

## ***Uses for Heraldry***

*compiled by Modar Neznanich*

Okay, so you have a heraldic device or badge. Now what do you do with it?

Put it on things naturally. But what sort of things should you put it on?

As someone once said, "When it comes to your personal items, if it doesn't move, put your armory on it.

If it's moving, stop it and put something with your armory on it (if it doesn't object too loudly)."

Following are uses for heraldry that have been noted from either period sources or in SCA use. These items have been marked using needlework (embroidery, cross-stitch and appliqué), silk screening, painting, carving, burning or other methods.

### **General Items**

banners, pennons and standards  
charters, scrolls, maps and other documents  
coronets  
hallmarks  
personal herald's tabard  
portraits  
tools

book covers, bookplates & book spines/binding  
coins & tokens  
favors  
inkwells & scribal instruments  
personal retainer's baldric  
tents/pavilion (roof & walls)  
wax seals

### **Clothing & Accessories**

armbands  
belts  
busk (for corset) carving  
garters  
hats  
pouches  
shoes & boots  
tunics & tabards

baldrics  
buckles  
cloaks  
gloves  
jewelry (bracelets, necklaces, medallions, rings)  
surcoats & dresses  
stockings  
under-garments

### **Martial Items**

armor bags  
body armor  
bow/archery stands  
helms  
markers for tourney-field ropes  
shields  
tourney chests

arrow boxes  
bow bags/cases  
fighting surcoats  
knife sheaths  
quivers  
sword scabbards

### **Domestic Items**

bathtubs  
candle holders  
chair-backs & tole stools  
doors, door frames & door stops  
feast-gear boxes  
glass jars  
knobs for cabinets, doors, etc.  
lintels

bedspreads  
carry-bags  
cookware  
drinking vessels & eating plates  
fire-pits (portable)  
headboards of beds  
lanterns  
napkins

night stands  
pillowcases  
place mats  
rugs  
stained glass windows  
stationary  
tapestries, wall hangings & plaques  
throws/comforters  
trinket boxes

outer painting for a diptych (folding icon)  
pitchers  
pot-holders  
serving platters  
stall-plates  
table runners & tablecloths  
throw pillows  
towels  
woven into lace

### Animal Items

equestrian items (caparisons, saddles, tack equipment)  
pet accessories (leashes, collars, tags, carriers, blankets, coats)  
[Side-note: in period they also used heraldry for swanmarks (you carve these on the bill of the swan).]

### Miscellaneous Items

bird cages (there are period examples)  
etchings on blades, etc.  
mounting block (step for getting on horses)  
tourney carts, wagons & pushcarts  
equipment)

decorative pitchers and vases  
grave markers  
stone cairns  
toys (hobbyhorses, game boards, juggling

### Modern Items

bumper stickers  
clock/watch faces  
computer background/screen saver  
doormats  
false fingernails & hair "thingies"  
magnets  
shower curtains  
tattoos/body art  
wallpaper stencil  
web pages

car carriers  
commode lid decoration  
cooler covers  
drink coasters  
holiday ornaments  
pens  
t-shirts  
tiki torches  
water bottle covers

### Use of Device vs Use of Badge

While there is no restriction on use in the SCA, there are times when it is more appropriate (historically speaking) to use one's heraldic badge instead of one's device and vice-versa.

Which are those times?

The general rule of thumb is that your device says, "Hello, my name is George." and your badge says, "This belongs to George."

As such, use your device on anything belonging to you that you personally wear or use. Or on anything that is used to represent you. Such as armour, clothes, banners, tabard of personal herald speaking in your name, rings, stationary, personal tent, etc.

Use your badge on anything belonging to you that may be used by others. Such as books, tents, carts, clothes of retainers, messenger boxes, favors, etc.

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