
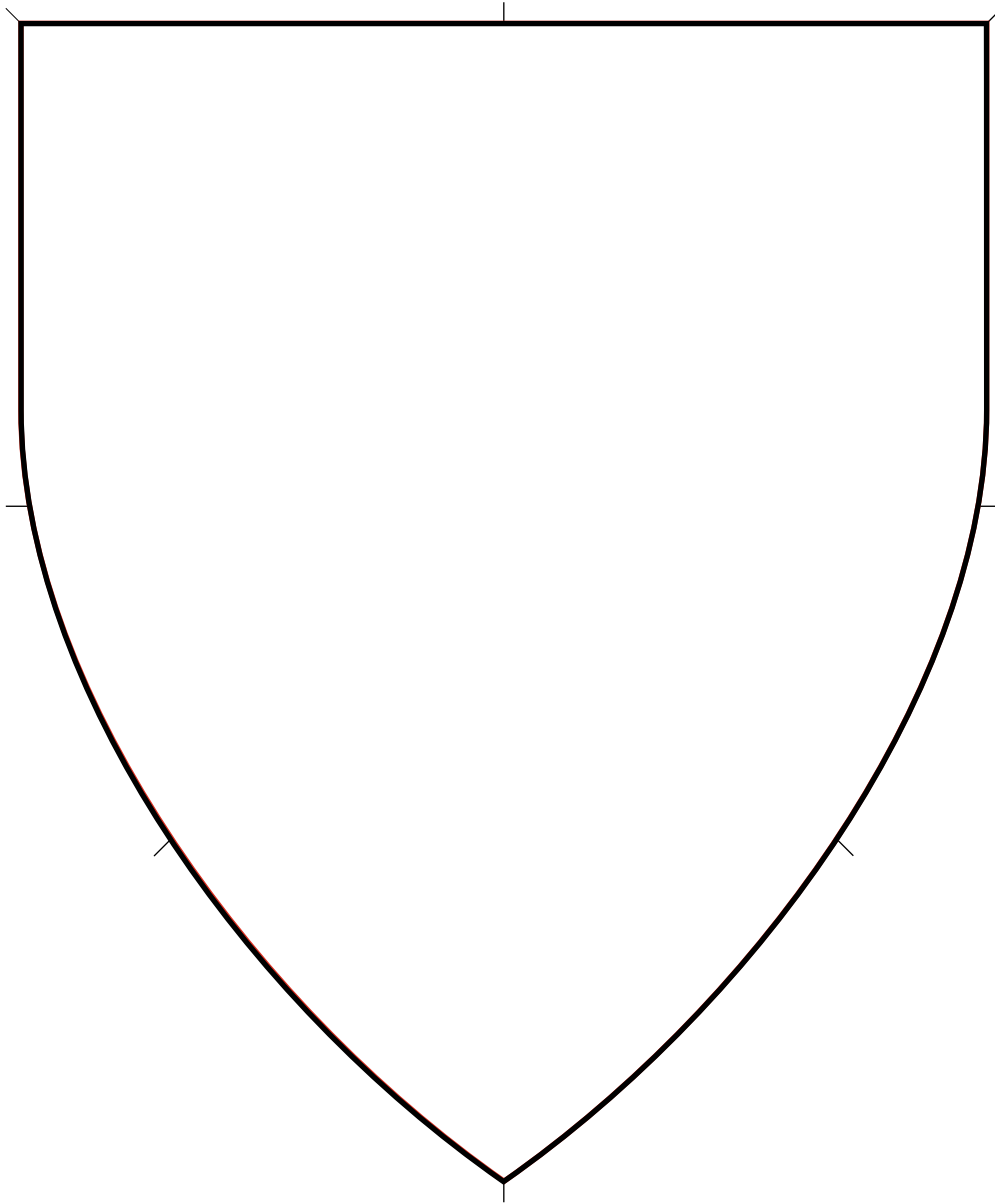
 Book Of 
Traceable
Heraldic Art

Appendix O:
Escutcheon
Outlines

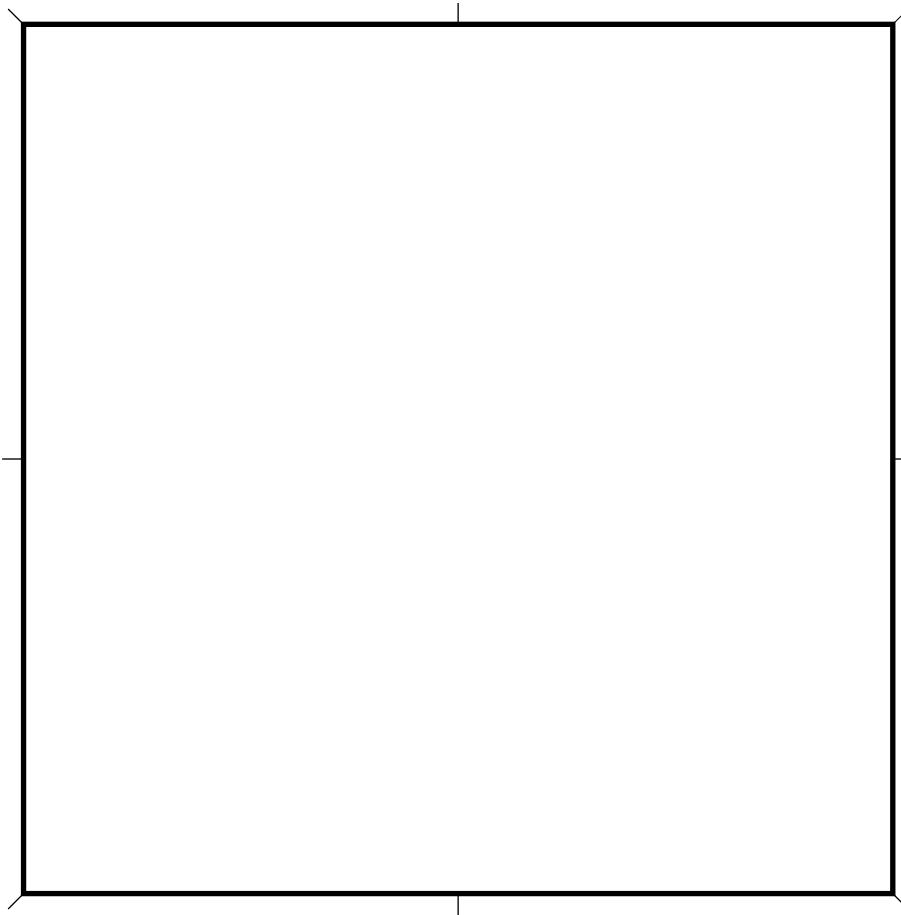
Device Outline

Devices are generally submitted on a standard shield outline, known as an escutcheon.



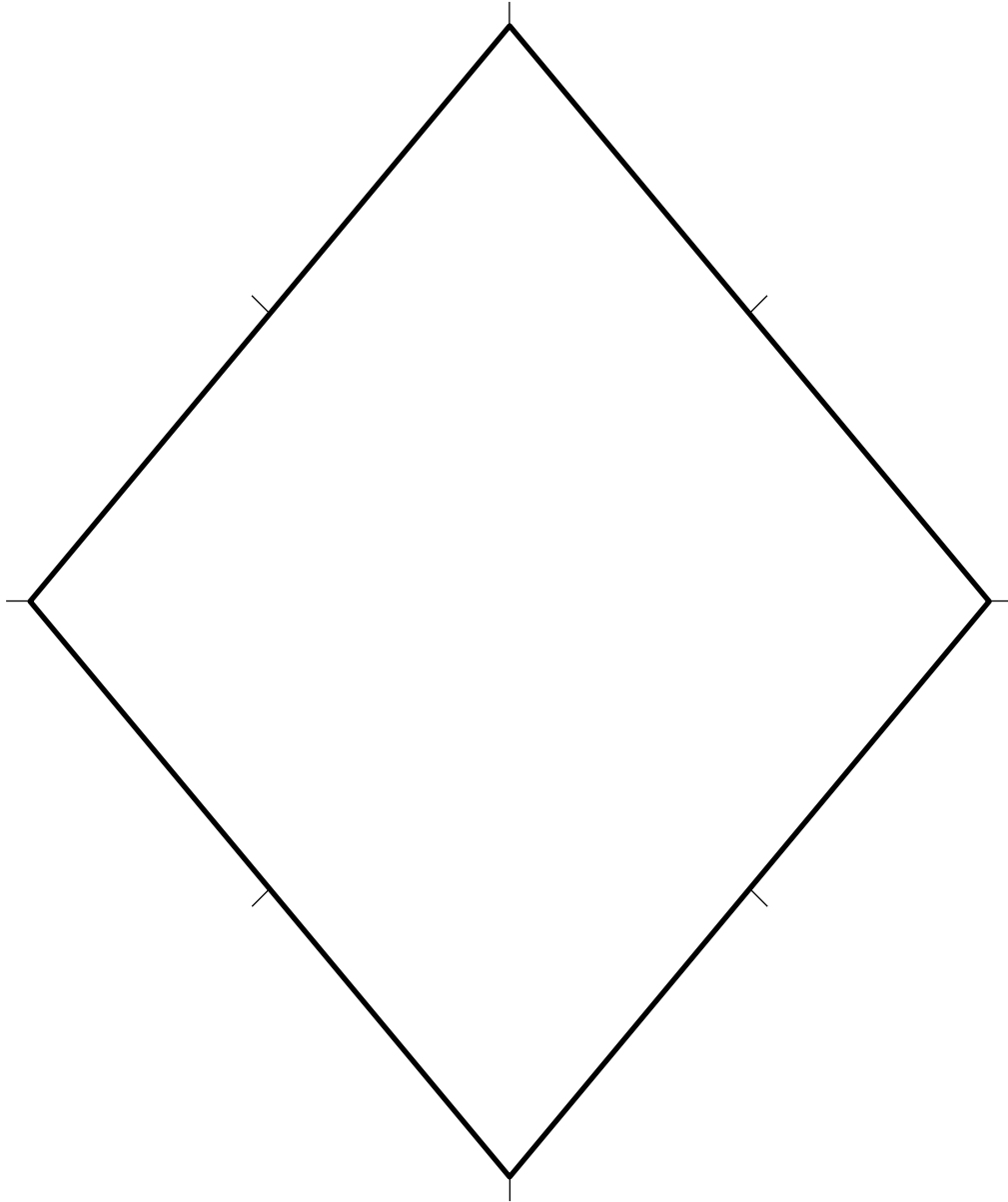
Square Field

Badges are submitted on a square outline, even if they are fieldless.



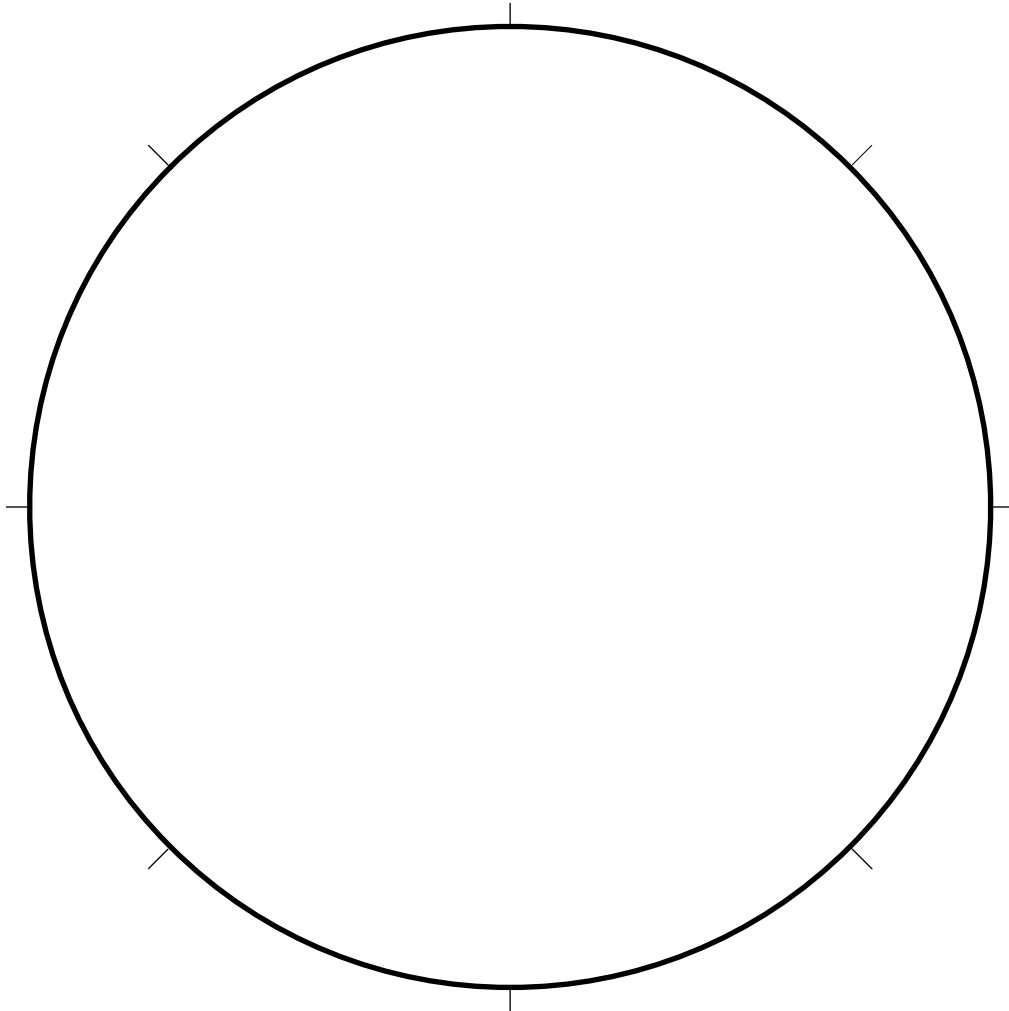
Lozenge Field

Devices may be submitted on a lozenge, a less-martial alternative to the shield outline.



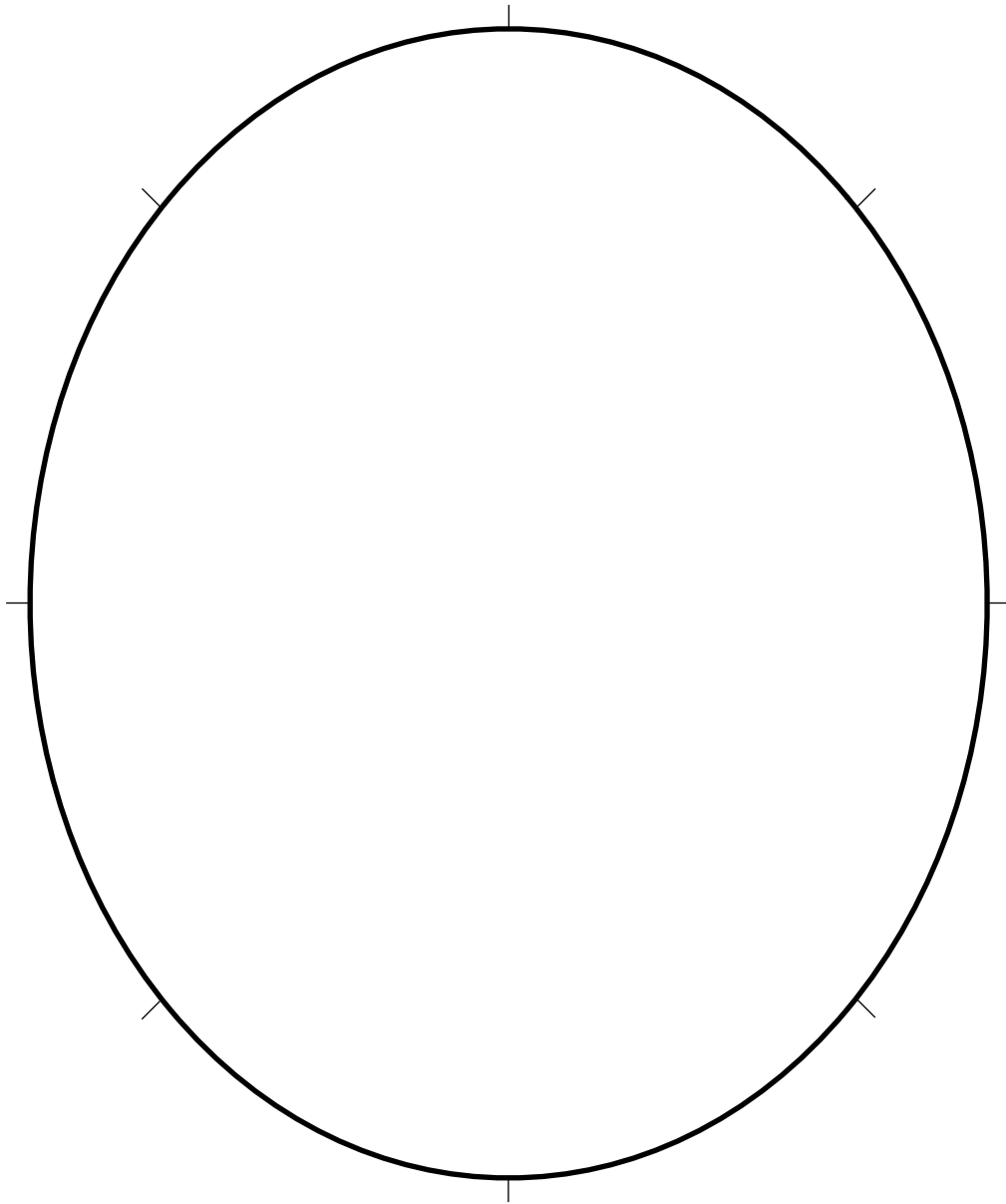
Circular Field

Badges are often displayed on a circle, called a roundel.



