* arrangement, but there is one example of the *in pale* arrangement (fig. 123).



Figure 121: Armorial, 16<sup>th</sup> German, Source: Philadelphia, Free Library of Philadelphia, Lewis E 17, f. 26v

Figure 122: Armorial of the Herald of Navarra, 15<sup>th</sup> French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 24920, f. 27v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 123: De arte heraldica, c 1440-1450 England, Source: Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Laud Misc. 733, f. 30v



## Barry/Bars

Nearly all vair bars were drawn with 1 row. They could range from 2 to 9 traits, though 4-5 traits was the most common. They were found in all the standard vair shapes. Figures 124 to 126 show a few examples.



Figure 124: Armorial Le Breton, c 1292-1530 French, Source: Paris, Archives Nationales, AE I 25, no. 6 (MM 684), p. 21



Figure 125: Bellenville Armorial, 1355-1380 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5230, f. 42r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 126: Sammelband mehrerer Wappenbücher, 1530 German, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 391, f. 50r

## Pale

Of the 10 vair pales found, 9 were all 4-9 rows high and 1 trait wide and either *nebully* or *angled*, with rows in either *standard* or *in pale* arrangements (figs. 127, 128). The one exception was an Italian example that had the vair rotated 90° (fig. 129).



Figure 127: Codex Manesse, c 1300-1340 German, Source: Heidelberg, UB, cod. pal. germ. 848, f. 122r



Figure 128: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 49r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 129: Insignia Venetorum II, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 272, f. 53r

## Paly/Pallets

All examples of vair pallets were 1 trait wide. Most of the armory with vair pallets also had a chief, which tends to reduce the number of rows found. Armory without a chief could have anywhere from 3 to 10 rows, with about 5 to 7 being typical (fig. 130); while armory with a chief could have anywhere from 3 to

7 rows, with 3 to 4 being typical (figs. 131, 132). An *in pale* arrangement was the most frequent, but a *standard* arrangement is well-represented in the data. All vair shapes were found, but *rounded* and *angled* were the most common.



Figure 130: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 42v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 131: Armorial lorrain de la première moitié du XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle, 1496-1543 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18649, p. 105 ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 132: Insignia equitum Gallici ordinis Sancti Michaelis, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 280, f. 122r

## Bend

Typically vair bends are treated much like a pale tilted counter-clockwise, with rows of 1, 1.5, or 2 traits. Those with 1 trait always had between 3 and 6 rows (fig. 133); with 1.5 traits between 3 and 7 rows (fig. 134); and with 2 traits between 4 and 7 rows (fig. 135). All of the vair styles were used, and the arrangement was a mix of *standard* and *in pale* (for some reason a much more even mix of the two than for piles and pallets).



Figure 133: Insignia Florentinorum, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 277, f. 53r

Figure 134: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 364r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 135: Le Jouvencel, 1475 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 24381, f. 182r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Occasionally vair bends were treated more like a fess tilted clockwise, with 1 row of 3 to 4 traits (figs. 136, 137), plus a couple examples of 2 rows with 3.5 traits (fig. 138). The only examples found of this type were either *angled* or *nebuly* in style.

*Grand armorial colorié*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232) f. 59v explicitly blazons 1 row of 3 traits as “une bende de trois vairs”.



Figure 136: Wappenbuch, 1500-1550 German, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 392 d, f. 232v

Figure 137: Armorial, 16<sup>th</sup> German, Source: Philadelphia, Free Library of Philadelphia, Lewis E 17, f. 150v

Figure 138: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 99r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

### Bendy/Bendlets

Like bends, bendlets are typically treated as tilted pallets, and sometimes as tilted bars.

The first type was always 1 trait wide, with anywhere from 3 to 7 rows, but typically 4 or 5 (figs. 139, 140), and the rows were arranged *in pale* much more often than *standard*. The second type was always 1 row with 3 to 3.5 traits (fig. 141). All styles of vair except *angled nebuly* were found in the data.

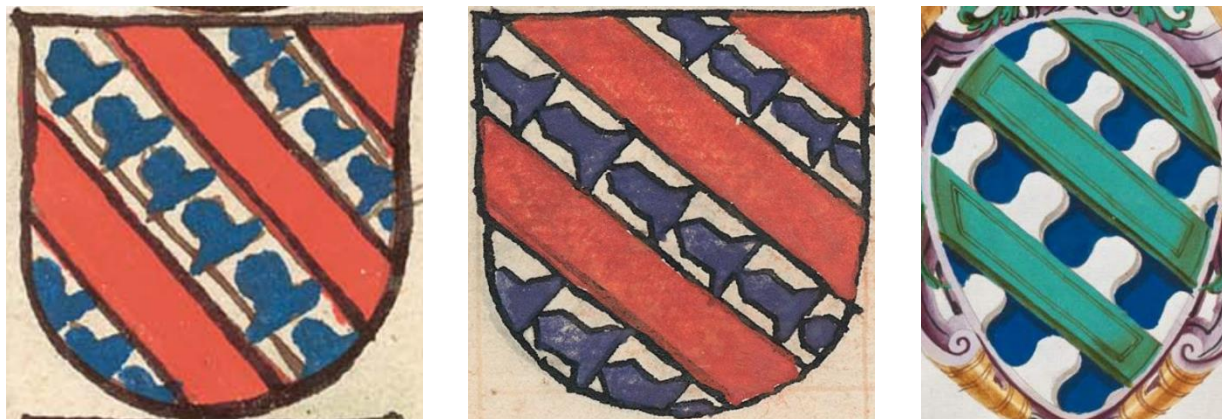


Figure 139: Chronik des Konstanzer Konzils, 1464 German, Source: Prague, Národní knihovna České republiky, XVI.A.17, f. 233r

Figure 140: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 147v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 141: Insignia nobilium Patavinorum, impresa Ferrariensium, Pesariensium, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 275, f. 31r

## Chevron

Only five vair chevrons were found (figs. 142-146). It appears they're rare enough that no consistency in how they were drawn developed.

One chevron-related vair oddity can be seen in Figure 147, where the field is laid out almost like inverted vair chevronels under a primary gules chevron. A similar vair field under a chevron and chevronels can be seen in *Armorial de Nicolas de Lutzelbourg*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Nancy, Bibliothèque Mediathèque, Ms 1727) p. 222.



Figure 142: *Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier*, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, p. 139 ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 143: *Ingeram Codex*, 1459 Austrian, Source: Wien, Kunsthistorisches Museum, Inv.Nr. A 2302 p. 24

Figure 144: Brechtel, Stephan: *Wappenbuch des Heiligen Römischen Reiches*, 1554-1568 German, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 390, p. 565

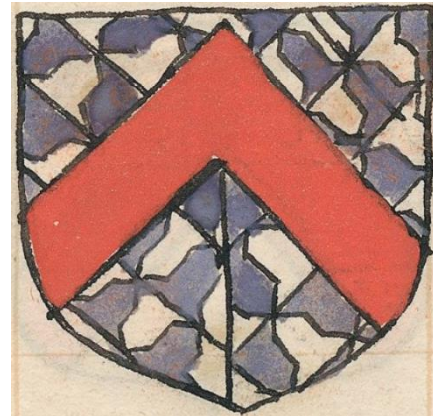


Figure 145: *Armorial*, 16<sup>th</sup> French, Source: Arras, Bibliothèque municipale 0263 (0181), f. 14r

Figure 146: *Insignia Lucensium, Senensium, Pisanorum, Pistoianorum, Volterratorum, Aretinorum, Cortonensium, Borgo a S. Sepolcro*, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 278, f. 102r

Figure 147: *Grand armorial colorié*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 376v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



## Chevronelly/Chevronels

Chevronels were a bit more common than chevrons. Mainly they were drawn something like a bendlet sinister and a bendlet meeting in the middle (figs. 148, 149), but there is an example of a more 'cut from cloth' style of vair chevronels (fig. 150).



Figure 148: Armorial, 16<sup>th</sup> French, Source: Arras, Bibliotheque municipale 0263 (0181), f. 22r

Figure 149: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 149v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 150: Insignia Anglica, mid-16<sup>th</sup> C English, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 291, f. 27r

And then there's one that seems to be trying to be everything at once (fig. 151), as well as some strange things happening to the field under 2 chevronels (figs. 152, 153).



Figure 151: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 41r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 152: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 147r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 153: Le Jouvencel, 1475 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 24381, f. 165r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

## Cross

Vair crosses showed a lot of variety. Often they were drawn as a combination of a pale 1 trait wide and 5 to 6 rows tall and a fess of 1 row tall and 3 to 5 traits wide (figs. 154), though quite often the vair on the fess part was rotated 90° (figs. 155, 156). The majority used *angled* style vair, but *rounded* and *nebuly* were found occasionally. Both *standard* and *in pale* layouts were found, in roughly equal numbers.



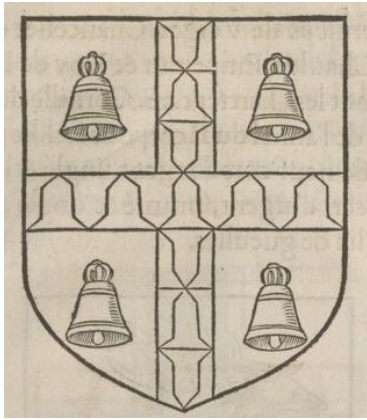


Figure 154: Catalogue des très illustres chanceliers de France, 1555 French, Source: Paris, BnF, département Philosophie, histoire, sciences de l'homme, 4-Z LE SENNE-2029 (2), f. 7r (gallica.bnf.fr / BnF)



Figure 155: Armorial, 16<sup>th</sup> French, Source: Arras, Bibliotheque municipale 0263 (0181), f. 50v



Figure 156: Wapenboek van Gent, 1578 Flemish, Source: Ghent University Library, BIB.G.005873, p. 7

Occasionally, the layout could also be more 'cut from cloth' (fig. 157), or a more radial arrangement (figs. 158, 159).

