

Collars of Estate

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Collars of Estate are a wonderful piece of accoutrement dating back to at least the 1400s. They ranged from fairly simple designs to elaborately embellished motifs, utilizing a series of links and/or plaques in their construction. Decorative elements can include symbols reflective of offices, Orders and heraldry.

Who may wear a collar of estate? According to current Kingdom Law in *Appendix III: The Sumptuary Laws of Calontir* within the section entitled AIII-303 COLLARS, it states: “Nobles and Bestowed Peers may wear Collars of Estate composed of the Cross of Calatrava in gold and bearing those badges of their respective awards and symbols as befits their rank, no element to exceed one and one-half (1½) inches square.”

The term “Nobles” has been confusing to some. To help clarify things, we direct the reader to another portion of Kingdom Law, *Article XIII The Council of Nobles* which in the section entitled XIII-100, it states: “The Council of Nobles shall be composed of Their Royal Majesties, Their Royal Highnesses, Dukes, Duchesses, Counts, Countesses, Viscounts, Viscountesses, Past or Present Territorial Baronages of Calontir lineage and resident in the Kingdom.”

Thus by tradition, courtesy and current interpretation of the sumptuary laws, only these gentles listed should wear a collar of estate that utilizes the Cross of Calatrava. However, the sumptuary laws do not preclude anyone from wearing a collar of estate which has its construction (band/links/plaques) composed of a design other than Crosses of Calatrava.

Additionally, if a gentle (of any rank) is a member of the Order of the Cross of Calontir, they may utilize a plaque or pendant with the symbol of the Order (a purple cross on a gold background within a purple border) as part of their collar of estate.

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