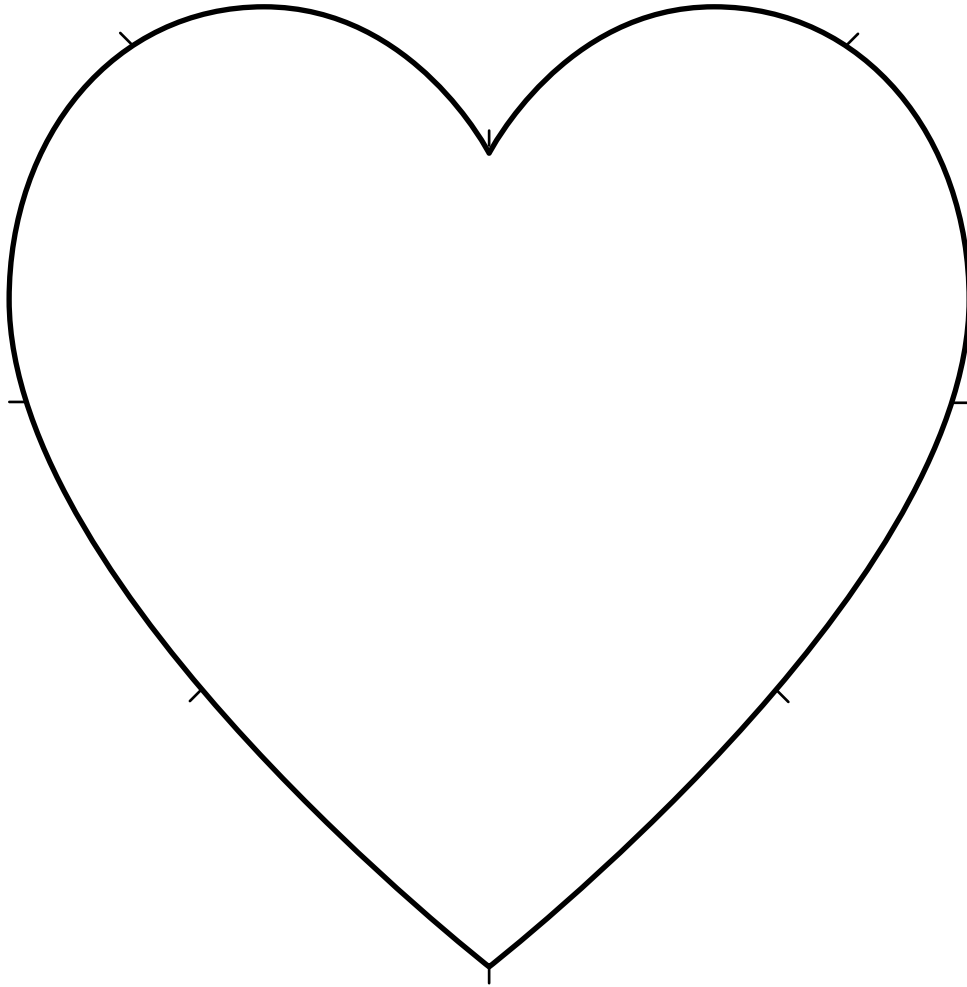
Oval Field

Devices may be displayed an oval shape known as a cartouche.



Heart Field (1)

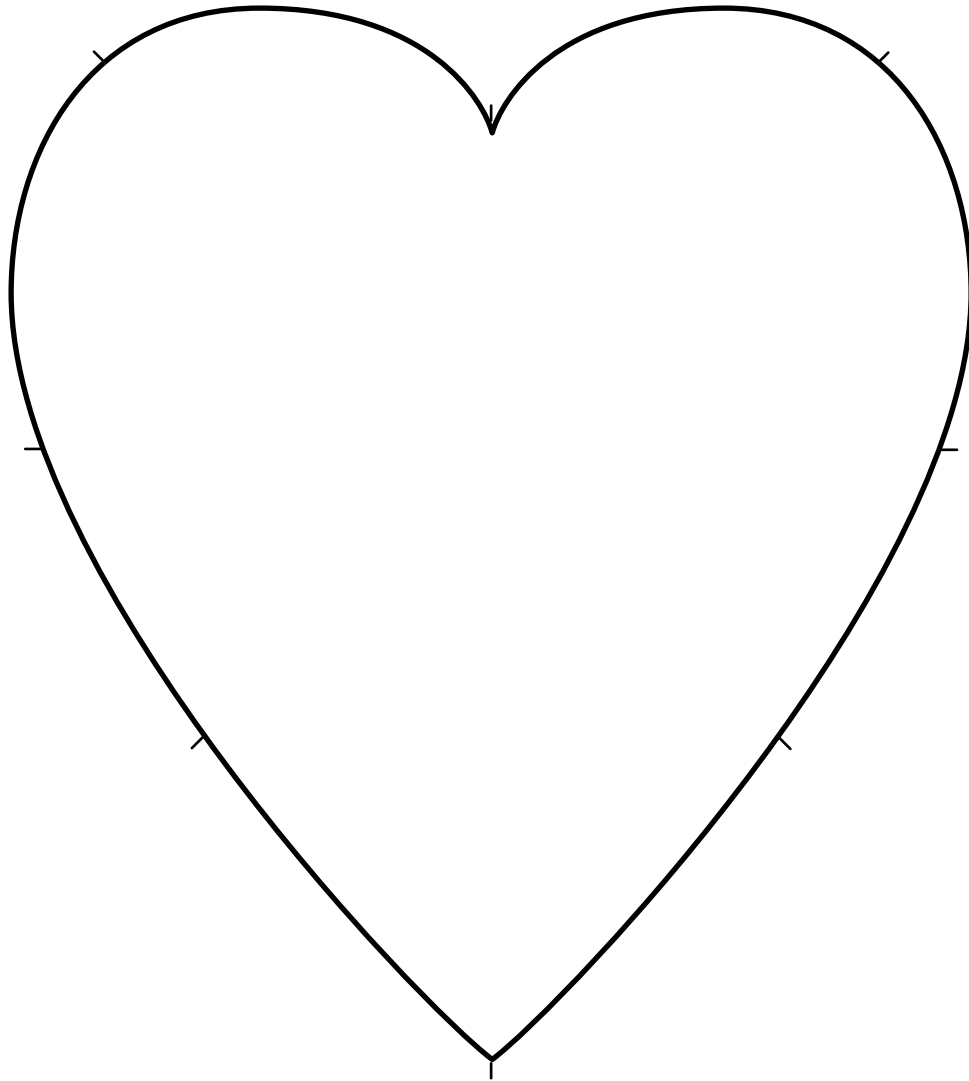
Heart shapes were occasionally used to display armory.



Heart Field (2)

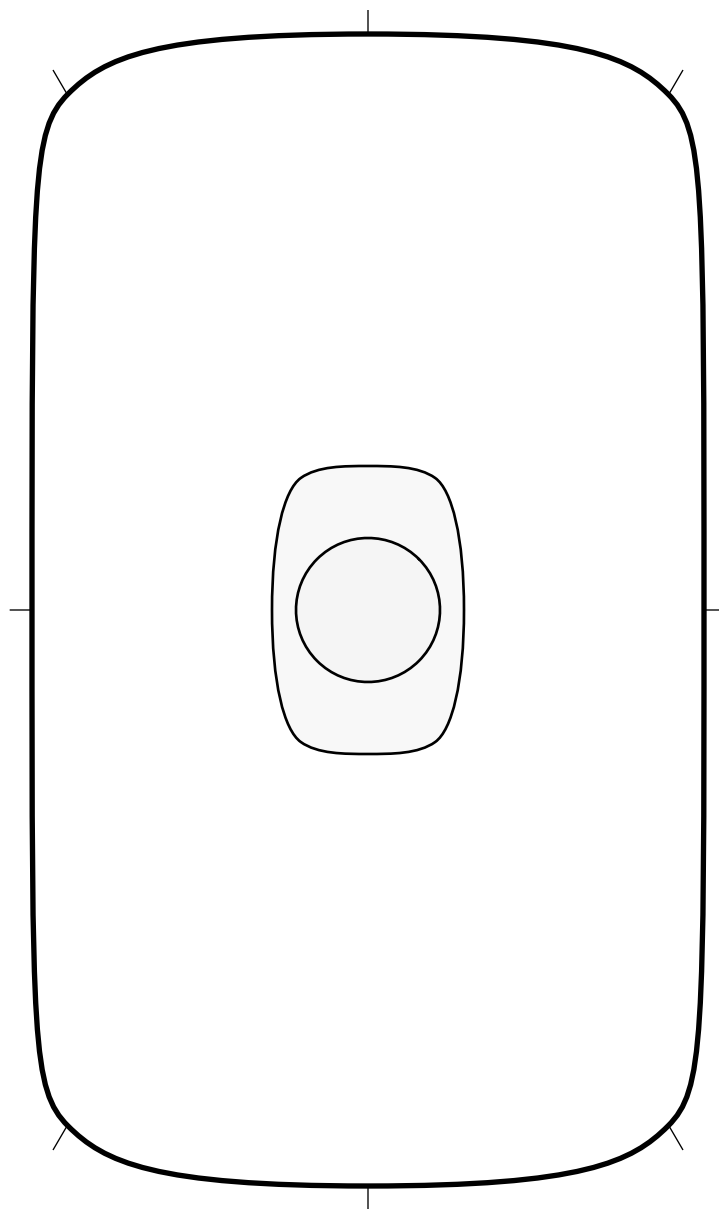
Heart shapes were occasionally used to display armory.

Source: Armorial de Flandre et du Hainaut. Artist: Jacques Le Boucq.



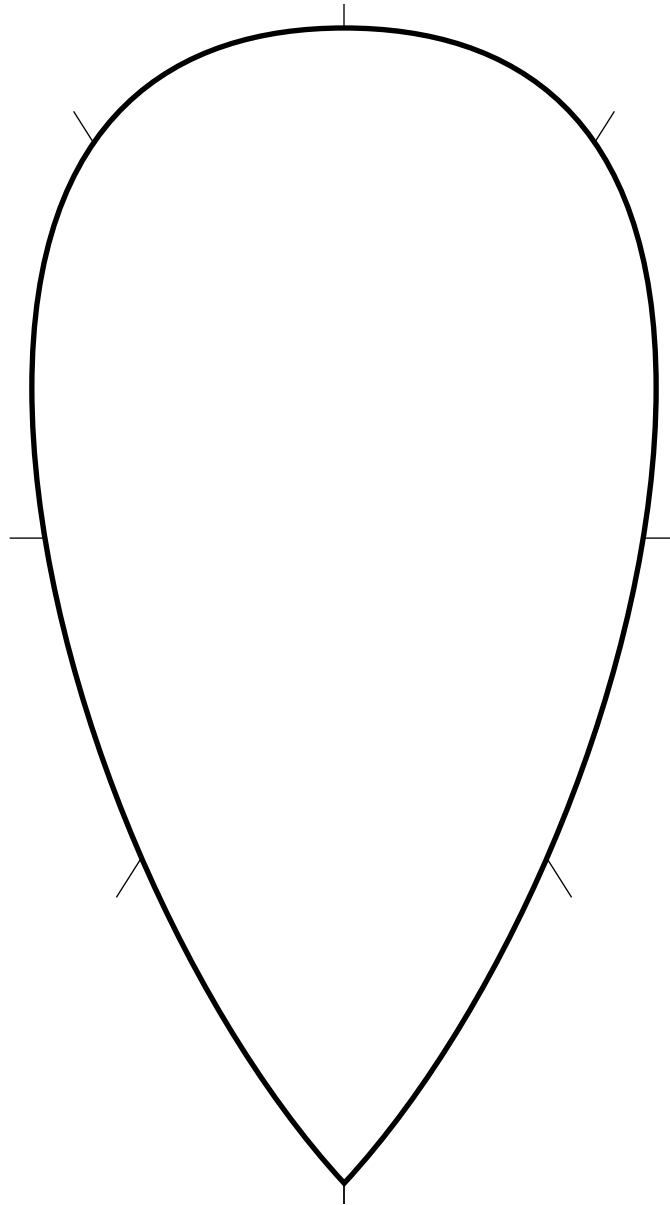
Roman Scutum

Roman legionaries carried large rectangular shields with a domed central boss.



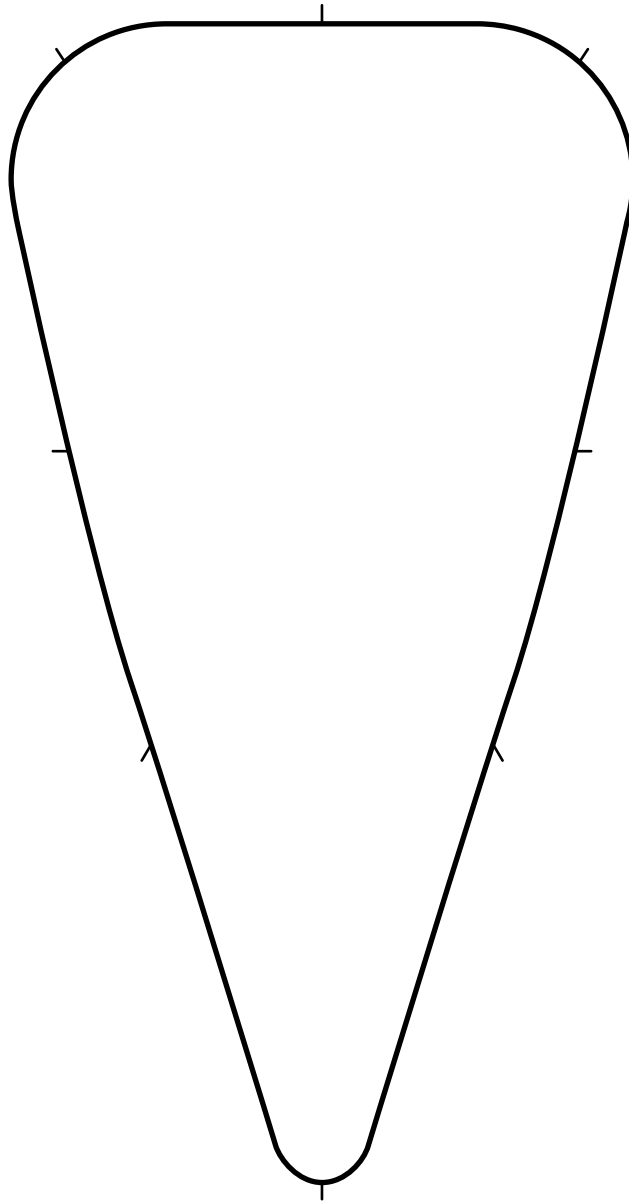
Kite Outline (1)

Tall shields with a round top and a long tapered point were typical in the 11th C..