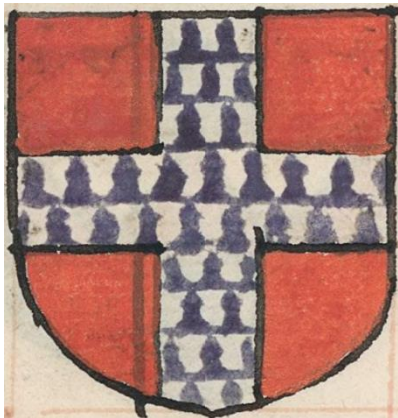


Figure 157: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 216v (gallica.bnf.fr / BnF)



Figure 158: Insignia equitum Gallici ordinis Sancti Michaelis, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 280, f. 100r

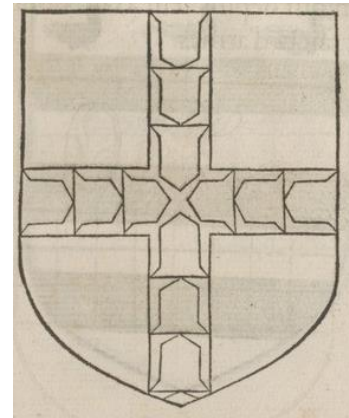


Figure 159: Catalogue des illustres mareschaulx de France, 1555 French, Source: Paris, BnF, département Philosophie, histoire, sciences de l'homme, 4-Z LE SENNE-2029 (5), f. 25r (gallica.bnf.fr / BnF)

## Saltire

Saltires were invariably drawn as either a bend surmounting a bend sinister or vice versa. The bends were usually of 5 or 6 rows of 1 trait (fig. 160), but sometimes 2 or 3 traits were used (fig. 161). A less common arrangement appears in Bossewell's *Workes of Armorie* (fig. 160); the only other dated example of it I've found is from *Wriothesley's Book of Standards*, English c 1532, The Heraldry Society (<https://www.theheraldrysociety.com/shop/images/dygby-augustebroke-william-lord/>). All styles aside

from *angled nebuly* appear in the data. *In pile* seems a slightly more common arrangement than *standard*, but they're fairly close.

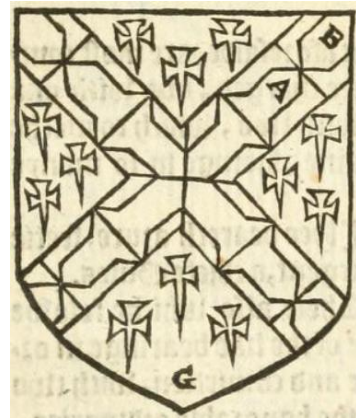


Figure 160: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 154v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 161: Insignia Lucensium, Senensium, Pisanorum, Pistoianorum, Volterranorum, Aretinorum, Cortonensium, Borgo a S. Sepolcro, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 278, f. 116r

Figure 162: Workes of Armorie, 1572 English, f. 127r

## Bordure

Vair bordures nearly always consisted multiple rows 1 trait wide along both sides, following the edge of the shield, with a strip of vair across the chief that could either be multiple rows of 1 trait rotated 90° (fig. 163), or a single row of multiple traits (fig. 164). Typically, the vair was arranged *in pale*, but there is an example in a *standard* arrangement (fig. 165).

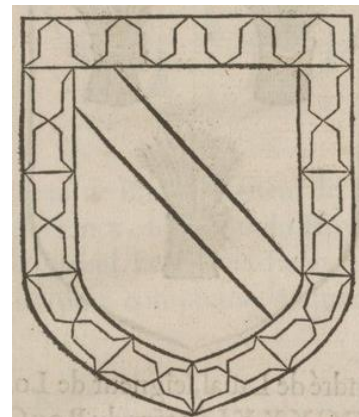


Figure 163: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 48r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 164: Armorial, 1515-1547 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 25183, f. 40v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 165: Catalogue des illustres mareschaulx de France, 1555 French, Source: Paris, BnF, département Philosophie, histoire, sciences de l'homme, 4-Z LE SENNE-2029 (5), f. 14r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

The one example on an oval shield has bordure 1 trait wide going all the way around the shield in a *standard* arrangement (fig. 166). There's also one example that fits none of the above patterns and is hard to describe (or even look at...) (fig. 167).



## Orle

Only one orle appeared in the data, so it's difficult to draw any overall conclusions; but in general I'd expect them to have similar layouts to bordures, and the example (fig. 168) bears that out.



Figure 166: Insignia equitum Gallici ordinis Sancti Michaelis, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 280, f. 138r



Figure 167: Spencer Family Book of English Heraldry, 1589 English, Source: Baltimore, Walters Art Museum, Walters Ms. W.847, f. 13r

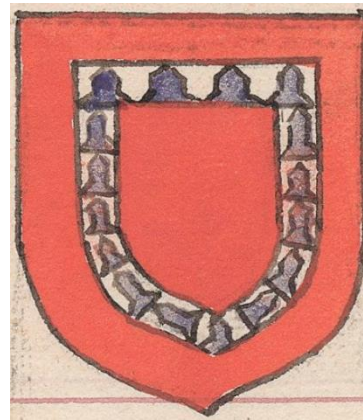


Figure 168: Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5233, f. 180v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

## Chief

Vair chiefs were consistently made of 1 to 3, but usually 2, rows of 3 to 6 traits. Only *rounded* and *angled* shapes were found, with angled being much more common. A *standard* arrangement was much more common than an *in pale* arrangement. Figures 169 to 171 show a selection.



Figure 169: Powell's Roll, 1345-1351 English, Source: Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 804 pt. IV, p. 31



Figure 170: Armorial d'Auvergne, 1450-1459 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 22297, p. 461 ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)



Figure 171: Spencer Family Book of English Heraldry, 1589 English, Source: Baltimore, Walters Art Museum, Walters Ms. W.847, f. 41v



## Fretty

Vair fretty was normally drawn as laths a single trait wide with either all the laths going one way above the laths going the other way (fig. 172), or interlaced (figs. 173, 174). Typically the style was *angled*, but *rounded* and *angled nebuly* were found. The *in pale* arrangement was somewhat more common than the *standard*.



Figure 172: Bellenville Armorial, 1355-1380 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5230, f. 2v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 173: Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5233, f. 22r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 174: Catalogue des très illustres chanceliers de France, 1555 French, Source: Paris, BnF, département Philosophie, histoire, sciences de l'homme, 4-Z LE SENNE-2029 (2), f. 9v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

## Lozengy

Vair lozengy was drawn with anywhere from 2 to 5 rows of 1.5 to 5 traits per lozenge. Every style except *angled nebuly* was found, and the arrangement was a fairly even mix of *standard* and *in pale*. Figures 175 to 177 show an assortment of vair lozengy, but see also *Add Roll 77720*, c 1270-1280 England (London, British Library, Add Roll 77720), items 55 and 198, and *Livro do Armeiro-Mor*, 1509 Portuguese (Lisbon, Arquivo nacional da Torre do Tombo, Cartório da Nobreza, liv. 19), ff. 93r and 122r for some more variety.



Figure 175: Powell's Roll, 1345-1351 English, Source: Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 804 pt. IV, p. 5

Figure 176: Powell's Roll, 1345-1351 English, Source: Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 804 pt. IV, p. 11

Figure 177: Spencer Family Book of English Heraldry, 1589 English, Source: Baltimore, Walters Art Museum, Walters Ms. W.847, f. 29v

## Checky

The only examples of vair checky found were the Portuguese family of Velasco plus various differenced versions. These arms are typically portrayed as *Checky of 15 Or and vair* (or *Or, a pale vair, overall two bars counterchanged*) in Iberian armorials, but they were drawn as a more standard checky when they showed up in armorials from France and Germany. The Iberian versions were typically drawn with 2 rows of 2 to 3 traits per check, in a *nebuly* style and an *in pale* arrangement (fig. 178). An Italian rendition has 1 row of about 1.5 traits (fig. 179). All the central French and German examples have exactly 1 row and 1 trait per check, in an *angled* style (fig. 180).



Figure 178: Armas de los Condes, Vescondes, Vervefores, marqueses, barones etc. de Cataluña, de Castilla, de Portugal, de Navarra y de Aragon y de Valencia, 1450-1550 Spanish, Source: München, BSB, cod. icon. 290, f. 99r

Figure 179: Nomi ed arme dei cavalieri del Tosone d'oro, 1560 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 286, p. 44

Figure 180: Armorial général, d'origine vraisemblablement lorraine, précédé de deux courts traités de blason, 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18651, f. 124r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

## Gyronny

Most of the vair gyronny had the vair oriented radially, with about 3 to 5 rows and anywhere from 1 to 3 traits per gyron (figs. 181, 182). There were a couple examples of the gyronny in its default palewise orientation (fig. 183). The radial gyronny was all gyronny of 10 or 12, whereas both of the palewise were gyronny of 8; the sample size is too small to confirm whether this is anything like a rule, though. All styles except *nebuly angled* were found, and a *standard* arrangement was a bit more common than an *in pale* arrangement.





Figure 181: Statuts de l'Ordre du Croissant, 1448-1500 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 25204, f. 49v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 182: Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5233, f. 112r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 183: Commonplace book on heraldry, c. 1500 French, Source: New Haven, Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library ms. 648, f. 36v

## Complex Charges

### Lions

Single lions rampant were by far the most common vair charge (figs. 184, 185). They were found with anywhere from 5 to 12 rows of vair. The vair was all either *rounded* or *angled*. The arrangement was typically *standard*, but it often got chaotic enough to not be definably one arrangement or another (fig. 186).



