

Design a crest for your family or yourself

The two pictures on this page show crests in the Museum of Dartmoor Life – one of them from the Courtenay family (former owners of Okehampton Castle) and one from a fireman's helmet. The Courtenay crest is based on three different designs, all put together onto one shield. The Fire Service crest shows symbols connected with a fireman's work – axes for breaking into burning buildings and hoses for putting fires out. The decoration looks a bit like fire and smoke, too.



Now draw out a design for one of the following crests:

1. Your family, using symbols based on the name (e.g. if you are called Smith, you could make a design based on blacksmith's tools, or if you are called Shepherd, your design could include sheep).
2. Your interests (e.g. cycling, swimming).
3. Your town or village, using ideas based on its name (Okehampton could include an oak tree, for instance) or something that is famous for (for Okehampton this could be Dartmoor, or army symbols because of the camp).
4. A crest for the Museum of Dartmoor Life, based on things you saw in the museum during your visit.