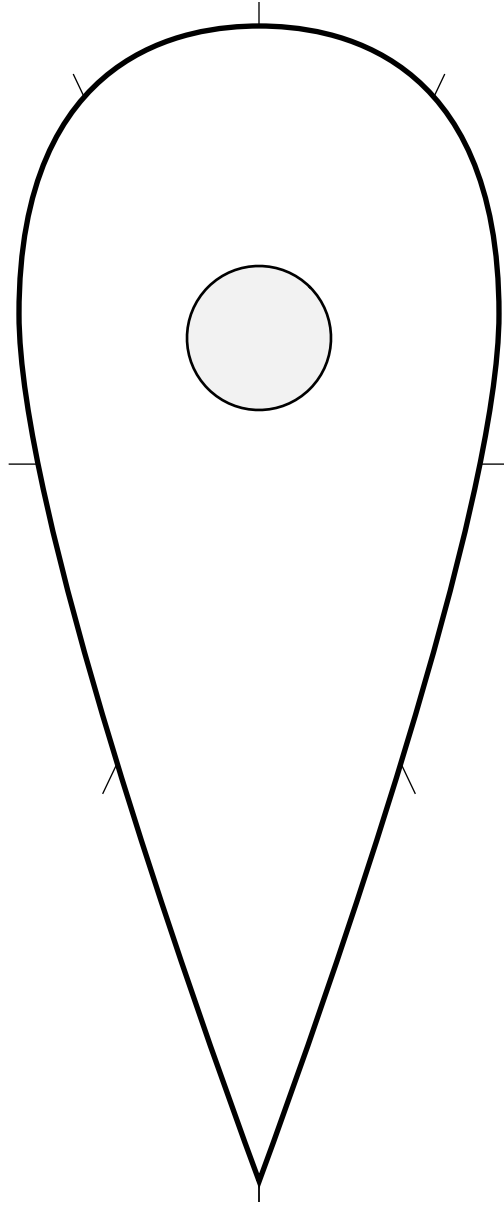
Kite Outline (2)

Source: Adapted from the seal of Mathilde, wife of Philippe d'Alsace, count of Flanders, circa 1189.



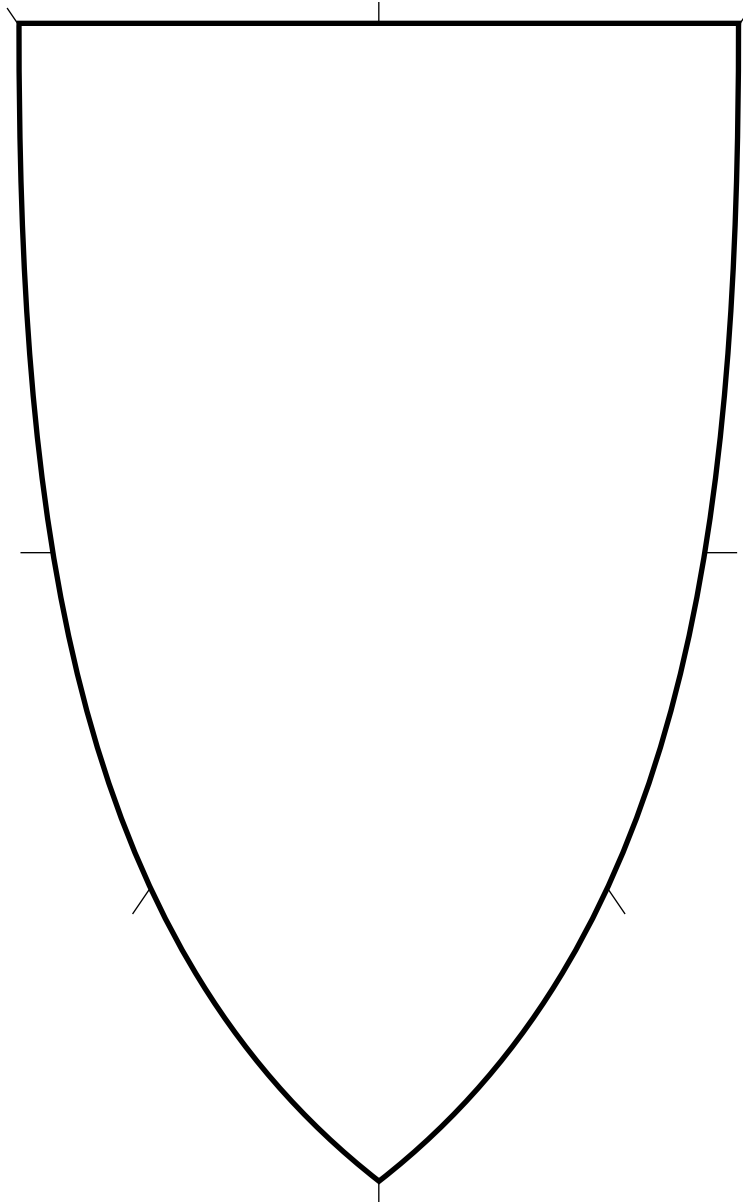
Kite Outline (3)

Source: Bible of Stephen Harding (Dijon BM MS.14, folio 191r, circa 1109).



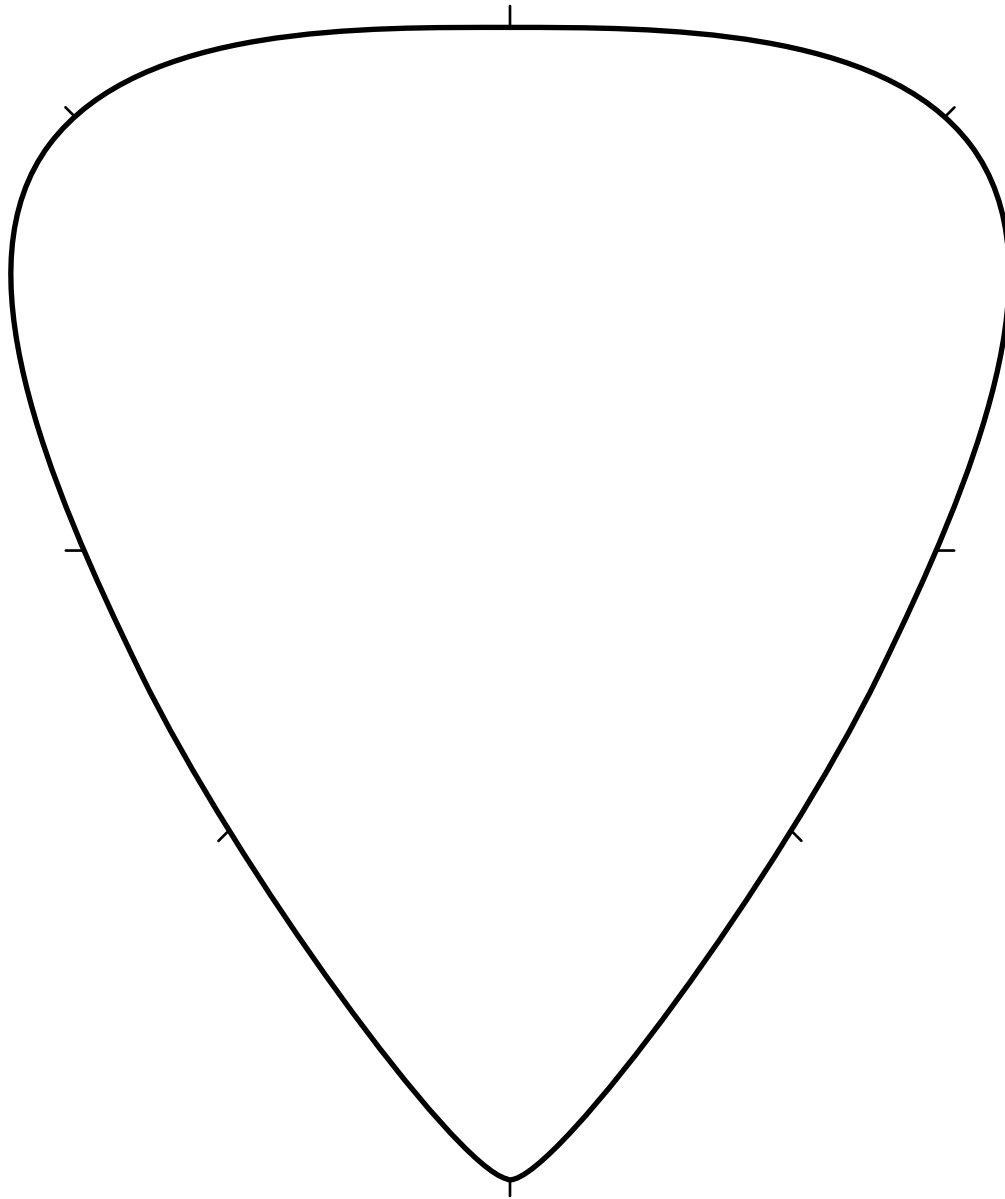
Truncated Kite

Later versions of the kite shield had their tops flattened, but retained the pronounced point.



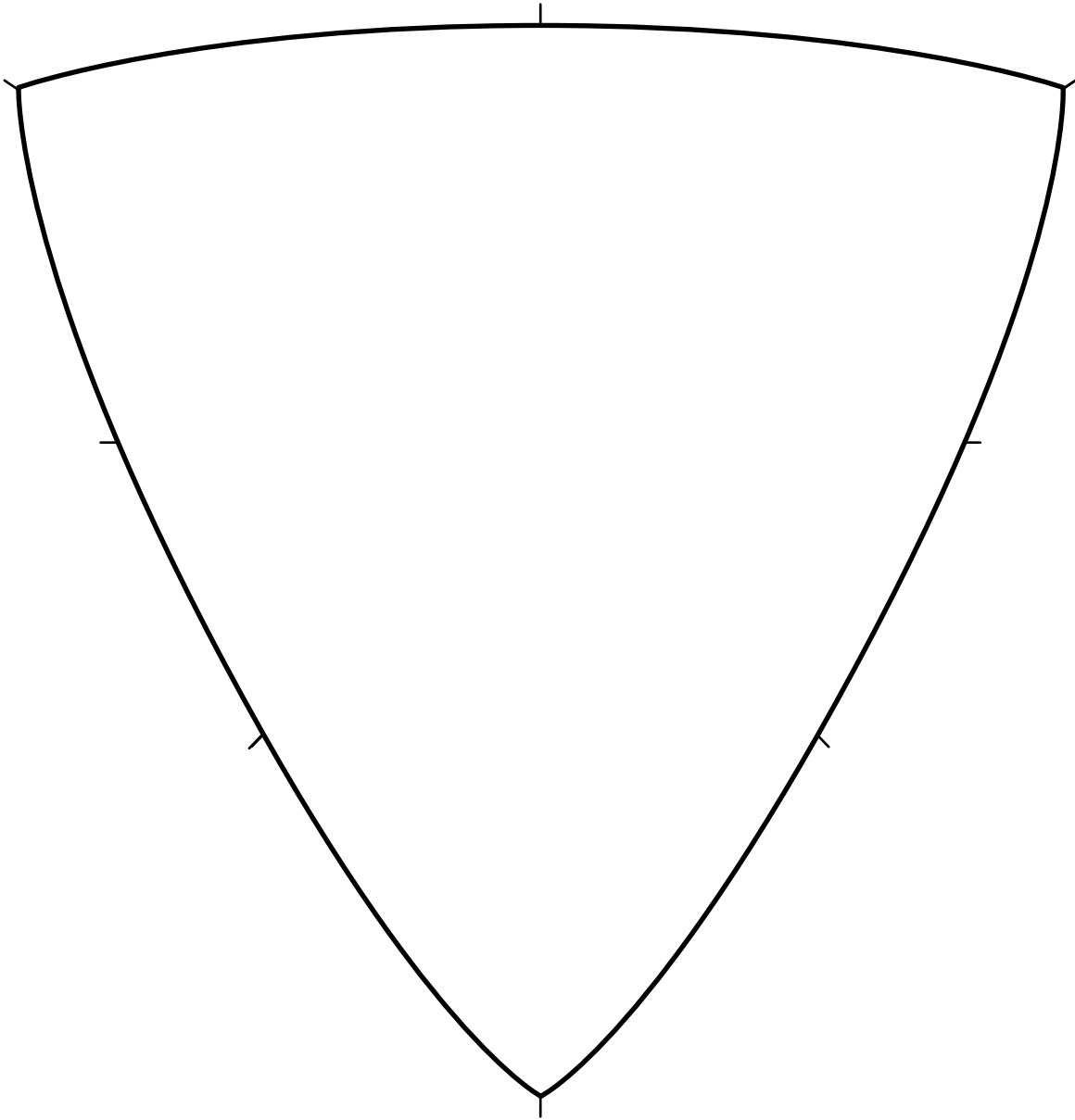
Triangular Shield (1)

Source: Adapted from the seal of Robert de Chartres, circa 1193.



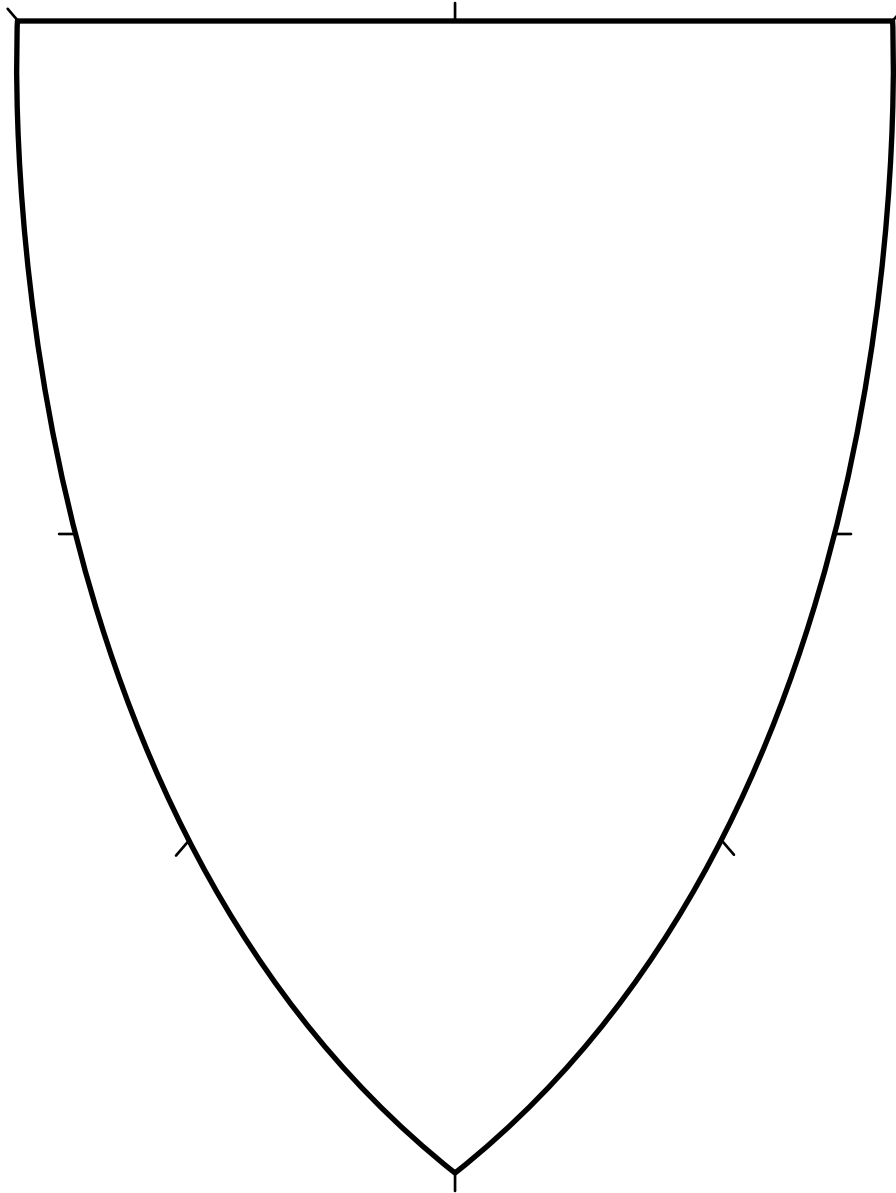
Triangular Shield (2)

Source: Adapted from the seal of Gautier de Chatéron, circa 1210.