Figure 184: Armorial de l'Europe et de la Toison d'or, late 1440s French, Source: Paris, Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal, ms. 4790, f. 79v

Figure 185: Insignia pontificum Romanorum et cardinalium II, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 267, f. 32r

Figure 186: Armorial, 16<sup>th</sup> French, Source: Arras, Bibliothèque municipale 0263 (0181), f. 56r

### Crosses

There are a few examples of crosses moline (figs. 187, 188), one of a cross patonce (fig. 189), and one cross coupé in *Armorial d'Auvergne*, 1450-1459 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 22297), p. 61.





Figure 187: Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985, f. 35v ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 188: Armorial d'Auvergne, 1450-1459 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 22297, p. 389 ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 189: Spencer Family Book of English Heraldry, 1589 English, Source: Baltimore, Walters Art Museum, Walters Ms. W.847, f. 19r

#### Other

Other vair charges found include crescents (fig. 190), boots (fig. 191), and eagles (fig. 192), as well as escutcheons (*Historia Anglorum, Chronica majora, Part III*, 1250-1259 English (London, British Library, Royal MS 14 C VII), f. 174r), fleurs-de-lys (*Universeel Wapenboek*, 1558 Dutch (Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België, ms. 18088 – 18106), p. 119), and roundels (*Le Jouvenel*, 1475 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 24381), f. 185r).

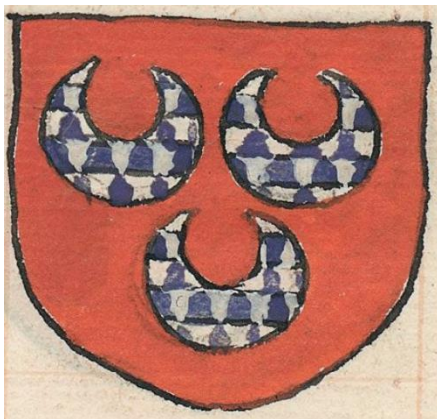


Figure 190: Grand armorial colorié, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232, f. 101r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

Figure 191: Armorial de Ribeaupierre, 16<sup>th</sup> C French, Source: Colmar, Bibliothèque Municipale, 1107 (064), f. 62v

Figure 192: Zürcher Wappenrolle, c 1340 Swiss, Source: Zürich, Landesmuseum, Zürcher Wappenrolle, f. 2r ([www.e-codices.ch](http://www.e-codices.ch))

#### Other

- There are a few examples of vairy using ermine as one of its tinctures. *Add Roll 77720*, c 1270-1280 England (London, British Library, Add Roll 77720) item 272 has 'Azure, two bars vairy gules and ermine'; *Miscellany*, c 1314 English (London, British Library, Harley MS 337) f. 24v has 'Vairy ermine and gules'; and *Sir Thomas Holme's Book of Arms*, last quarter of 15<sup>th</sup> C to first quarter of

16<sup>th</sup> C English (London, British Library, Harley MS 4205) f. 112r has 'vairy gules and ermine'. All of them have a single ermine spot per trait.

- *Brechtel, Stephan: Wappenbuch des Heiligen Römischen Reiches*, 1554-1568 German (München, BSB Cod.icon. 390) p 635 (fig. 193) and *Sammlung von Wappen aus verschiedenen, besonders deutschen Ländern*, c 1600 German (München, BSB Cod.icon. 307) p. 682 both have the same example of a vair field rotated 90°, and *Insignia urbium Italiae septentrionalis: Nobilium Mediolanensium*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 270) ff. 281r, 402r (fig. 194), 414r, and 472r have vair fields rotated 45°.
- *Armoiries, pour la plupart coloriées*, 1515-1547 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5240) f. 32r (fig. 195) has an interesting example of 'Vairy Or billety gules and azure billety argent'.



Figure 193: Brechtel, Stephan: *Wappenbuch des Heiligen Römischen Reiches*, 1554-1568 German, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 390, p. 635

Figure 194: *Insignia urbium Italiae septentrionalis: Nobilium Mediolanensium*, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 270, f. 402r

Figure 195: *Armoiries, pour la plupart coloriées*, 1515-1547 French, Source: Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5240, f. 32r ([gallica.bnf.fr](http://gallica.bnf.fr) / BnF)

- Vairy of low contrast tinctures are occasionally found:
  - *Livro do Armeiro-Mor*, 1509 Portuguese (Lisbon, Arquivo nacional da Torre do Tombo, Cartório da Nobreza, liv. 19) f. 122r and *Livro da Nobreza e Perfeição das Armas*, 1516-1528 Spanish (Casa Real, Cartório da Nobreza, liv. 20) f. 29v both have the same example of 'Lozengy argent and vairy gules and azure'.
  - 'Vairy gules and azure' can also be found in *Insignia urbium Italiae septentrionalis: Nobilium Mediolanensium*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 270) f. 282r.
  - *Insignia urbium* also has 'Vairy gules and vert' on f. 414r, and 'Vairy Or and argent' on f. 427r (figs. 196 and 197).
  - Vairy Or and argent can also be found on p. 231 of *Universeel Wapenboek*, 1558 Dutch (Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België, ms. 18088 – 18106).
- The only examples of the vair variant *potent* found were both in treatises. Standard potent was found in *Tractatus de Armis*, 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 15<sup>th</sup> C England (Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Lat. misc. e. 86) f. 42v (fig. 198); and *potent in pale* was found in *Legh, Gerard: The accedence of armorie*, 1597 English, p. 240.



Figure 196: Insignia urbium Italiae septentrionalis: Nobilium Mediolanensium, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 270, f. 414r



Figure 197: Insignia urbium Italiae septentrionalis: Nobilium Mediolanensium, 1550-1555 Italian, Source: München, BSB Cod.icon. 270, f. 427r



Figure 198: Tractatus de Armis, 2nd half of the 15th C England, Source: Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Lat. misc. e. 86, f. 42v



## In Other Media

### Embroidery

The Syon Cope, from England around 1310-1320, in the V&A Museum (details at <https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O93171/the-syon-cope-cope-unknown/>), has a few examples of furs (figs. 199-204).



Figure 199: Syon Cope (personal photograph)

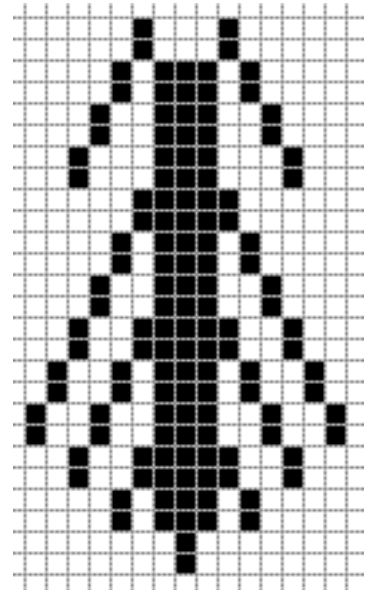


Figure 200: Chart of the spots in figure 199



Figure 201: Syon Cope (personal photograph)

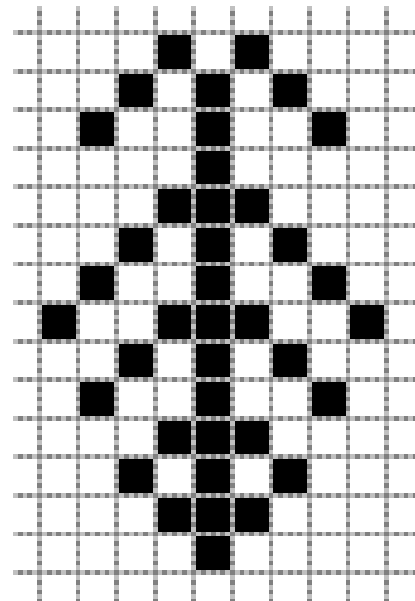


Figure 202: Chart of the spots in figure 201



Figure 203: Syon Cope (personal photograph)

