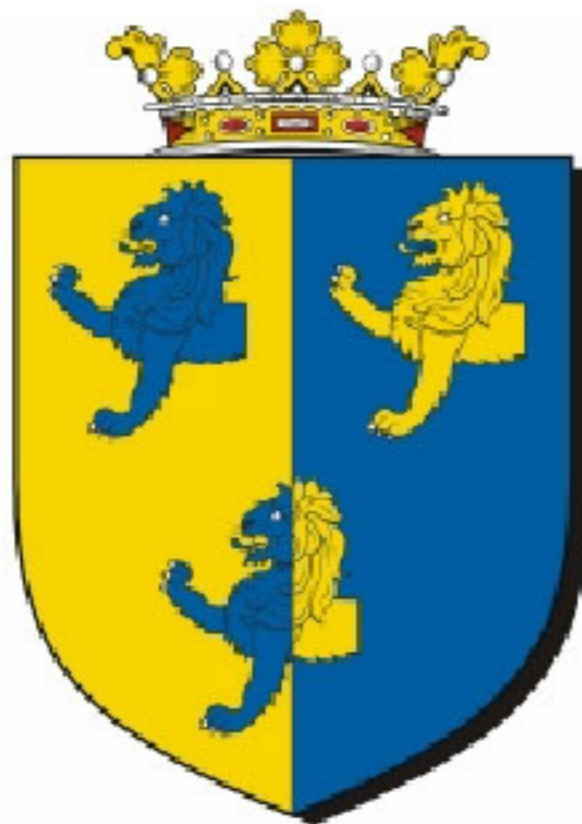# Norman Family Crests

All the "important" families who lived at Belvoir from Norman times until the Hills and the Batesons would have had 'coats of arms' or family crests to show how important they were.

Family crests would usually have the name of the family at the top, a shield divided into four quarters and each quarter containing an image which told you something about their family. The families also had "mottos" or sayings about themselves which they would often put along the bottom of their crests.
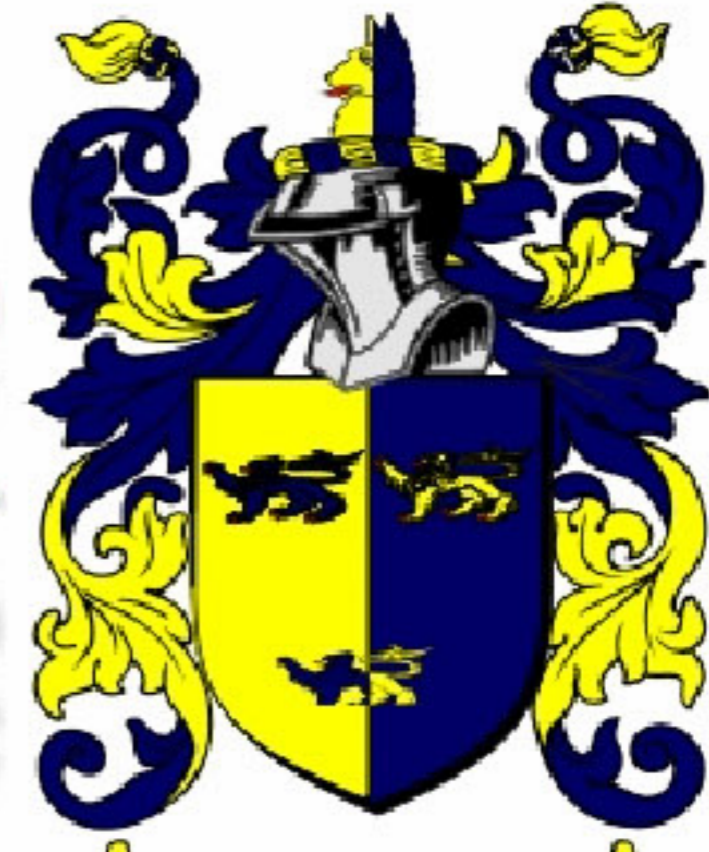
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The de Courcey crest

de Courcy

This is the coat of arms of John de Courcy who was the Norman overlord of Belvoir. In Norman times the knights decorated their shields and armour with their family coat of arms so that they could be recognised in battle.

Each image represented something about the family; here the eagle meant strength in battle.

Why not try to design your own family crest? Use the checklist to help you remember what to include.

Remember:

- Name
- 4 things your family like
- Family motto

Norman Family Crests