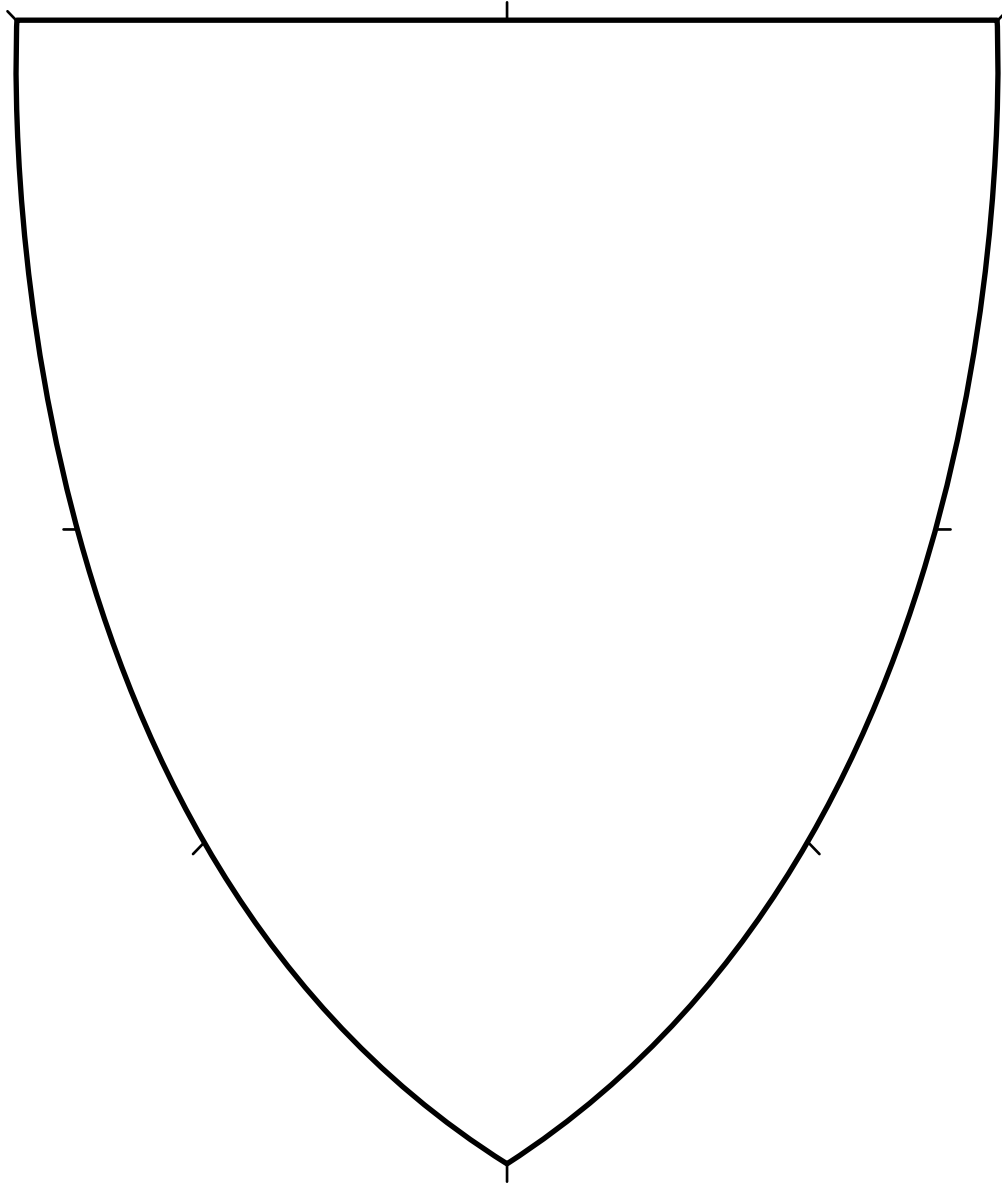
Heater Shield (1)

Adapted from the seal of Gilles d'Aunay, circa 1245.



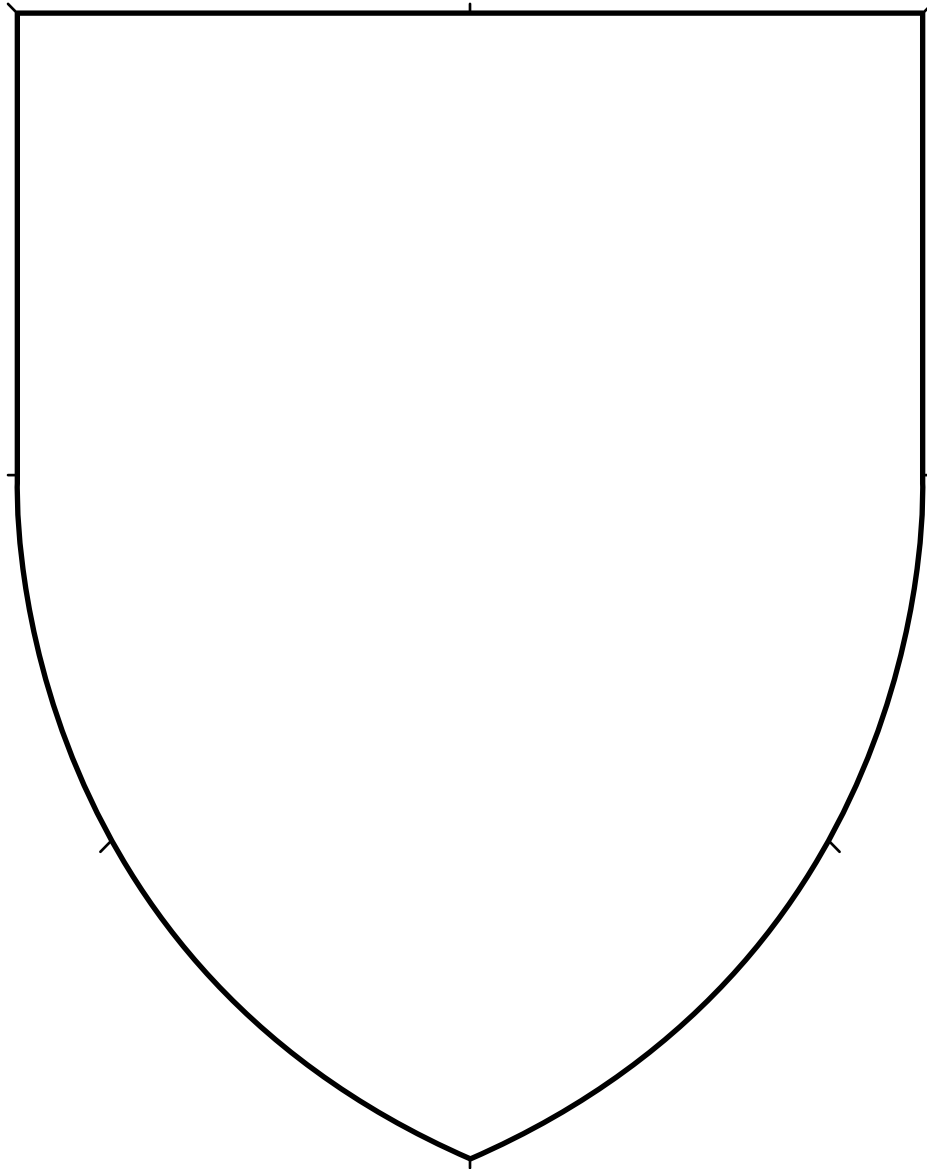
Heater Shield (2)

Adapted from the seal of Philippe III of France, circa 1285.



Heater Shield (3)

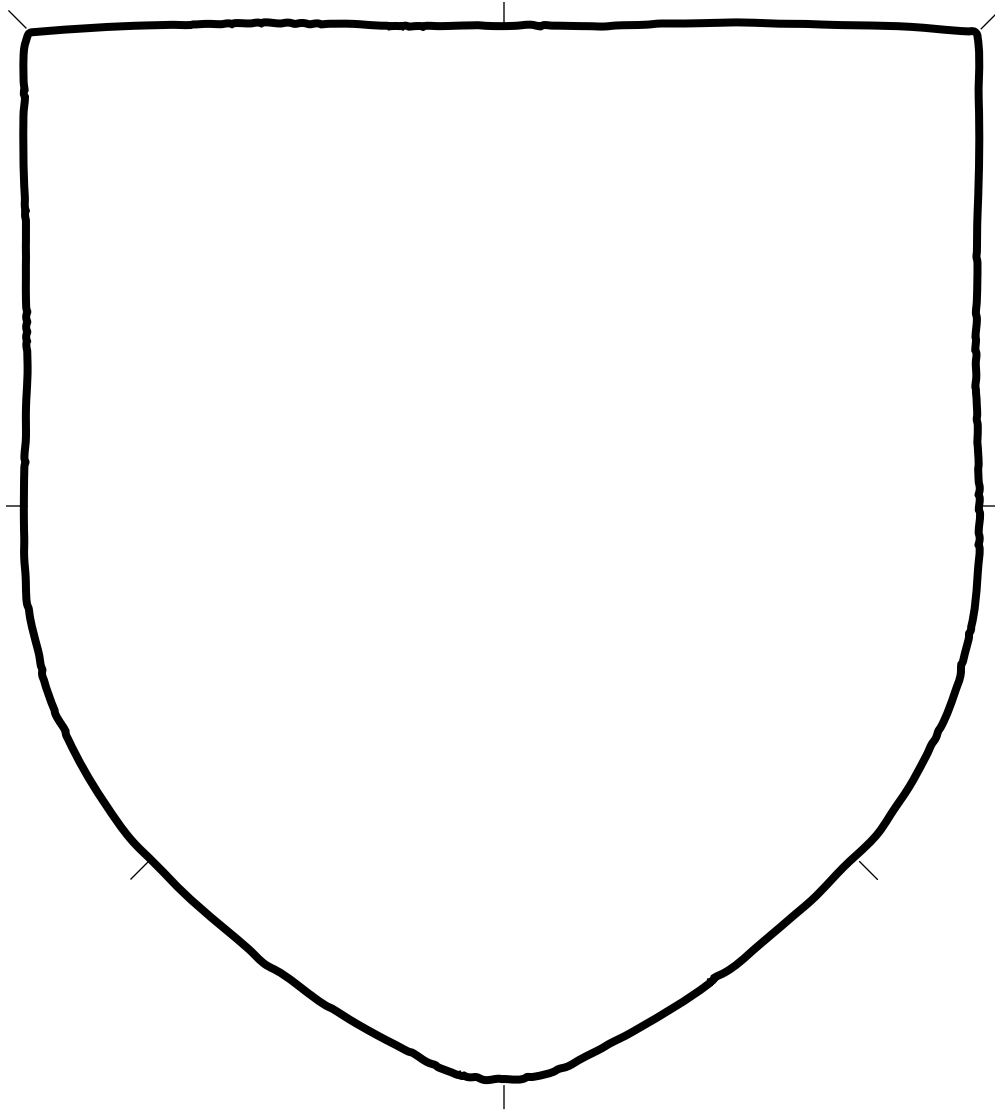
Adapted from the seal of Louis II d'Anjou, circa 1403.



Heater Shield (4)

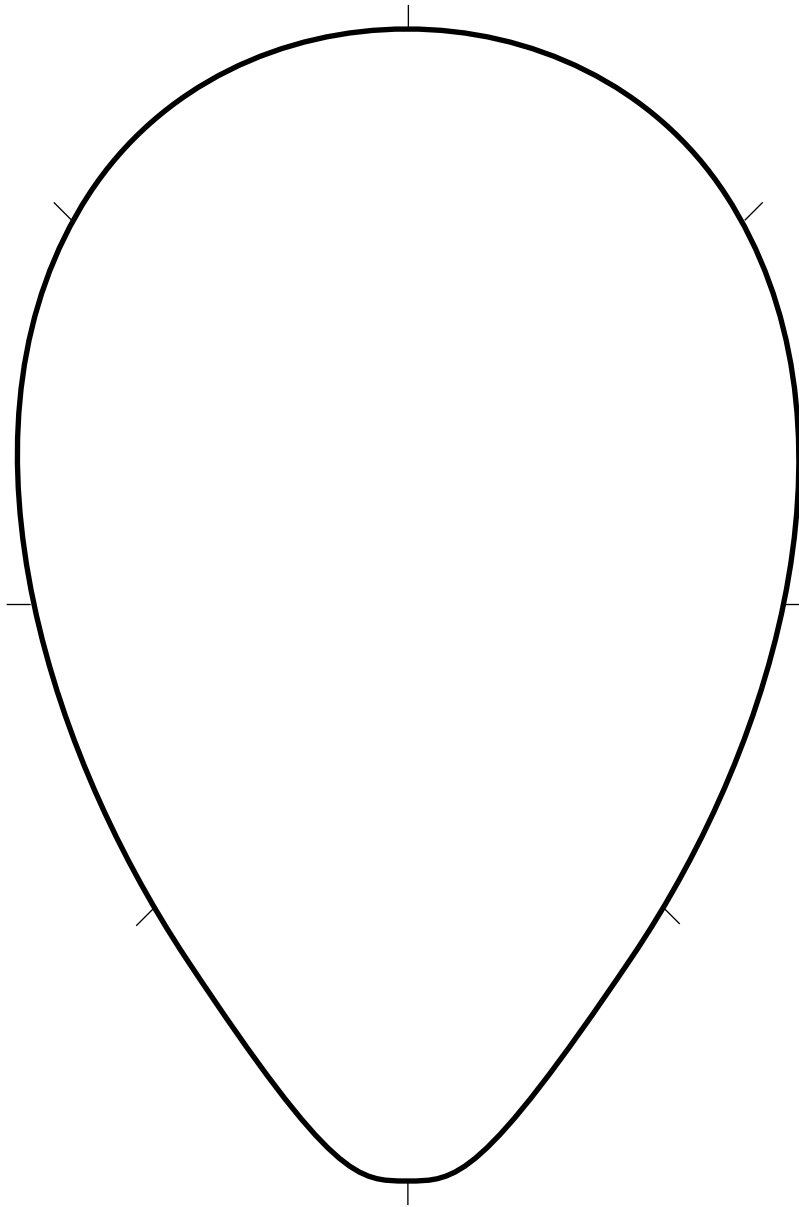
🐉 O.19

Source: Manchester University Library Latin MS 28. Artist unknown.