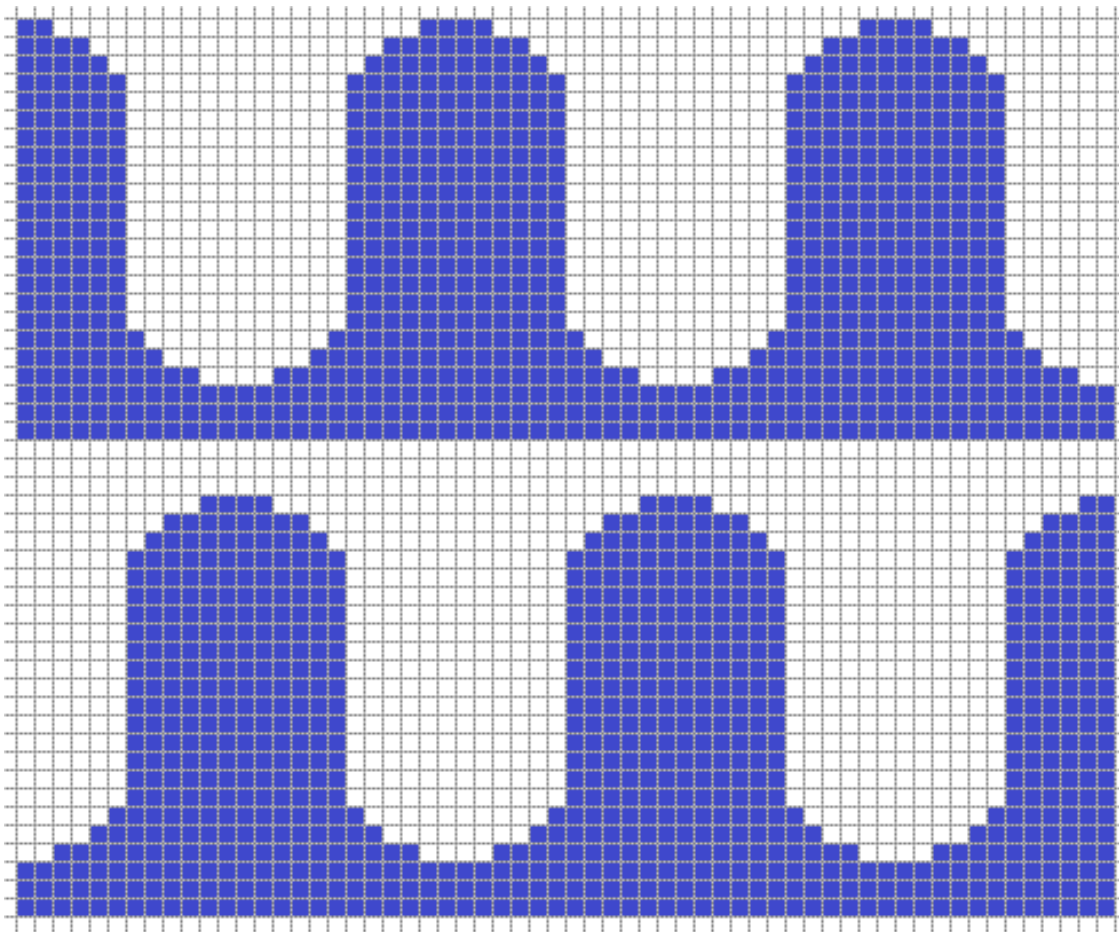


Figure 204: Chart of the vair in figure 203



An ecclesiastical stole, from England around 1300-1325, in the V&A Museum (details at <http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O130817/stole-and-maniple-unknown/>), has a few examples of vair, including a plain vair field, vair paly, vair lozengy, a vair chief, and vair gyronny, but the image isn't high enough resolution to chart those, but a personal photo I have of that stole (fig. 205) does have enough detail to create a reasonably accurate chart (fig. 206).

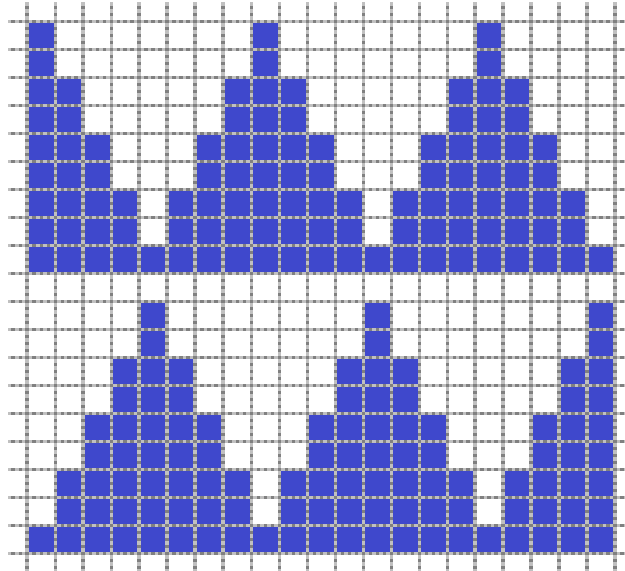


Figure 205: Ecclesiastical stole (personal photograph)

Figure 206: Chart of vair in figure 205

Another stole: <http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O16677/ecclesiastical-stole-unknown/>, includes one plain vair field, but lacks the resolution for charting.

A maniple in the V&A Museum, early 14<sup>th</sup> C, has a couple examples of vair, charted below (figs. 207, 208). Unfortunately no images are available online, but it can be found in 'Heraldic Design' by Heather Child, plate 2b.

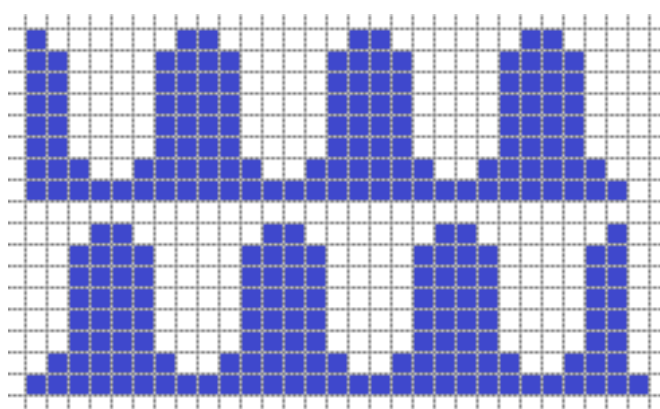
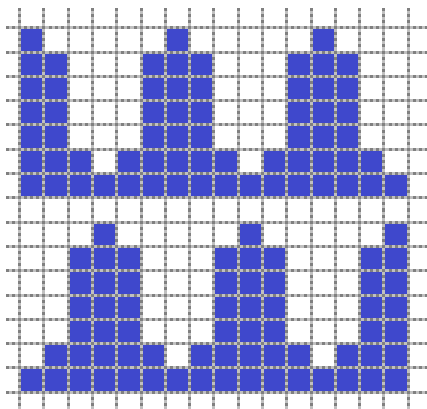


Figure 207: Chart of vair from a maniple in the V&A

Figure 208: Chart of vair from a maniple in the V&A



An English purse from c. 1540 in the V&A, <http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O74959/purse-unknown/>, has ermine spots, charted below (fig 209).

Vair from an embroidered purse from the Germanisches Nationalmuseum (Inventory number T 518), which can be seen at <http://www.larsdatter.com/heraldic-embroidery.htm>, is charted in figure 210.

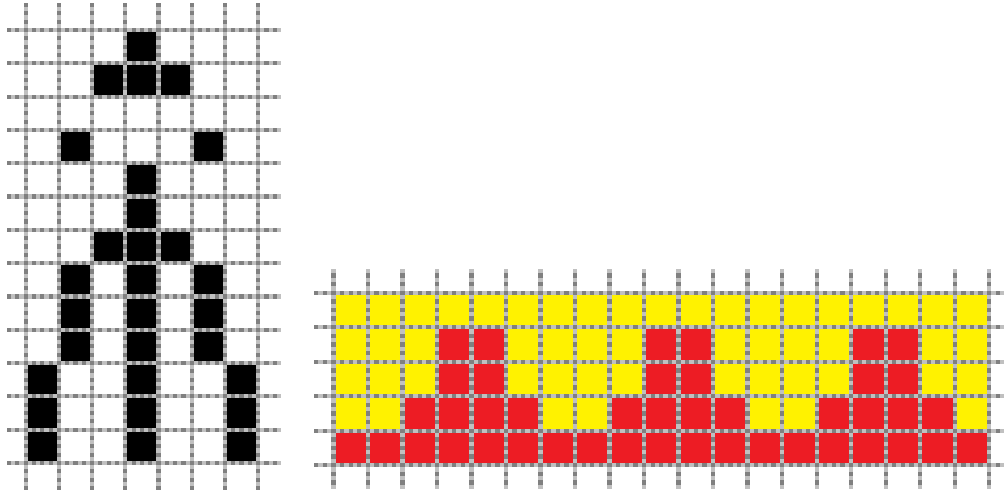


Figure 209: Chart of ermine from a purse in the V&A

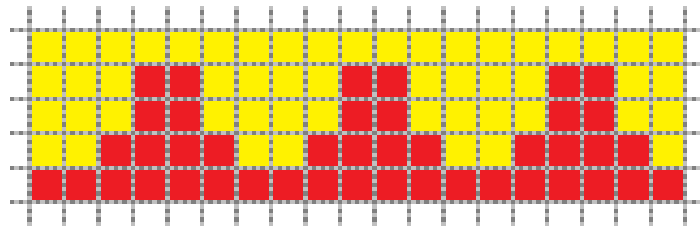


Figure 210: Chart of vair from a purse in the Germanisches Nationalmuseum

Other examples of embroidered furs:

- An embroidered pillow case, England, 1592. Arms include an ermine chevron between three ermine jambes: <http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O78804/pillow-cover-unknown/>
- An embroidered cushion cover, England, 1530-1569. Arms include a section of plain vair, and a few sections of bendy gules and vair: <http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O317804/cushion-cover-unknown/>
- A tapestry of the Arms of the Earl of Leicester, England, c. 1585. Arms include a section of plain vairy gules and or, an ermine chevron, an ermine cinquefoil, and ermine mantling: <http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O78831/arms-of-the-earl-of-tapestry-unknown/>
- Binding with with the arms of Queen Catharine Parr embroidered on velvet on the covers. Il Petrarcha con l'espositione d'A. Vellutello. 1544. <https://www.alamy.com/binding-with-with-the-arms-of-queen-catharine-parr-embroidered-on-velvet-on-the-covers-il-petrarcha-con-l'espositione-da-vellutello-1544-source-c27e19-front-binding-image227157413.html>
- A seal bag, possibly originally a surcoat or horse-trappings, England, 1248-1260. Includes an appliqué cross patonce vair (fig. 247).

## Other

For ease of noting accurate usage rights, this section will be divided by museum/institution instead of type of object.

### Glasgow Museums

All images used from Glasgow Museums are licenced under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/).

Glasgow Museums have an excellent collection of heraldic stained glass, which will make up all but one of its examples.



