



The College of Arms  
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# ACADEMY

3D ART DECOUPAGE & CRAFT INTERNATIONAL LTD

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## The GUILD of MASTER CRAFTSMEN

The Guild of Master Craftsmen was groups bounded together for mutual protection of any kind of arts and crafts. Merchant Guilds association of international trades was powerful in 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries

Trade guilds arose in the 14th century as craftsmen united to protect their common interest and their master piece craft. - It was three countries who around 1484 establish "The guild Master Craftsmen association" (England, France & Italy) to protect original master pieces from forgeries. The Guild Emblem (Coat of Arms) is very distinctive and recognisable

The guild was made up by experienced and confirmed experts in their field of handicraft They were called Master Craftsmen-

Before a new employee could rise to the level of mastery; he had to go through a schooling period during which he was first called an apprentice. Apprentices would typically not learn more than the most basic techniques until they were trusted by their masters to keep the guilds or company's secrets. After being employed by a master for several years, and after producing a qualifying piece of work, the apprentice was given documents (letters or certificates from his master or the guild itself) which certified him and entitled him to travel to other towns and countries to learn the art and crafts from other masters..

After this journey and several years of experience, apprentice could be received as master craftsman, though in some guilds this step could be made straight from apprentice. One of the legacies of the guilds, the elevated Windsor Guildhall was originally a meeting place for Guild Master Craftsmen, as well as magistrates' seat..

The College of Arms in London restored the Guild of Master Craftsmen to reflect many categories of Guild membership, it features: three escutcheons (shields) to represent arts & crafts, painters and strainers; a pair of compasses opened in chevron for builders, carpenters, cabinet makings, woodworks, joinery, gavel, masons, stoneworkers, glass workers.

The Emblem of The Guild of Master craftsmen recognized internationally with Office head in London