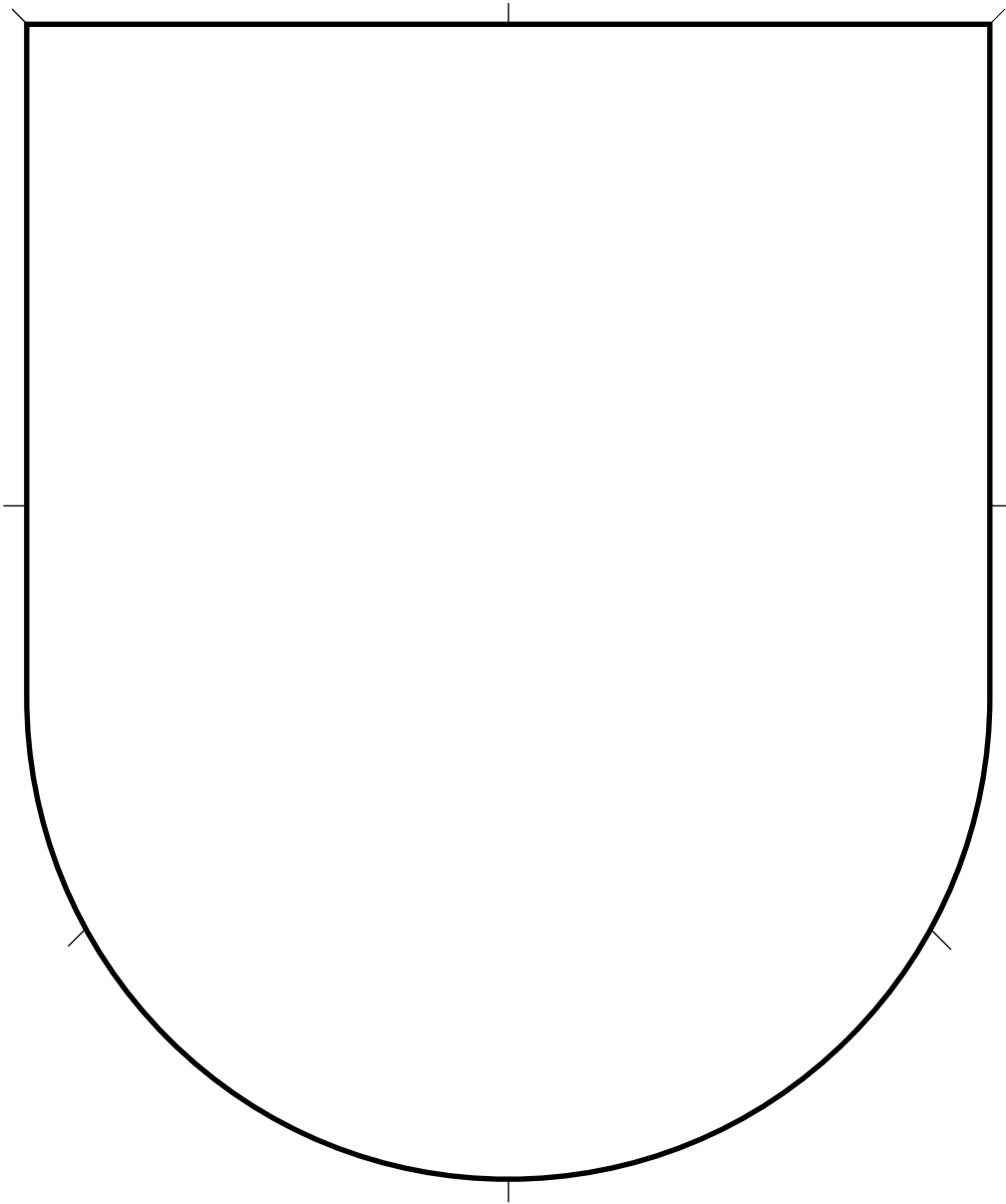
Almond Shield

The almond shape is a pinched oval characteristic of early Italian armorials.



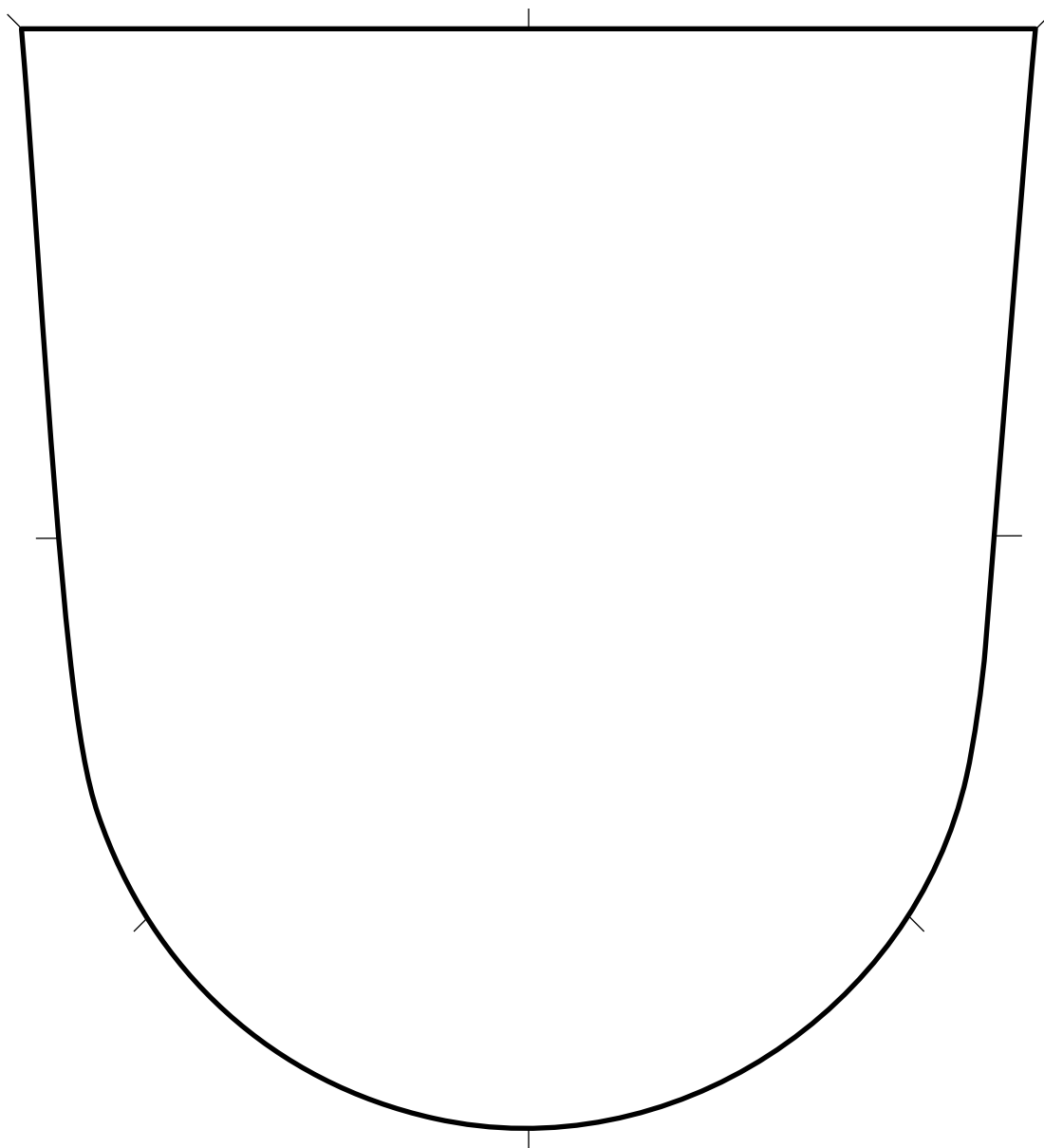
Iberian U-Shaped Shield

In Spain and Portugal, arms were usually displayed on an escutcheon with a round base.



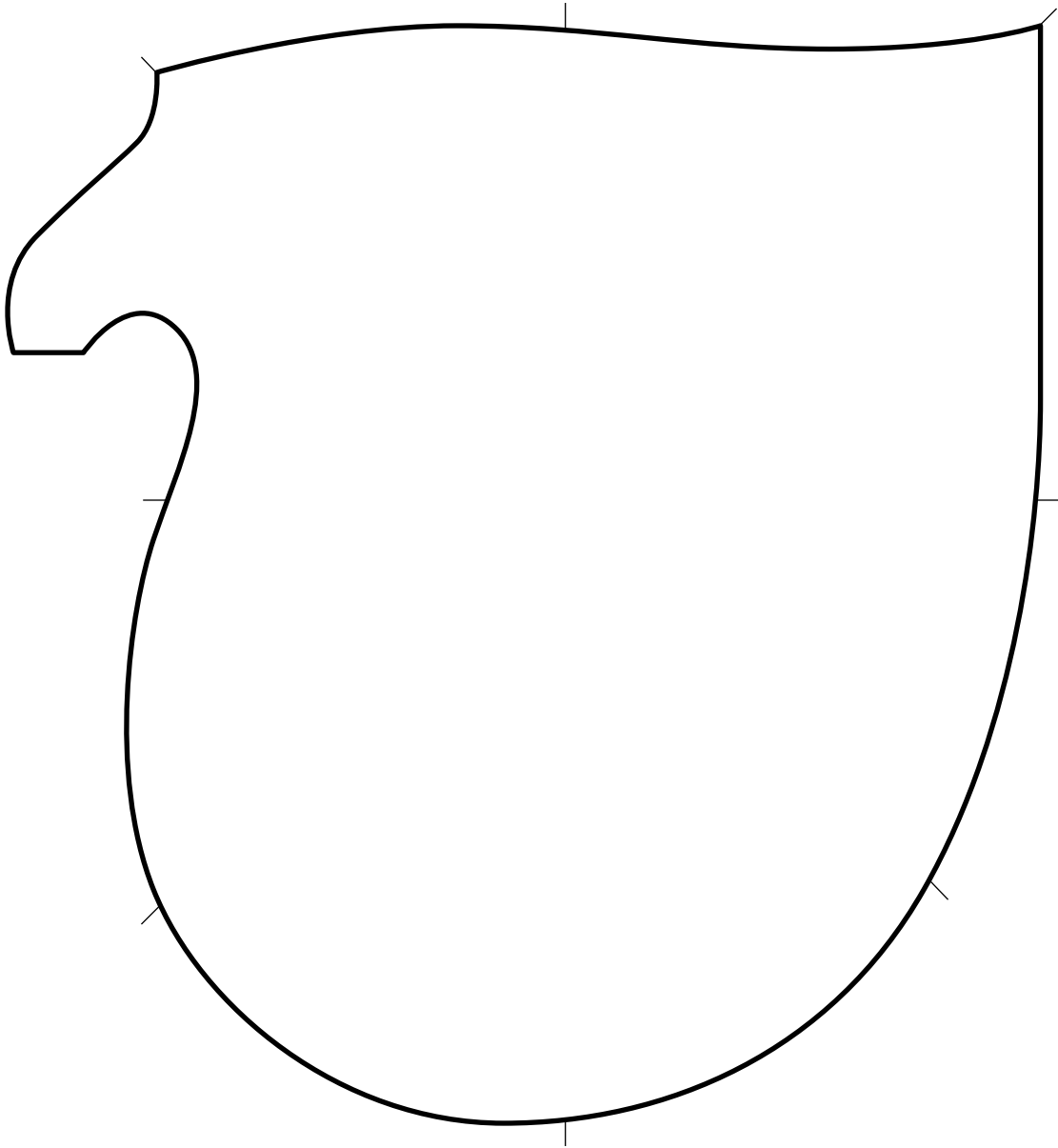
German U-Shaped Shield

In German areas, the round base was sometimes combined with sloping sides.



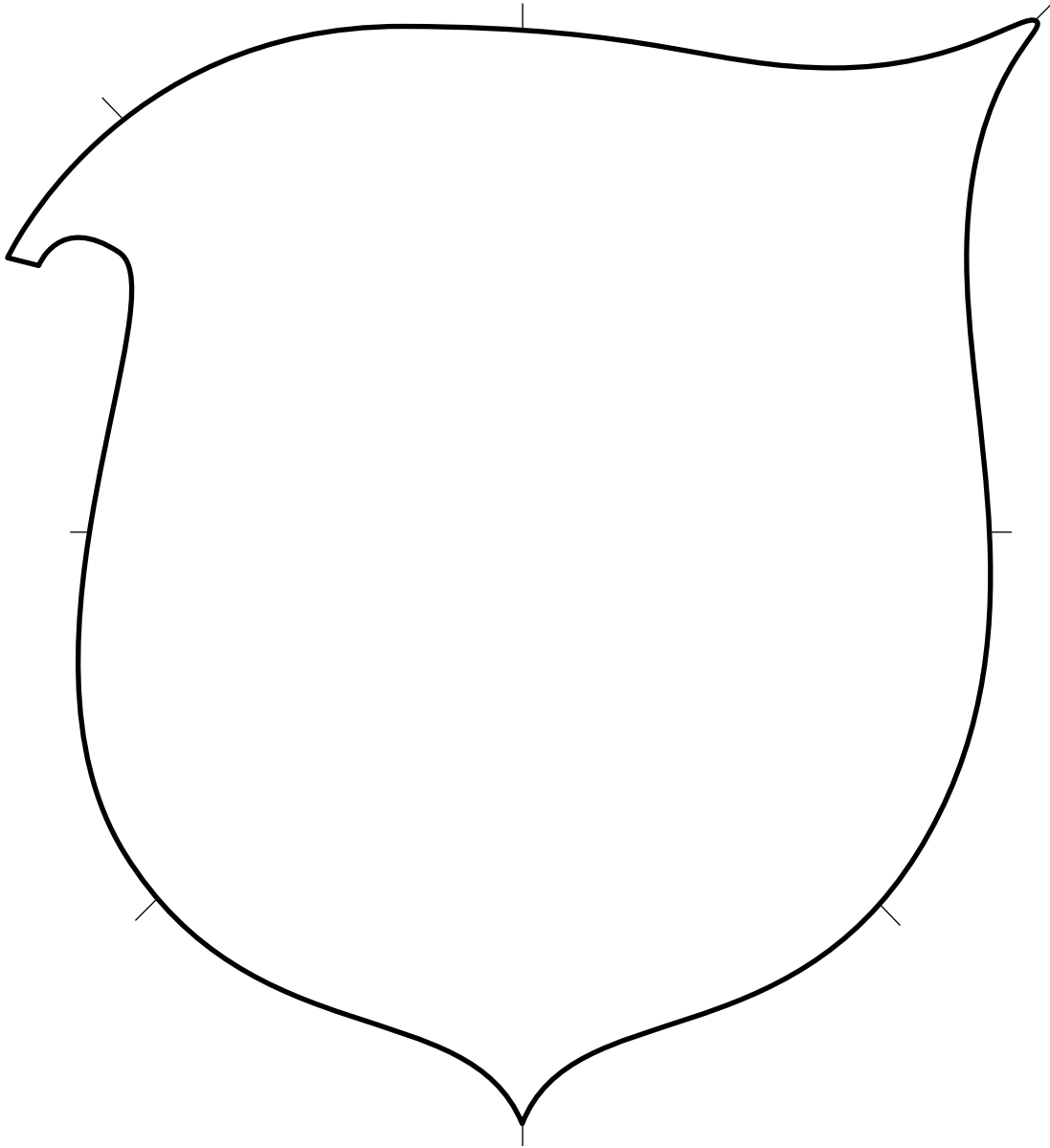
Tilting Shield

Fifteenth-century arms might be shown on a shape suggestive of a tournament tilting shield.