Figure 211: Ermine and vair. England, 16th C, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=39606;type=101#>

Figure 212: Counter-ermine. England, early 16th C, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=40872;type=101> (cropped)

Figure 213: Lozengy ermine and sable. England, late 15th C, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=39237;type=101>



Figure 214: Vairy Or and gules. England, early 16th C, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=40949;type=101>

Figure 215: A bordure ermine. England, 16th C, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=40324;type=101>

Figure 216: A chevron ermine: England, 16th C, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=40572;type=101>



Figure 217: A chief vair. England, 15th C, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=39612;type=101#>

Figure 218: Ermine. England, 15th C, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=39582;type=101> (cropped)

Figure 219: A bend ermine. England, 15th C, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=39611;type=101>



Figure 220: Vair. England, 15th C, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=39560;type=101>

Figure 221: A lion varyy Or and azure. England, c. 1510, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=40905;type=101>

Figure 222: 3 eagles erminois. England, 16th C, Glasgow Museums,  
<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=39590;type=101>





Figure 223: Painted chest. England, 1337-1340, Glasgow Museums, <http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcqj/mweb?request=record;id=34448;type=101#> (cropped)

The British Museum

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The British Museum has a wide assortment of heraldic seals and tiles, which will make up the bulk of the images used.



Figure 224: Seal. Vair. German, 14th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1877-0706-60](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1877-0706-60) (cropped)

Figure 225: Seal. Ermine, a bend ermine. France, 13th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1872-0603-89](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1872-0603-89) (cropped)

Figure 226: Seal. A chevron ermine. England, 14th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1893-0618-43](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1893-0618-43) (cropped)



Figure 227: Seal. Per chevron vair and X. Spain, 14th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1906-0310-1](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1906-0310-1) (cropped)

Figure 228: Seal. Barry vair and X. Italy, 14th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1877-0706-93](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1877-0706-93) (cropped)

Figure 229: Signet Ring. Ermine. England, c. 1600, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_AF-818](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_AF-818) (cropped)



Figure 230: Tile. Lozengy ermine. England, c. 1376, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_OA-8036](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_OA-8036)

Figure 231: Tile. Ermine chevron. England, 1450-1459, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1947-0505-462](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1947-0505-462)





Figure 232: Tile. Lozenge ermine. England, c. 1376, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1947-0505-6987](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1947-0505-6987)

Figure 233: Tile. Ermine. England, late 15th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1947-0505-3410](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1947-0505-3410)



Figure 234: Tile. Ermine. England, 15th-16th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1947-0505-3661](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1947-0505-3661)

Figure 235: Tile. Ermine. England, 15th-16th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1947-0505-4760](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1947-0505-4760)





Figure 236: Tile. 3 escutcheons vair. England, 13th-14th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1947-0505-1203](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1947-0505-1203)

Figure 237: Tile. A fess vair. England, 14th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1947-0505-346](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1947-0505-346)



Figure 238: Tile. Vair. England, 13th-14th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1947-0505-1045](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1947-0505-1045)

Figure 239: Tile. Vair. England, 15th-16th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1947-0505-4728](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1947-0505-4728)



Figure 240: Tile. Vair. England, 15th-16th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1947-0505-4736](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1947-0505-4736)

Figure 241: Tile. Vair. England, c. 1448, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1947-0505-2520](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1947-0505-2520)



Figure 242: Pendant. Ermine. England, 13th – 14th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1890-1222-23](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1890-1222-23) (cropped)

Figure 243: The Bacon Cup. Ermine. England, 1574, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1915-0313-1](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1915-0313-1) (cropped)

Figure 244: Monumental Brass. Vair. England, 15th C, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1901-0309-1](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1901-0309-1)





Figure 245: Plaque. Vair. England, 1537, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1867-1113-1](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1867-1113-1)

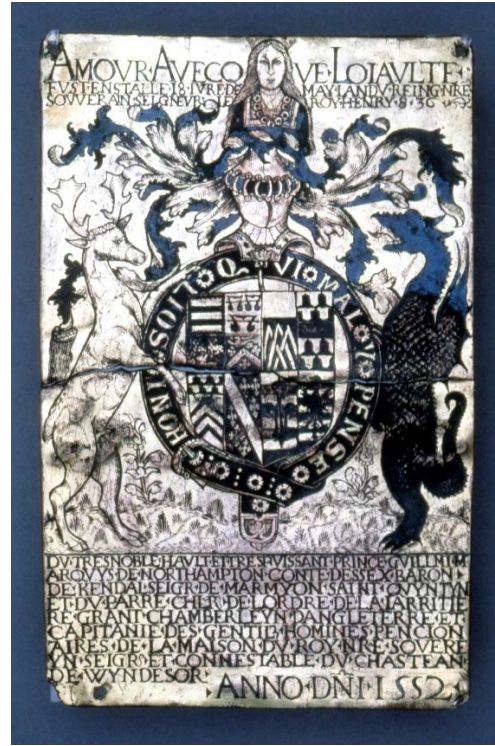


Figure 246: Stall Plate. Vair. England, 1552, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1855-0130-1](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1855-0130-1)



Figure 247: Horse Trappings/Seal Bag. A cross patonce vair. England, c. 1248-1260, © The Trustees of the British Museum, [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H\\_1856-0819-1](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/H_1856-0819-1)



## The V&A Museum

- Carved oak panel, French, late fifteenth century. Ermine spot.  
<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O370070/panel/>
- Floor tile, English, 1375-1400. Lozenge ermine.  
<http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O128733/floor-tile-bawsey-tilery/>
- Stained glass panel, English, ca. 1350 to 1375. Ermine.  
<http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O7531/panel-unknown/>
- Tile, Antwerp or Norwich, 1564-1568. Boar ermine.  
<http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O8071/the-arms-of-bacon-and-tile-andries-jasper/>
- Stained glass shield, English c. 1350. Label ermine.  
<http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O7536/shield-unknown/>
- The Valence Casket, French or English, 1305-1312. Ermine.  
<http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O126749/the-valence-casket-casket-unknown/>
- Dish, France or Venice, 1498-1515. Ermine. <http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O2419/dish-unknown/>
- Stained glass shield, French, 15<sup>th</sup> C. Cross vair, and vair field.  
<http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O2419/dish-unknown/>
- Tile, English, 14<sup>th</sup> C. Vair. <http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O128735/tile-wessex-school/>

## Portable Antiquities Scheme (finds.org.uk)

This site is effectively where all the cool historical items metal detectorists in England find is catalogued. The image rights are held by various city councils, with varying types of licence, so I'll just share links to some of the interesting objects with ermine or vair rather than images.

- Harness pendant. Lozenges ermine. England c. 1250-1400:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/89543>
- Mount. A bend ermine. England, c. 1270-1400:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/121737>
- Harness pendant. Ermine. England, c. 1250-1350:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/247181>
- Mount. Ermine. England, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/260084>
- Harness mount. A chief ermine. England, c. 1303-1319:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/281756>
- Mount. Ermine. England, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/428140>
- Seal matrix. Ermine. England, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/452661>
- Harness pendant. A canton ermine. England, c. 1262-1361:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/475076>
- Harness mount. Ermine. England, 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/488248>

- Harness pendant. Ermine. England, 14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/582234>
- Harness mount. Ermine. England, later 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/613970>
- Harness pendant. A canton ermine. England, c. 1250-1350:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/642563>
- Harness pendant. A canton ermine. England, c. 1270-1280:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/731270>
- Harness pendant. Ermine. England, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/753362>
- Cloth seal. A chevron ermine. England, 16<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/95007>
- Harness pendant. A lion ermine. England, later 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/951823>
- Harness pendant. Ermine. England, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/951797>
- Harness pendant. Ermine. England, later 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/947834>
- Mount: Ermine canton. England, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/926835>
- Seal matrix. Ermine. England, 14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/924923>
- Harness pendant. Ermine. England, later 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/924265>
- Seal matrix. A chevron ermine. England, c. 1300-1350:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/874938>
- Mount. Ermine. England, c. 1344- 1363:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/844035>
- Harness pendant. A saltire ermine. England, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/813797>
- Furniture fitting. Vairy ermine. England 15<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/161973>
- Harness pendant. Vair. England, date unknown:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/1283>
- Harness mount. Vair. England, late 13<sup>th</sup>:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/36057>
- Harness mount. A fess vair. England, c. 1250-1350:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/207085>
- Harness mount. Vair. England, 14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/211057>
- Mount. Vair. England, c. 1248-1289:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/212099>
- Harness pendant. Vair. England, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/245672>

- Harness pendant. Vair. England, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/268266>
- Harness pendant. A chief vair. England, 13<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/247926>
- Harness pendant. Vair. England, c. 1193-1254:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/451132>
- Harness pendant. Vair. England, c. 1250-1400:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/524208>
- Harness mount. Vair. England, c. 1250-1400:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/541986>
- Harness mount. Vair. England, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/594121>
- Buckle. Vair. England, c. 1248-1289:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/643941>
- Harness pendant. Paly vair. England, 1321-1377:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/714813>
- Seal matrix. Vair. England, c. 1250-1400:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/842179>
- Harness pendant. A saltire vair. England, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/800990>
- Harness pendant. An orle vair. England, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/737110>
- Seal matrix. Vair. England, 13<sup>th</sup> C:  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/908350>

#### Some Feudal Lords and Their Seals

'*Some Feudal Lords and Their Seals*', published c. 1904 and now in the public domain, (<https://archive.org/details/somefeudallordst00howauoft/mode/2up>), contains photographs of the seals of the signatories of the Barons' Letter to Pope Boniface in 1301 (figs. 248-253)

