

Historical Heraldry! - Partition Lines

The lines used to partition the shield are given specific names. If these lines are used to simply divide a shield, it is blazoned "party per" then the division. If used as a charge themselves, they are known as ordinaries.



Barry Bendy



Barry Bendy Sinister



Barry



Bendy



Bendy Sinister



Chequy



Chevronny



Lozengy



Paly Bendy



Paly



Party Per Bend



Party Per Bend Sinister



Party Per Chevron



Party Per Cross



Party Per Fess



Party Per Gyron



Party Per Gyronny



Party Per Pale



Party Per Pall



Party Per Saltire

Historical Heraldry! - Subordinaries

Scholars do not agree upon the division between ordinaries and subordinaries. Some say that the subordinaries must use less than one fifth of the field's area. Regardless of the disputed qualifications, many heraldic authorities do agree that the following items are to be considered subordinaries.



Billet



Bordure



Checky



Flanches



Fret



Fusil



Gutte



Gyron



Inescutcheon



Lozenge



Orle



Roundel

Historical Heraldry! - Ordinaries

This is the "catch-all" category of ordinaries consisting of those shapes that do not fall into the honorable ordinary or subsidiary categories. Ordinaries cover about a fifth of the field. Some of the most common ordinaries are detailed below.



Bar



Canton



Escutcheon



Pall

Historical Heraldry! - Honorable Ordinaries

The honorable ordinaries are said to have originated with the fastenings, buckles, and clamps of the shield. They normally occupy up to a third of the surface area of the shield. They are blazoned immediately after the field is described.



Bend



Bend Sinister



Chevron



Chief



Cross



Fess



Pale



Pile



Quarter



Saltire

<http://www.a2armory.com/medshiel.html>

http://www.swordsandarmor.com/medieval-shields_in.html

<http://www.redrampant.com/roma/lateshields.html>

<http://shop.store.yahoo.com/4crests/misherlin.html>