Tilting Shield 2

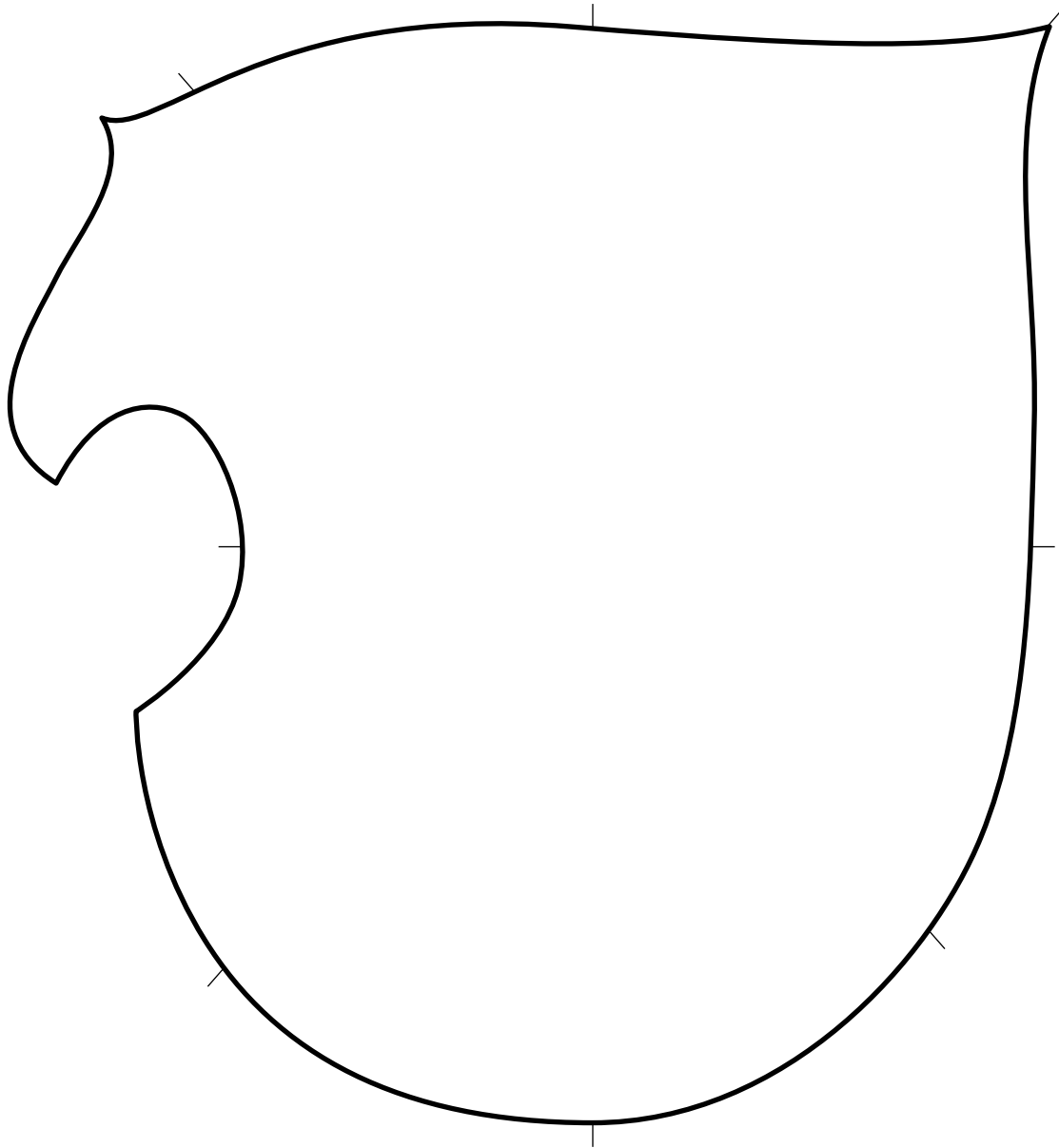
Fifteenth-century arms might be shown on a shape suggestive of a tournament tilting shield.



Tilting Shield 3

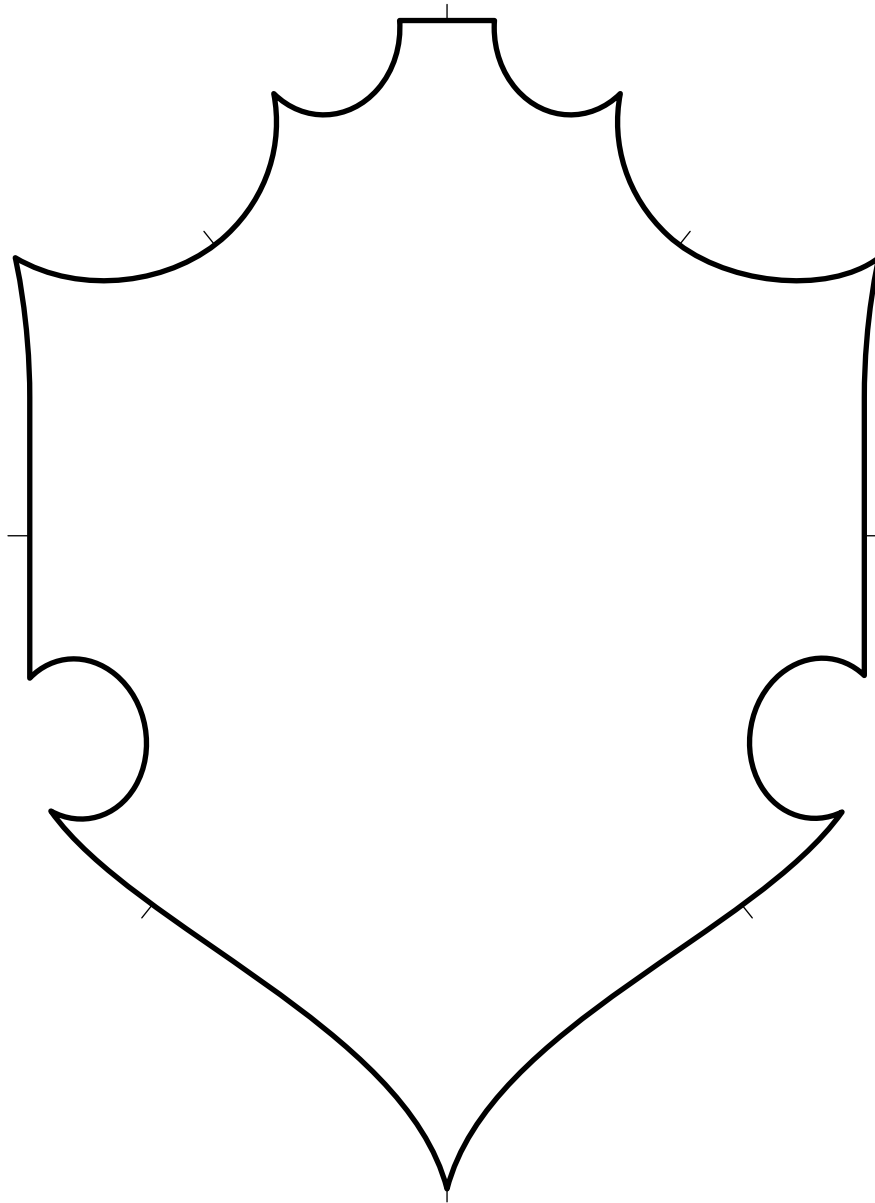
🦁 0.25

Fifteenth-century arms might be shown on a shape suggestive of a tournament tilting shield.

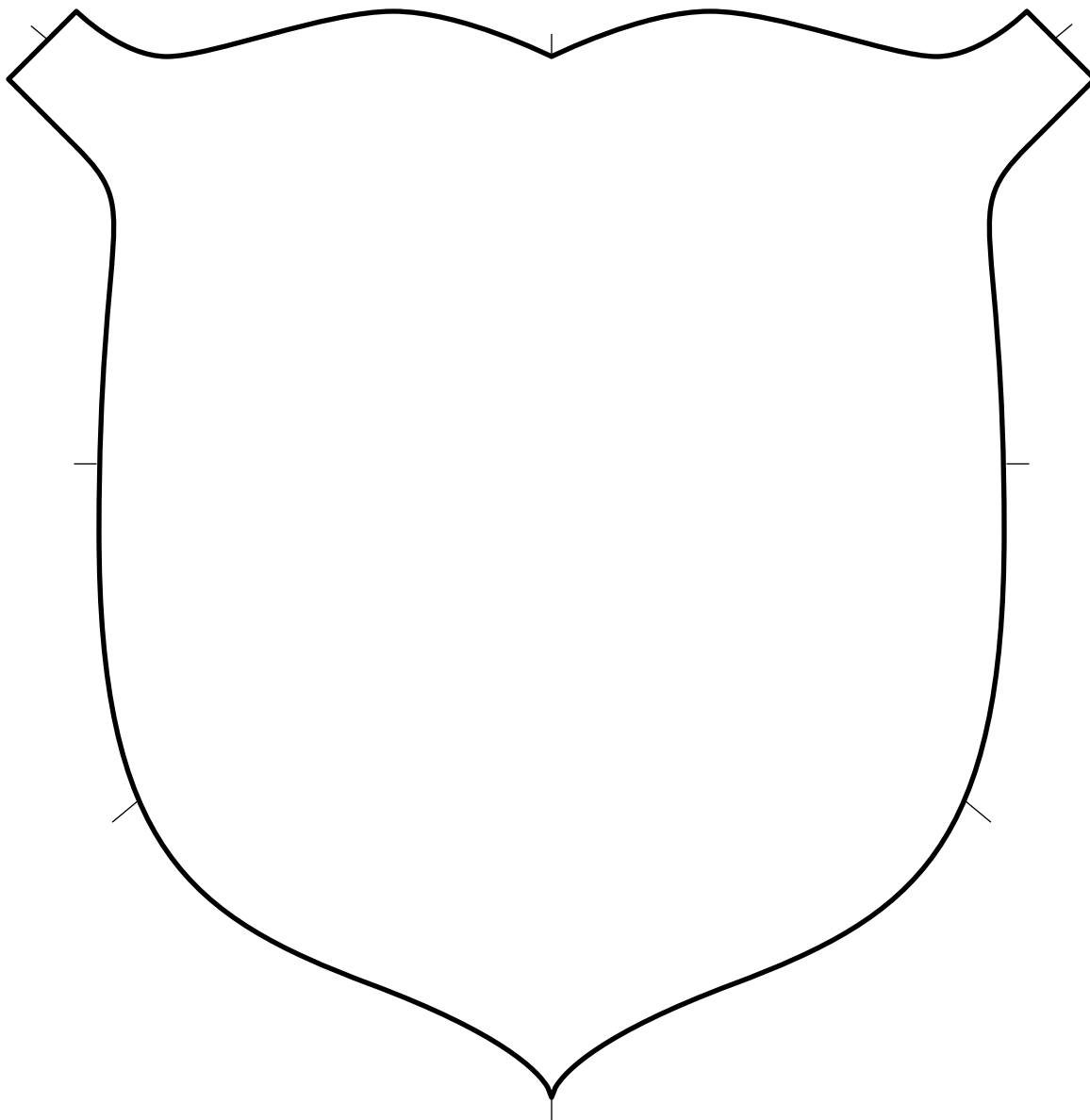


Italian Tilting Shield

This shield shape is found in Venete con le Loro Armi from the early sixteenth century. .

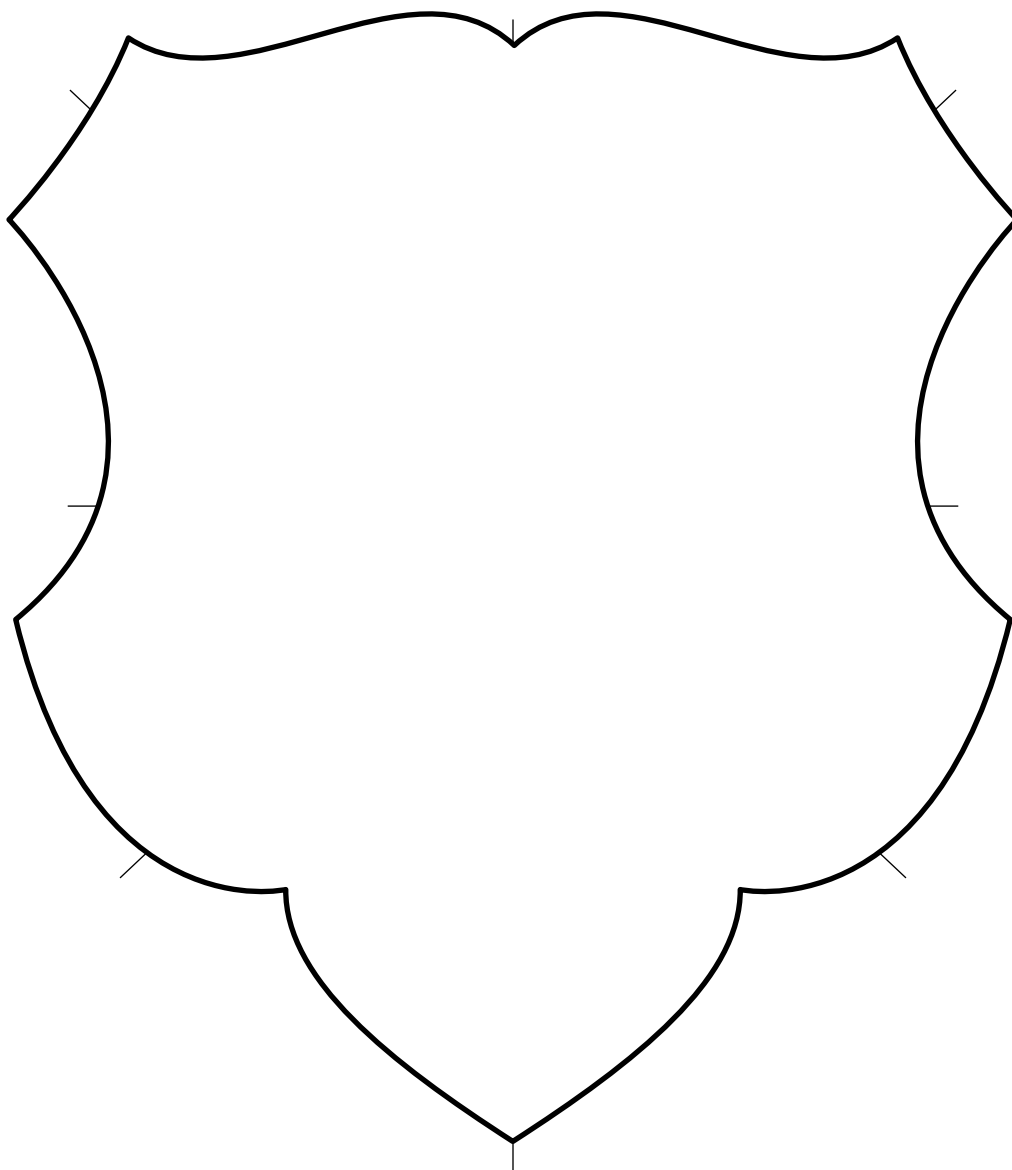


As time passed, the shapes used for escutcheons became progressively more ornate.