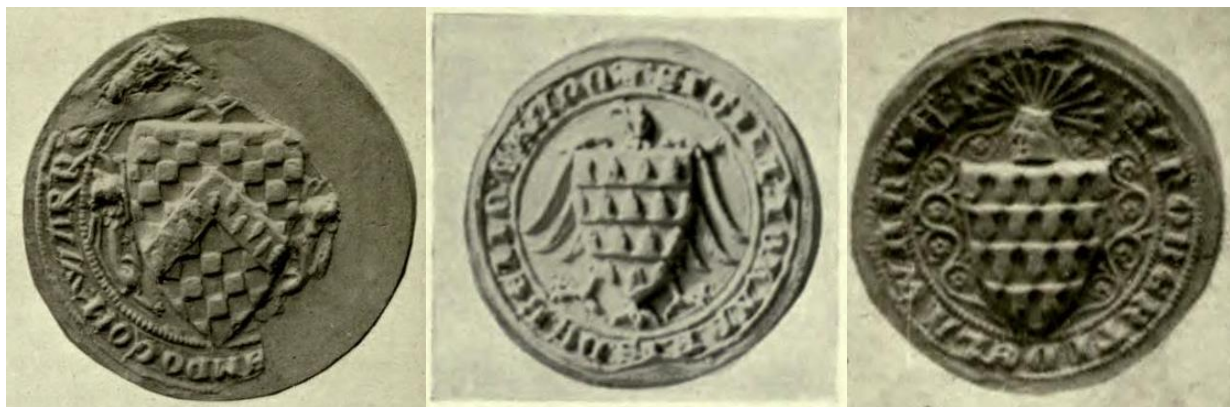


Figure 248: *Some Feudal Lords and Their Seals*, p. 16

Figure 249: *ibid*, p. 57



Figure 250: *ibid*, p. 82



Figure 251: *ibid*, p. 88

Figure 252: *ibid*, p. 95

Figure 253: *ibid*, p. 149

## References (Alphabetical by Mss name)

### A

- *Abbot Ulrich Rösch's book of heraldry*, 1462-1491 German/Swiss (St. Gallen, Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. Sang. 1084)
  - <https://www.e-codices.unifr.ch/en/doubleview/csg/1084/1>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *A collection of Scots and Latin heraldic and chivalric treatises*, c 1494 Scottish (London, British Library, Harley 6149)
  - [http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Harley\\_MS\\_6149](http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Harley_MS_6149)
- *Add Roll 77720*, c 1270-1280 England (London, British Library, Add Roll 77720)
  - [http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Add\\_Roll\\_77720](http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Add_Roll_77720)
- *A miscellany of household information*, 15<sup>th</sup> C English (Cambridge Library UL MS LI.1.8)
  - <https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/view/MS-LL-00001-00018/1>
- *Argentaye Tract*, 1401-1450 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 11464)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53023969s>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Armas de los Condes, Vescondes, Vervefores, marqueses, barones etc. de Cataluña, de Castilla, de Portugal, de Navarra y de Aragon y de Valencia*, 1450-1550 Spanish (München, BSB, cod. icon. 290)
  - <https://app.digitale-sammlungen.de/bookshelf/bsb00001370>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Armas y linajes de los grandes y señores*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 1325)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000039147&page=1>
- *Arme delle Famille Veneziane per ordine Alfabetico*, 15<sup>th</sup> C Italian (Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Reg.lat.1468)
  - <https://digi.vatlib.it/mss/detail/170819>
- *Armoiries des chevaliers de l'ordre du Croissant*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5225)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53023939j>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Armoiries, pour la plupart coloriées*, 1515-1547 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5240)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53023933v>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Armorial*, 16<sup>th</sup> French (Arras, Bibliotheque municipale 0263 (0181))
  - <https://bvmm.irht.cnrs.fr/mirador/index.php?manifest=https://bvmm.irht.cnrs.fr/iiif/24291/manifest>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial 3.0 Unported \(CC BY-NC 3.0\)](#)
- *Armorial*, beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> C French (Brussels, Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België ms. IV 1249)
  - <https://uurl.kbr.be/1613612>
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  - <https://luna.manchester.ac.uk/luna/servlet/detail/Man4MedievalVC~4~4~802015~137659>

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- *Armorial*, 1515-1547 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 25183)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53038279k>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Armorial*, 16<sup>th</sup> German (Philadelphia, Free Library of Philadelphia, Lewis E 17)
  - [http://openn.library.upenn.edu/Data/0023/html/lewis\\_e\\_017.html?fbclid=IwAR3bMRILXYQDq-BHcpe93QS76EaB6Nu-wHglHzFoSheBhWnZ--gVRjK3QmM](http://openn.library.upenn.edu/Data/0023/html/lewis_e_017.html?fbclid=IwAR3bMRILXYQDq-BHcpe93QS76EaB6Nu-wHglHzFoSheBhWnZ--gVRjK3QmM)
  - [Public Domain Mark 1.0](#)
- *Armorial catalan*, 1500-1521 Spanish (Toulouse, Bibliothèque Municipale, ms.798)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b10560196p>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Armorial colorié de la Maison de Savoie et de ses alliances*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18982)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8528579f>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Armorial d'Auvergne*, 1450-1459 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 22297)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8470455b>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Armorial de Flandres*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Flemish (Arras, Bibliothèque municipale, 0154 (0108))
  - <http://medium-avance.irht.cnrs.fr/Manuscrits/Voir?idFicheManuscrit=100017601>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial 3.0 Unported \(CC BY-NC 3.0\)](#)
- *Armorial de Gilles de Bouvier*, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 4985)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b85285803>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Armorial de la Table ronde*, 1490-1500 French (Paris, Bibliothèque de l' Arsenal, ms. 4976)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b71000160>
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- *Armorial de l'Europe et de la Toison d'or*, late 1440s French (Paris, Bibliothèque de l' Arsenal, ms. 4790)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b55009806h>
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- *Armorial de Nicolas de Lutzelbourg*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Nancy, Bibliothèque Mediathèque, Ms 1727)
  - <http://bmn-renaissance.nancy.fr/items/show/1240>
  - Public Domain
- *Armorial de Ribeaupierre*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Colmar, Bibliothèque Municipale, 1107 (064))
  - [https://bvmm.irht.cnrs.fr/resultRecherche/resultRecherche.php?COMPOSITION\\_ID=12888](https://bvmm.irht.cnrs.fr/resultRecherche/resultRecherche.php?COMPOSITION_ID=12888)
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial 3.0 Unported \(CC BY-NC 3.0\)](#)
- *Armorial des chevaliers de la Table ronde*, 1485-1495 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 1437)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b105254662>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)



- *Armorial des familles d'Artois et de Flandre*, 16<sup>th</sup> French (Arras, Bibliothèque municipale, 0145.2 (0921))
  - <http://medium-avance.irht.cnrs.fr/Manuscrits/Voir?idFicheManuscrit=100017597>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial 3.0 Unported \(CC BY-NC 3.0\)](#)
- *Armorial général, d'origine vraisemblablement lorraine, précédé de deux courts traités de blason*, 15<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18651)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53023962n>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Armorial Le Breton*, c 1292-1530 French (Paris, Archives Nationales, AE I 25, no. 6 (MM 684))
  - <http://www2.culture.gouv.fr/Wave/image/archim/Pages/03082.htm>
  - <https://archive.org/details/ArmorialLeBreton/page/n21/mode/2up>
  - [Public Domain Mark 1.0](#)
- *Armorial lorrain de la première moitié du XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle*, 1496-1543 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 18649)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8528581h>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Armorial of France and the Southern Netherlands*, c 1490-1500 Dutch (Den Haag, KB, 128 E 20)
  - <https://manuscripts.kb.nl/show/manuscript/128+E+20>
- *Armorial of the Herald of Navarra*, 15<sup>th</sup> French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 24920)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b530239616>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)

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- *Bellenville Armorial*, 1355-1380 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5230)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8470169b>
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- *Bergshammar vapenbok*, c 1440 Dutch (Stockholm, Riksarkivet, Bergshammar vapenbok, SE/RA/720085/Z)
  - [https://sok.riksarkivet.se/bildvisning/R0001216\\_00001](https://sok.riksarkivet.se/bildvisning/R0001216_00001)
- *Berliner Wappenbuch*, c 1460 German (Berlin, Staatsbibliothek, Ms. Geneal. Fol. 271)
  - [https://www.heraldik-wiki.de/wiki/Kategorie:Berliner\\_Wappenbuch](https://www.heraldik-wiki.de/wiki/Kategorie:Berliner_Wappenbuch)
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Germany \(CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 DE\)](#)
- *Blasón de armas de todos los reyes, emperadores, caballeros e hidalgos de España*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 3094)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000118745&page=1>
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- *Botenbuch der Bruderschaft St. Christoph auf dem Arlberg*, 1394-1407 German (Innsbrück, Tiroler Landesarchiv, Codex Figdor)
  - [http://bilderserver.at/wappenbuecher/TirolerHandschriftOSPv2\\_52z2/](http://bilderserver.at/wappenbuecher/TirolerHandschriftOSPv2_52z2/)
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  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/0002/bsb00020447/images/>
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- *Brentel, Georg: Wappenbuch*, 1584 German (München, BSB VD16 B 7460)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/0008/bsb00083990/images/index.html>
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- *Bruderschaftsbuch des jülich-bergischen Hubertusordens*, c 1480-1500 German (München, BSB, cod. icon. 318)
  - <https://app.digitale-sammlungen.de/bookshelf/bsb00006309>
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- *Carta executoria de hidalguía a pedimento de Gerónimo de Oviedo*, 1571 Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS RES/297)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000226218&page=1>
- *Catalogue des illustres mareschaux de France*, 1555 French (Paris, BnF, département Philosophie, histoire, sciences de l'homme, 4-Z LE SENNE-2029 (5))
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k96712288>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Catalogue des nobles admiraulx de France*, 1555 French (Paris, BnF, département Philosophie, histoire, sciences de l'homme, 4-Z LE SENNE-2029 (4))
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k9671229p>
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- *Catalogue des très illustres chanceliers de France*, 1555 French (Paris, BnF, département Philosophie, histoire, sciences de l'homme, 4-Z LE SENNE-2029 (2))
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k9671231r>
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  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k9671230b>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Ce sont les noms, armes et blasons des chevaliers companions de la Table ronde*, 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 15<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, Bibliothèque de l' Arsenal, ms. 5024)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b7100310j>
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- *Chronicles of Nuremberg*, c 1600 German (New Haven, Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library ms. 833)
  - <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/3828763>
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- *Chronik der Reichenau*, 1505-1508 German (Freiburg i. Br., UB, Hs. 15)
  - <http://dl.ub.uni-freiburg.de/diglit/hs15>
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  - <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/3536617>
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  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)