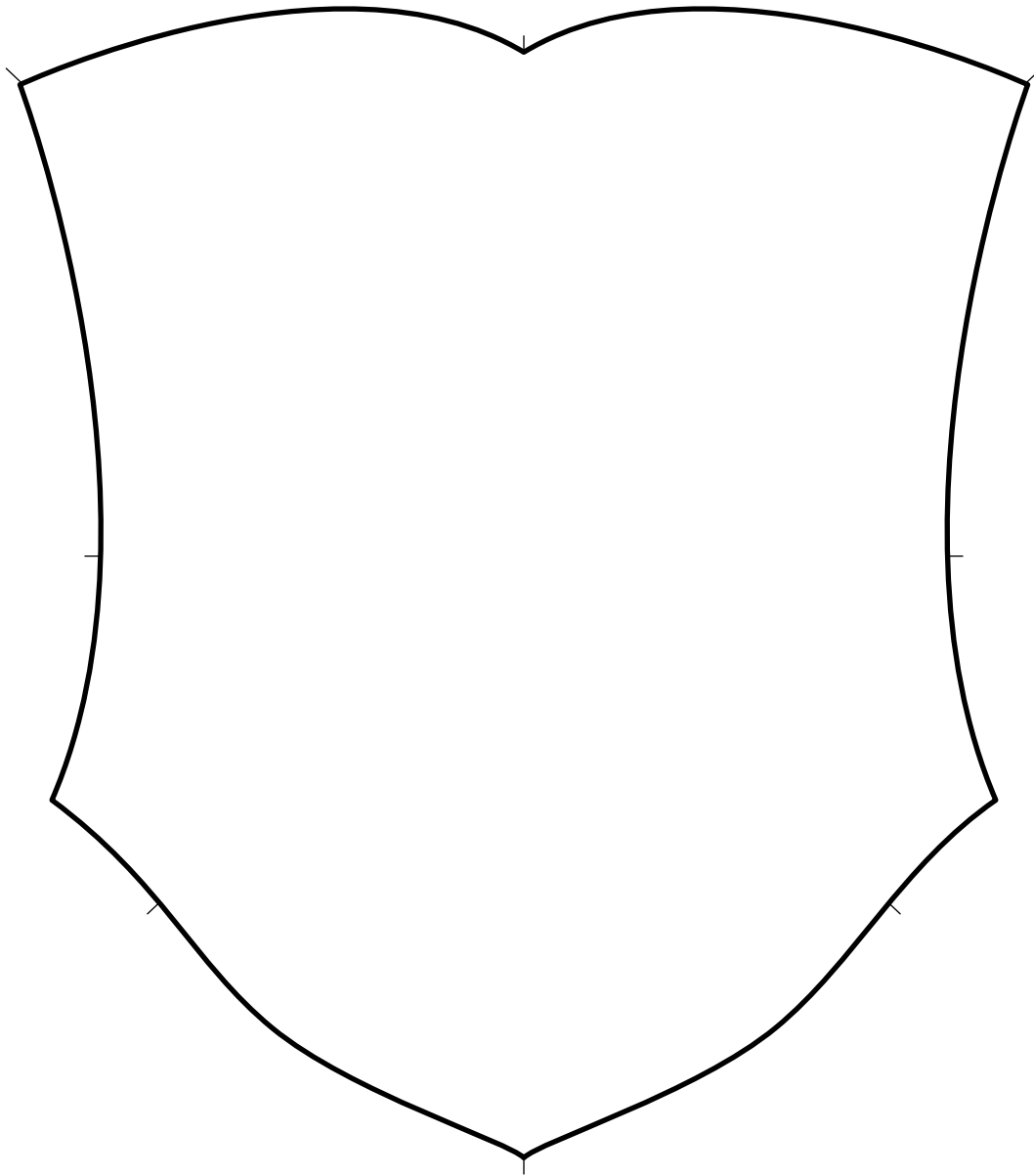
Foliate Renaissance Shield

As time passed, the shapes used for escutcheons became progressively more ornate.



Polish Renaissance Shield

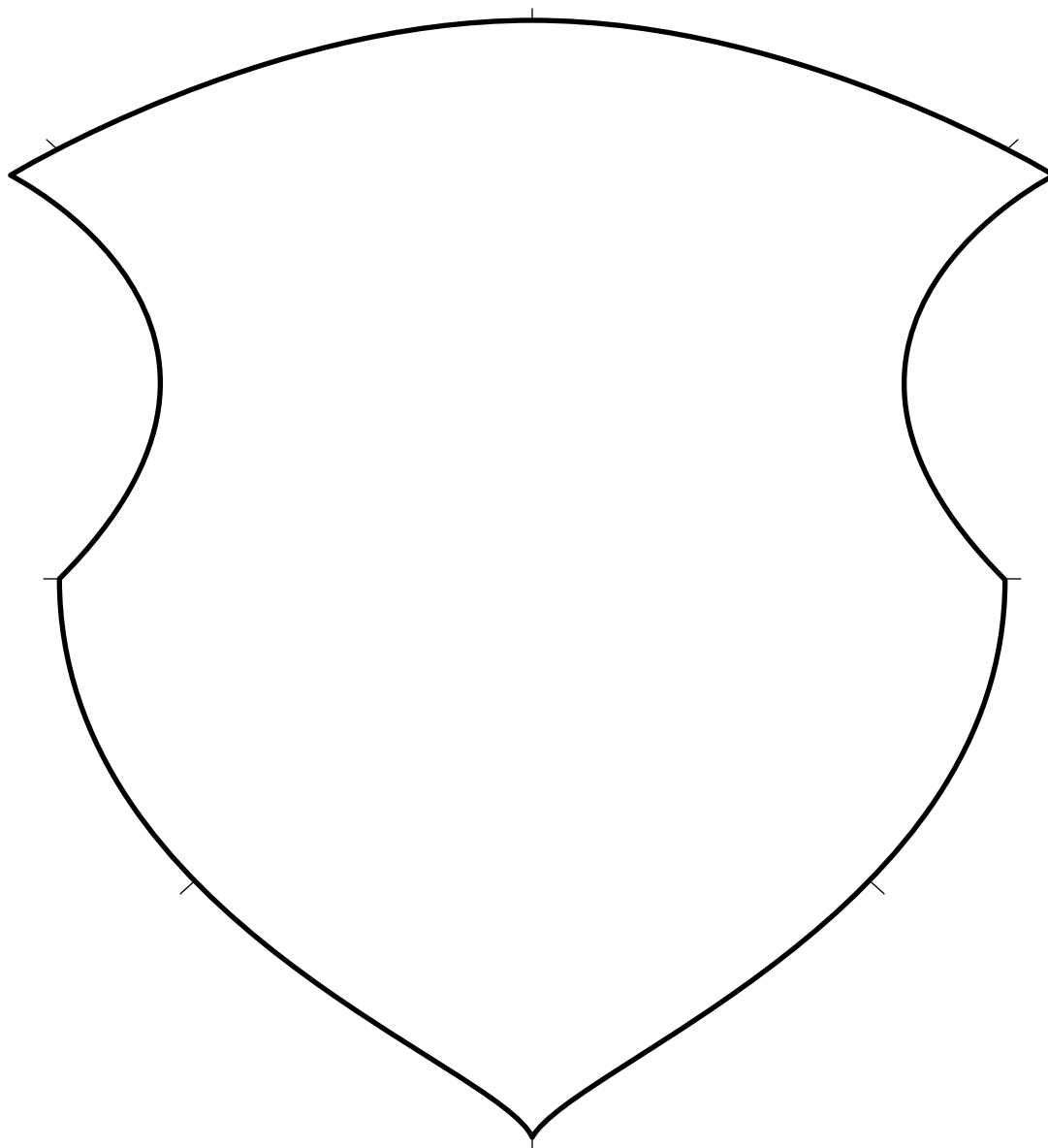
As time passed, the shapes used for escutcheons became progressively more ornate.



German Renaissance Shield

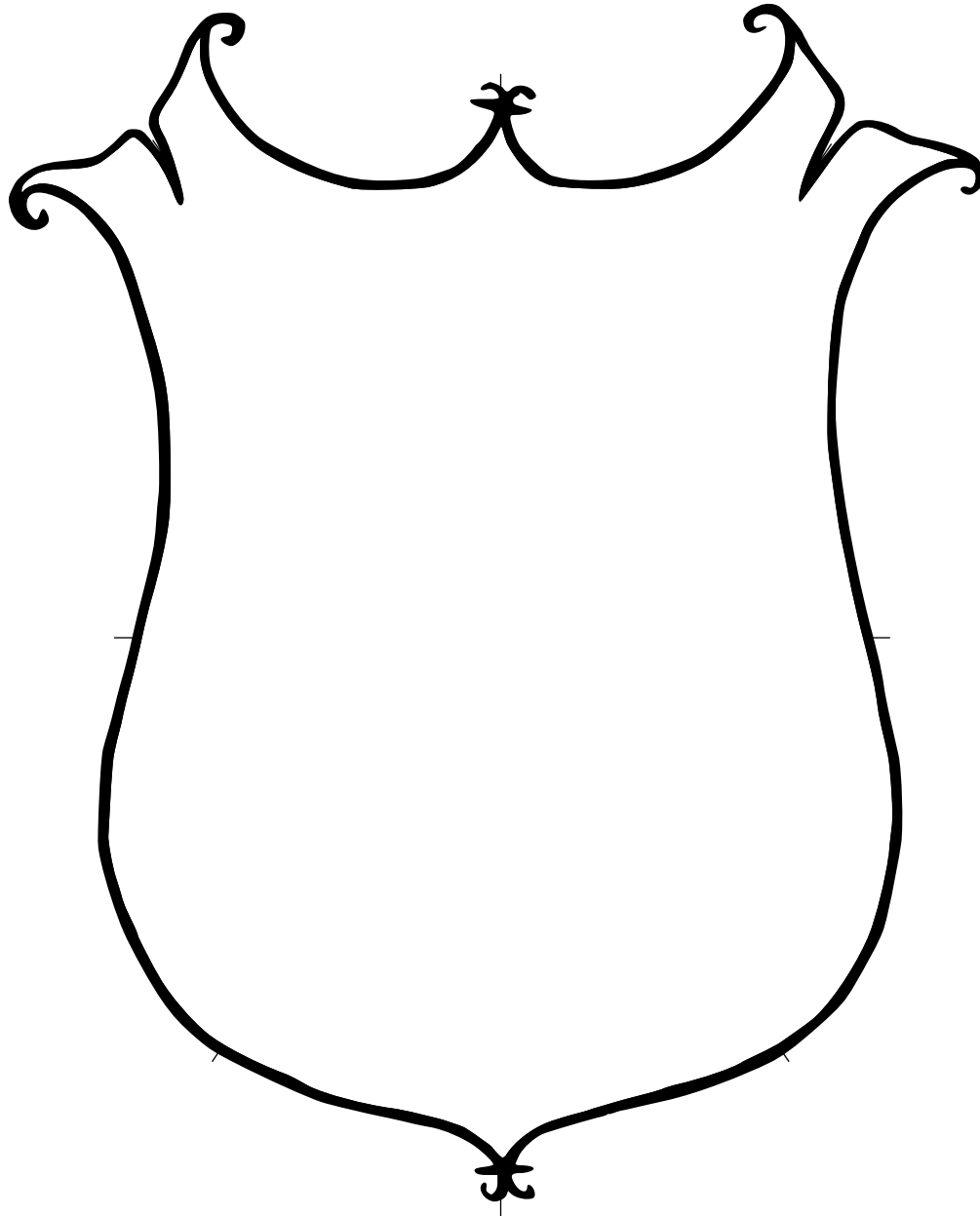
🐉 O.30

Source: Das Tücherbuch, 1555-1600 German (Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Ross.546)



Spanish Renaissance (1)

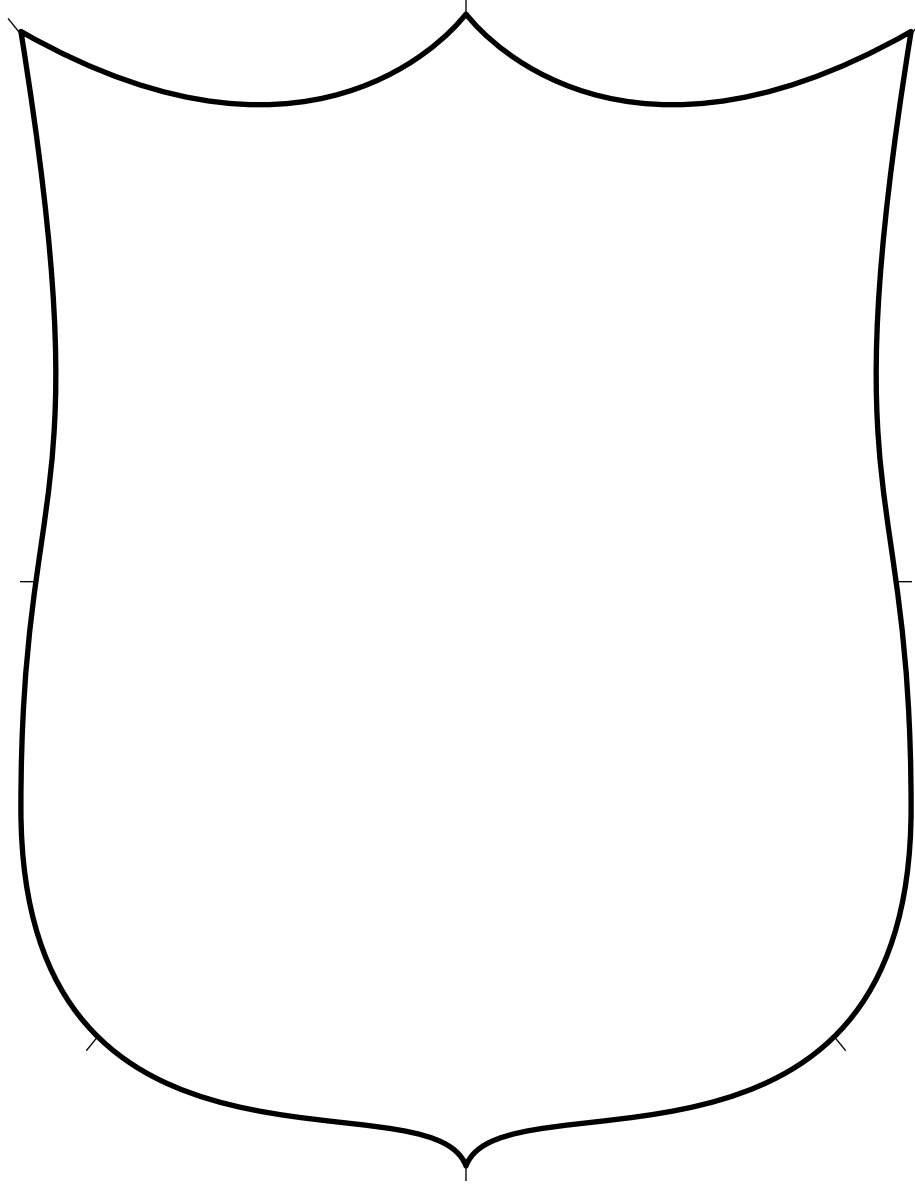
This shield shape is found in "Armas de los Condes" from the early sixteenth century.



Spanish Renaissance (2)

🦁 O.32

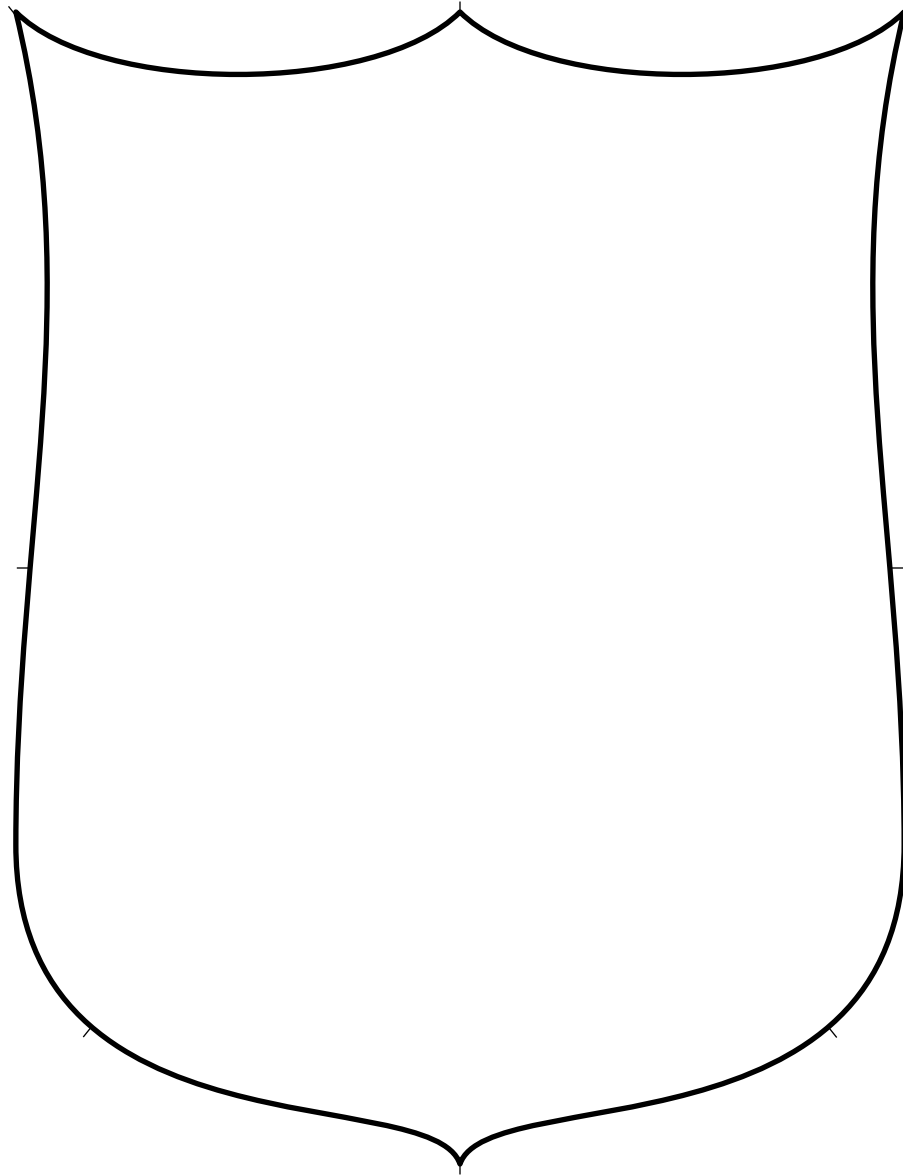
Source: Nobiliario de Armas de Valencia, Aragón y Cataluña. Artist unknown.