## D

- *Das Wappenbuch Conrads von Grünenberg*, c 1480 German (München, BSB, Cgm 145)
  - <https://app.digitale-sammlungen.de/bookshelf/bsb00035320>
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- *De arte heraldica*, c 1440-1450 England (Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Laud Misc. 733)
  - <https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/inquire/p/b6000383-195e-4257-bfda-95fa120a1247>
  - [Digital.Bodleian User Licence](#)
- *De re militari*, 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 15<sup>th</sup> C England (Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Holkham misc. 31)
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  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b530239383>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Descrittione del regno di Napoli*, 1601 Italian
  - [https://books.google.it/books?id=arbXICApM\\_YC](https://books.google.it/books?id=arbXICApM_YC)
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  - <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/3783324>
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## E



- *Escudos de armas, la mayor parte de Portugal*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Portuguese (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 3243)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000087012&page=1>

## F

- *Ferne, John: The Blazon of Gentry*, 1586 English (Boston Public Library, STC 10825)
  - <https://archive.org/details/blazonofgentry00ferne>
- *Flandria - Chorographie Flanderns in Portraits der Landesfürsten*, 1562 Flemish (München, BSB Cod.icon. 265)
  - <https://daten.digital-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001350/images/>
  - Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0)
- *Founder's and benefactors' book of Tewkesbury abbey*, beginning of the 16<sup>th</sup> C English (Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Top. Glouc. d. 2)
  - <https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/inquire/p/eb63201c-2890-4dab-bdbb-d14a6921f282>
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## G

- *Genealogía de D. Antonio de Quintela*, 1592 Spain (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 9645)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000043696&page=1>
- *Gilbert Dethick: Book of arms*, 1564 English (New Haven, Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, MS 97)
  - <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/4759402>
  - Public Domain - [Beinecke Library Copyright Information](#)
- *Grand armorial colorié*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5232)
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## H

- *Hauptbuch der Bruderschaft St. Christoph auf dem Arlberg*, late 14<sup>th</sup>-early 15<sup>th</sup> C Austrian (Wien, Haus-, Hof- und Staatsarchiv, Cod. Weiss 242 (Böhm 473))
  - [http://bilderserver.at/wappenbuecher/WienerHandschriftEXAv2\\_52z3/](http://bilderserver.at/wappenbuecher/WienerHandschriftEXAv2_52z3/)
- *Hermann Bote: Schichtbuch*, 1512-1513 German (Wolfenbüttel, Herzog August Bibl., Cod. Guelf. 120 Extrav.)
  - <http://diglib.hab.de/wdb.php?dir=mss/120-extrav&pointer=0>
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  - <https://jbc.bj.uj.edu.pl/dlibra/doccontent?id=194948>
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- <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/0001/bsb00016900/images/index.html>
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  - [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Ingeram\\_Codex:\\_15th\\_Century\\_sorting](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Ingeram_Codex:_15th_Century_sorting)
  - Public Domain
- *Insignia Anglica*, mid-16<sup>th</sup> C English (München, BSB Cod.icon. 291)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001647/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Insignia equitum Gallici ordinis Sancti Michaelis*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 280)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001427/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Insignia Florentinorum*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 277)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001424/images/>
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- *Insignia Lucensium, Senensium, Pisanorum, Pistoianorum, Volterratorum, Aretinorum, Cortonensium, Borgo a S. Sepolcro*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 278)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001425/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Insignia magistrorum Rhodiensium usque ad F. Claudium de la Sengle*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 269)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001417/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Insignia Neapolitanorum, Genuensium*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 279)
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- *Insignia nobilium Patavinorum, impresa Ferrariensium, Pesariensium*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 275)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001422/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Insignia nobilium urbis Romae praecipuorum item Viterbiensium*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 268)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001416/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Insignia pontificum Romanorum et cardinalium I*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 266)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001414/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Insignia pontificum Romanorum et cardinalium II*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 267)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001415/images/>
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  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001430/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Insignia Veneta, Mantuana, Bononiensia, Anconitana, Urbinatia, Perugiensia*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 274)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001421/images/>
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- *Insignia Venetorum I*, 1550-1555 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 271)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001418/images/>
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  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001420/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)

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- *Jerome de Bara: Le blason des armoiries*, 1579 French (Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon, FC113)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k79082r>
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  - <https://www.kb.nl/themas/middeleeuwse-handschriften/kattendijkekroniek-ca-1491>

## L

- *L'Arbre des batailles, etc*, c 1485 French (New Haven, Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, ms. 230)
  - <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/3433854>
  - Public Domain - [Beinecke Library Copyright Information](#)
- *La Réception faite à la reine de Hongrie dans ses États*, 1502 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 90)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b9009483r/f16.item> (black and white)
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Le blason des armes, avec les armes des princes et seigneurs de France*, 1533-1534 French (Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon, FC009)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k79304s>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Legh, Gerard: The accedence of armorie*, 1597 English
  - <https://archive.org/details/accedenceofarmor00legh>
- *Le iardin d'armoiries contenant les armes de plusieurs nobles royaumes*, 1567 Flemish (Ghent University Library)
  - <https://lib.ugent.be/en/catalog/rug01:000965965> (no page numbers)



- *Le Jouvencel*, 1475 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 24381)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b90631252> (Full ms., but black and white)
  - <https://portail.bibliissima.fr/fr/ark:/43093/tdata336d3104-ebfc-4930-ba96-a17988e0f3b3> (Just the heraldic parts, but in full colour)
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Les noms, armes et blasons des chevaliers et compagnons de la Table ronde*, 15<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 12597)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b60001142>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Liber additamentorum*, 1250-1259 English (London, British Library, Cotton MS Nero D I)
  - [http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Cotton\\_MS\\_Nero\\_D\\_I](http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Cotton_MS_Nero_D_I)
- *Libro de armas*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 12550, 12551, 12552)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000229491&page=1>
- *Libro de armas y blasones de diversos linajes y retratos*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 1196)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000047553>
- *Libro de linajes de España*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 11604)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000198647&page=1>
- *Libro en que se pintan los cavalleros cofrades de la Cofradía de Nuestra Señora de Gamonal*, 1575-1600 Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 22257)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000253668&page=1>
- *Livre de Roy d'armes Monjoye*, c 1500 French (Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. E Mus. 78)
  - <https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/inquire/p/fef7e905-a4af-473b-8779-509cfc3aec72>
  - [Digital.Bodleian User Licence](#)
- *Livro da Nobreza e Perfeiçao das Armas*, 1516-1528 Spanish (Casa Real, Cartório da Nobreza, liv. 20)
  - <http://digitarq.arquivos.pt/details?id=4162407>
- *Livro de Armas de Portugal e Outras Curiosidades*, 1576 Portuguese (Livros de Linhagens, n.º 179)
  - <http://digitarq.arquivos.pt/details?id=4618110>
- *Livro do Armeiro-Mor*, 1509 Portuguese (Lisbon, Arquivo nacional da Torre do Tombo, Cartório da Nobreza, liv. 19)
  - <http://digitarq.arquivos.pt/details?id=4162406>
- *Llyfr Edward ap Roger*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Welsh (National Library of Wales, Peniarth MS 128)
  - <http://hdl.handle.net/10107/4620701>
  - Public Domain

## **M**

- *Matriculation Register of the Basel Rectorate*, 1460-1600 Swiss (Basel, Universitätsbibliothek, AN II 3)
  - <https://www.e-codices.unifr.ch/en/ubb/AN-II-0003//1r>
  - [CC0 1.0 Universal \(CC0 1.0\) Public Domain Dedication](#)
- *Memorias de linajes*, 1540 Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 11661)

- <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000192341&page=1>
- *Miscellany*, c 1314 English (London, British Library, Harley MS 337)
  - [http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Harley\\_MS\\_337](http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Harley_MS_337)

## **N**

- *Nobiliario*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 10489)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000054170&page=1>
- *Nobiliario de armas de Valencia, Aragón y Cataluña*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 3096)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000118746&page=1>
- *Nobiliario de Gratia Dei*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 18053)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000134045&page=1>
- *Nobiliario / original de Juan Pérez de Vargas*, 16<sup>th</sup> C Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS 3061)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000023122&page=1>
- *Nobleza del Andaluzia*, 1588 Spanish (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España MSS R10805, R26842)
  - <http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000134360&page=1>
- *Nomi ed arme dei cavalieri del Tosone d'oro*, 1560 Italian (München, BSB Cod.icon. 286)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00001369/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Noms, armes et blasons des chevaliers de la Table Ronde*, c 1500 French (New York, Morgan Library MS M. 16)
  - <http://ica.themorgan.org/manuscript/page/1/76850>

## **O**

- *Ordonnances de l'Ordre de la Toison d'or*, late 15<sup>th</sup> C Dutch (Kassel, Universitätsbibliothek, 4 Ms. Hist. 4)
  - <https://orka.bibliothek.uni-kassel.de/viewer/image/1354617230070/1/>
- *Ortenburger Wappenbuch*, 1466-1473 German (München, BSB, cod. icon. 308u)
  - <https://app.digitale-sammlungen.de/bookshelf/bsb00001755>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)

## **P**

- *Pièces généalogiques et héraldiques*, 1535-1575 German (Paris, BnF, ms. Allemand 86)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b10038033x> (black and white)
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Powell's Roll*, 1345-1351 English (Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 804 pt. IV)
  - <https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/inquire/p/837ed1fe-2365-415a-a739-47326a0dfb87>
  - [Digital.Bodleian User Licence](#)

## **R**

- *Recueil d'armoiries coloriées disposées selon un ordre méthodique*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5233)

- <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53023966f>
- [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Recueil de traités et documents divers se rapportant principalement à l'art héraldique*, 16<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5229)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53023941c>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Recueil historique et héraldique*, c 1452 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 5930)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b530239650>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Redinghoven* (f.295-f.316), 1440s German (München, BSB, cgm 2213 (38))
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/0001/bsb00016002/images/index.html?id=00016002&fip=xsxseayaxsewqqrzytsxdsydxdsydw&no=15&seite=507>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Register of the Honour of Richmond with other items concerning the Honour*, 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 15<sup>th</sup> C English (Bodleian Library MS. Lyell 22)
  - <https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/inquire/p/024ed398-9a32-41cb-a3cb-4c910799a9bf>
  - [Digital.Bodleian User Licence](#)
- *Rous Roll*, c 1483 England (London, British Library, Add MS 48976)
  - [http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Add\\_MS\\_48976](http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Add_MS_48976)

## S

- *Sammelband mehrerer Wappenbücher*, 1530 German (München, BSB Cod.icon. 391)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/bsb00007681/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Sammelband über die Schlacht von Sempach*, mid 16<sup>th</sup> C German (Zentralbibliothek Zürich, Ms L 94)
  - <https://www.e-manuscripta.ch/zuz/content/titleinfo/7180>
  - [Public Domain Mark 1.0](#)
- *Sammlung von Wappen aus verschiedenen, besonders deutschen Ländern*, c 1600 German (München, BSB Cod.icon. 307)
  - <https://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/~db/0002/bsb00020245/images/>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Scheibler'sches Wappenbuch*, 1450 - c 1600 German (München, BSB, cod. icon. 312c)
  - <https://app.digitale-sammlungen.de/bookshelf/bsb00007174>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Sir Thomas Holme's Book of Arms*, c 1446 (ff. 9r-40v) & last quarter of 15<sup>th</sup> C to first quarter of 16<sup>th</sup> C (ff. 41r-112r) English (London, British Library, Harley MS 4205)
  - [http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Harley\\_MS\\_4205](http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Harley_MS_4205)
- *Spencer Family Book of English Heraldry*, 1589 English (Baltimore, Walters Art Museum, Walters Ms. W.847)
  - <http://www.thedigitalwalters.org/Data/WaltersManuscripts/html/W847/description.html>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial 3.0 Unported \(CC BY-NC 3.0\)](#)



- *Statuts de l'Ordre de la Toison d'Or*, 1481-1486 Dutch (London, British Library, Harley 6199)
  - <http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/record.asp?MSID=6562>
- *Statuts de l'Ordre du Croissant*, 1448-1500 French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 25204)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8470042b>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)

## T

- *The armes of all the cheife corporatons [sic] of England*, 1596 English (LUNA: Folger Digital Image Collection, STC 26018)
  - <https://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/detail/FOLGERCM1~6~6~793017~150630:The-armes-of-all-the-cheife-corpora>
  - [Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Tirol, Anton: Wappenbuch*, 1540 German (München, BSB Cod.icon. 310)
  - <https://app.digitale-sammlungen.de/bookshelf/bsb00001649>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Tractatus de Armis*, 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 15<sup>th</sup> C England (Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Lat. misc. e. 86)
  - <https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/inquire/p/1236e2f7-36e2-4acc-a6b7-ed5cd566d0c5>
  - [Digital.Bodleian User Licence](#)
- *Traité de blason*, 15<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 14357)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53023942t>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)
- *Traité de blason*, 15<sup>th</sup> C French (Paris, BnF, ms. Français 23077)
  - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53038290c>
  - [Gallica Terms of Use](#)

## U

- *Universeel Wapenboek*, 1558 Dutch (Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België, ms. 18088 – 18106)
  - <http://balat.kikirpa.be/object/20013031>

## V

- *Virgil Solis: Wappenbuchlein*, 1555 German (Heidelberg, UB, 82 A 10094 RES)
  - <https://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/diglit/solis1555/0004>
  - Public Domain

## W

- *Wapenboek*, mid 15<sup>th</sup> C Dutch (Antwerpen, Hendrik Conscience Heritage Library, B 89420 A)
  - <https://dams.antwerpen.be/asset/z1eyeJtGYLG8MkZYKfBU5SiM>
  - [Public Domain Mark 1.0](#)
- *Wapenboek*, 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 16<sup>th</sup> C Dutch (The Utrecht Archives 421)
  - <https://hetutrechtsarchief.nl/onderzoek/resultaten/archieven?mivast=39&miadt=39&miaet=1&micode=1139&minr=885294&miview=ldt>
- *Wapenboek Beyeren*, c. 1405 Dutch (Den Haag, KB, 79 K 21)
  - <https://www.kb.nl/themas/middeleeuwen/wapenboek-beyeren-1405>
- *Wapenboek door de wapenheraut Le Bouck*, 16<sup>th</sup> Dutch (The Utrecht Archives 419)

- <https://hetutrechtsarchief.nl/onderzoek/resultaten/archieven?miview=inv2&mivast=39&mizig=210&miadt=39&miaet=1&micode=1139&minr=885292> (The first half is from the 16<sup>th</sup> C, the second is 17<sup>th</sup> C)
- *Wapenboek Gelre*, 1370-1395 Dutch (Brussels, Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België ms. 15652-56)
  - <https://uurl.kbr.be/1733715>
- *Wapenboek van de deelnemers aan het steekspel gehouden te Gent in 1531*, 1531 Flemish (Ghent University Library)
  - <https://lib.ugent.be/en/catalog/rug01:001705301>
- *Wapenboek van Gent*, 1578 Flemish (Ghent University Library, BIB.G.005873)
  - <https://lib.ugent.be/en/catalog/rug01:000816680>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Wapenen vanden edelen porters van Ghendt*, 1524 Flemish (Ghent University Library)
  - <https://lib.ugent.be/en/catalog/rug01:000836445>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Wappen besonders von deutschen Geschlechtern*, 1475-1560 German (München, BSB, cod. icon. 309)
  - <https://app.digitale-sammlungen.de/bookshelf/bsb00002106>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Wappenbuch*, 1500-1550 German (München, BSB Cod.icon. 392 d)
  - <https://app.digitale-sammlungen.de/bookshelf/bsb00018706>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Wappenbuch Beyerens (French copy)*, c 1480 French (Detmold, Lippische Landesbibliothek, Mscr 3a)
  - <https://digitale-sammlungen.llb-detmold.de/llb/urn:urn:nbn:de:hbz:51:1-13936?>
- *Wappen Buch darinen aller Geistlichen Prelaten Herren*, 1567 German (Austrian National Library)
  - [https://books.google.ca/books?id=Y\\_VPAAAAcAAJ](https://books.google.ca/books?id=Y_VPAAAAcAAJ)
- *Wappenbuch der Arlberg-Bruderschaft: Virgil Raber*, 1548 German (Weimar, Herzogin Anna Amalia Bibliothek, Fol. 220)
  - [http://bilderserver.at/wappenbuecher/VirgilRaberEXAv2\\_52z2/](http://bilderserver.at/wappenbuecher/VirgilRaberEXAv2_52z2/)
  - <https://haab-digital.klassik-stiftung.de/viewer/resolver?urn=urn:nbn:de:gbv:32-1-10014012218>
- *Wappenbuch des Aegidius Tschudy*, 1530-1572 Swiss (St. Gallen, Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. Sang. 1085)
  - <https://www.e-codices.unifr.ch/de/list/one/csg/1085>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *Wappenbuch des Heiligen Römischen Reichs*, 1581 German
  - <https://books.google.ca/books?id=DPNXAAAAcAAJ>
- *Wappen deutscher Geschlechter*, 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 15<sup>th</sup> C German (München, BSB Cod.icon. 311)
  - <https://app.digitale-sammlungen.de/bookshelf/bsb00001650>
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- *Wappen deutscher Geschlechter*, 16<sup>th</sup> C German (München, BSB Cod.icon. 312)
  - <https://app.digitale-sammlungen.de/bookshelf/bsb00001651>
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- *Weingartner Liederhandschrift*, c 1300-1320 German (Stuttgart, Württembergische Landesbibliothek, HB XIII 1)
  - [http://digital.wlb-stuttgart.de/sammlungen/sammlungsliste/werksansicht/?no\\_cache=1&tx\\_dlf%5Bid%5D=3919&tx\\_dlf%5Bpage%5D=1](http://digital.wlb-stuttgart.de/sammlungen/sammlungsliste/werksansicht/?no_cache=1&tx_dlf%5Bid%5D=3919&tx_dlf%5Bpage%5D=1)
  - [Public Domain Mark 1.0](#)
- *Wernigeroder (Schaffhausensches) Wappenbuch*, last quarter of 15<sup>th</sup> German (München, BSB, cod. icon. 308n)
  - <https://app.digitale-sammlungen.de/bookshelf/bsb00043104>
  - [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-SA 4.0\)](#)
- *William Bruges's Garter Book*, c. 1430- c. 1440 English (London, British Library, Stowe 594)
  - [http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Stowe\\_MS\\_594](http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Stowe_MS_594)
- *William Flower: Tricks of Arms*, 1563 English (Oxford, Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 834, pt III)
  - <https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/inquire/p/7ccfc5cd-0702-4b7f-8aaa-3a64e76034cf>
  - [Digital.Bodleian User Licence](#)
- *Workes of Armorie*, 1572 English
  - <https://archive.org/details/workesofarmories00boss>
  - Public Domain

## Z

- *Zürcher Wappenrolle*, c 1340 Swiss (Zürich, Landesmuseum, Zürcher Wappenrolle)
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