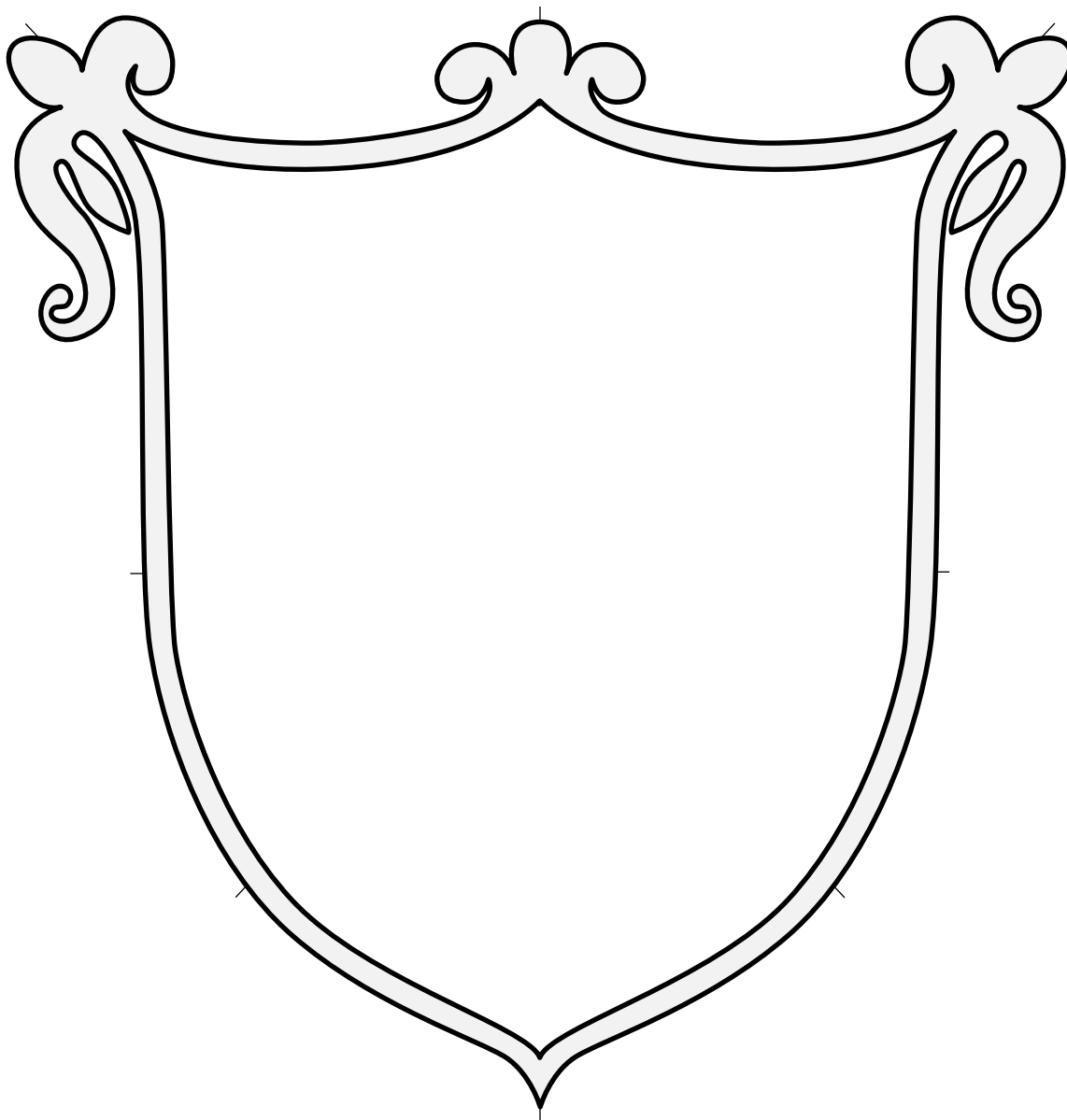
Spanish Renaissance (3)

🦁 O.33

Source: Nobiliario de Armas de Valencia, Aragón y Cataluña. Artist unknown.

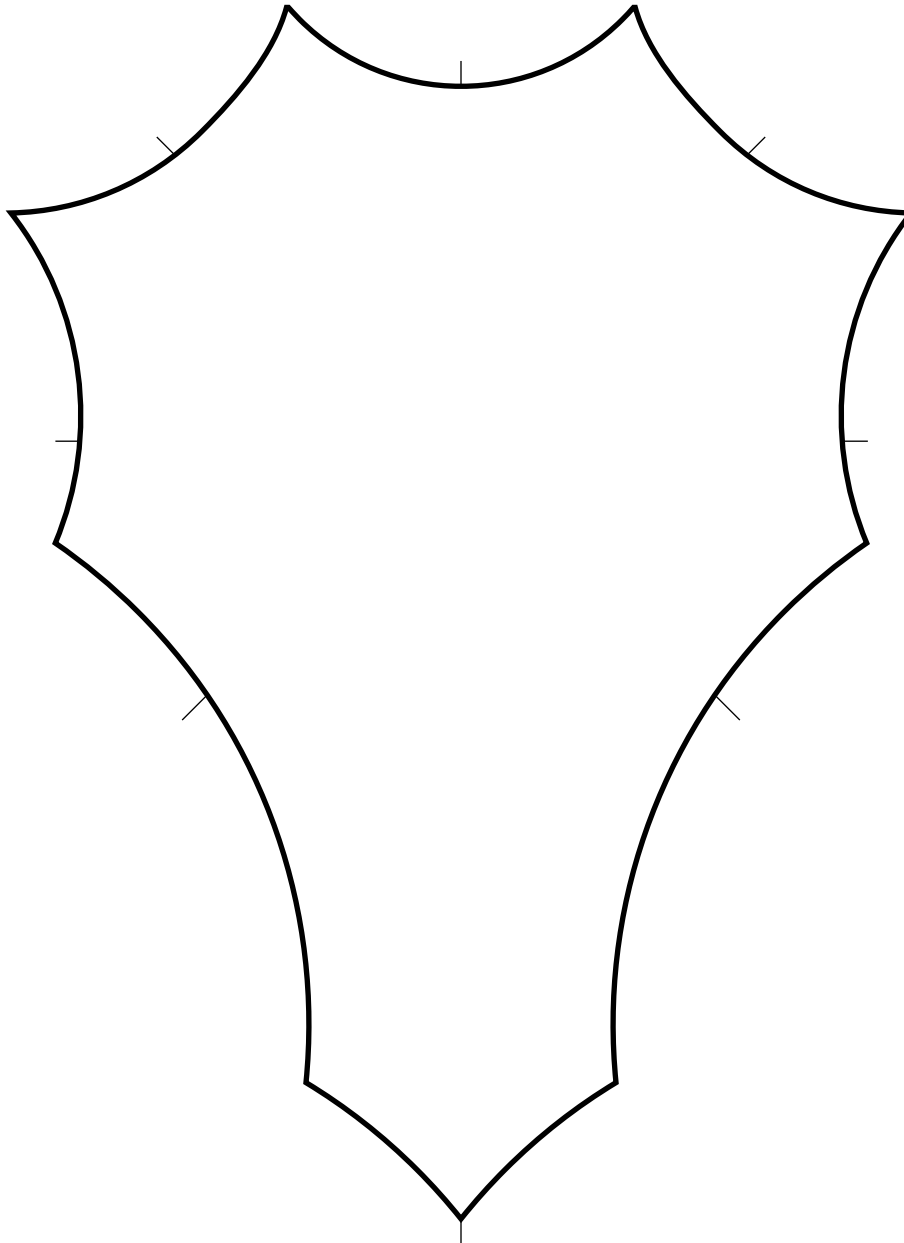


This shield shape is found in Stemma Veneziane from the mid-sixteenth century.

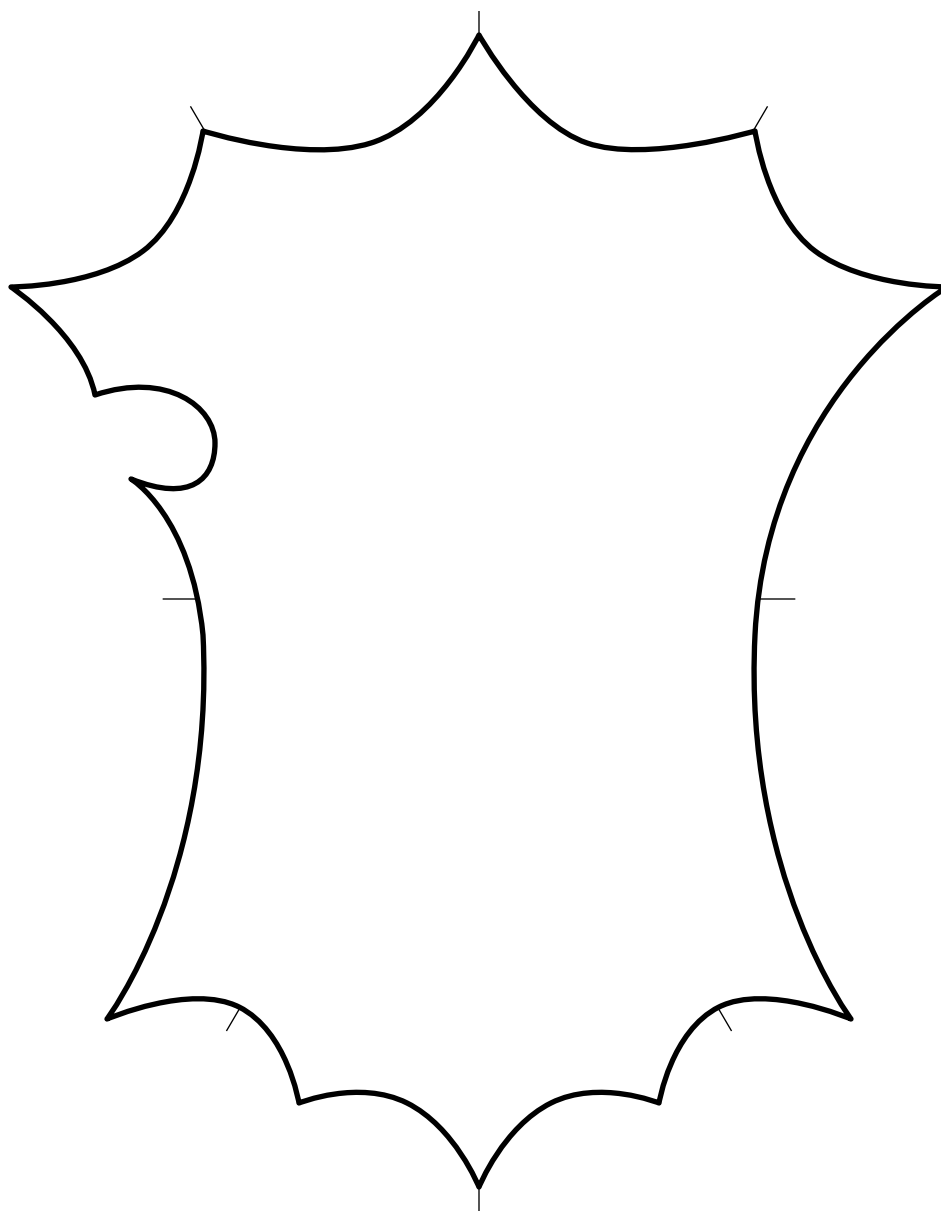


Horsehead Shield

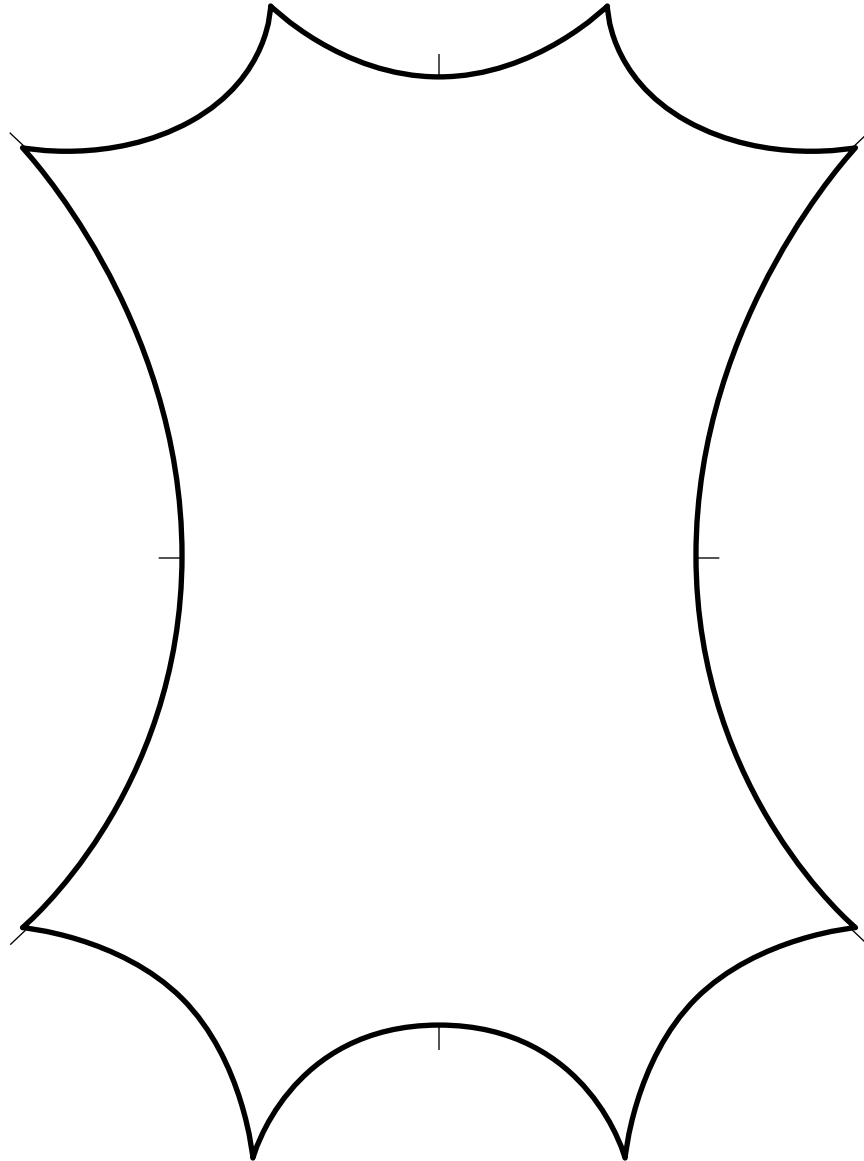
Italian Renaissance armorials sometimes used a testa di cavallo, or horse-head shield.



Germanic tournament shields often had fluted ridges and points around the edge.



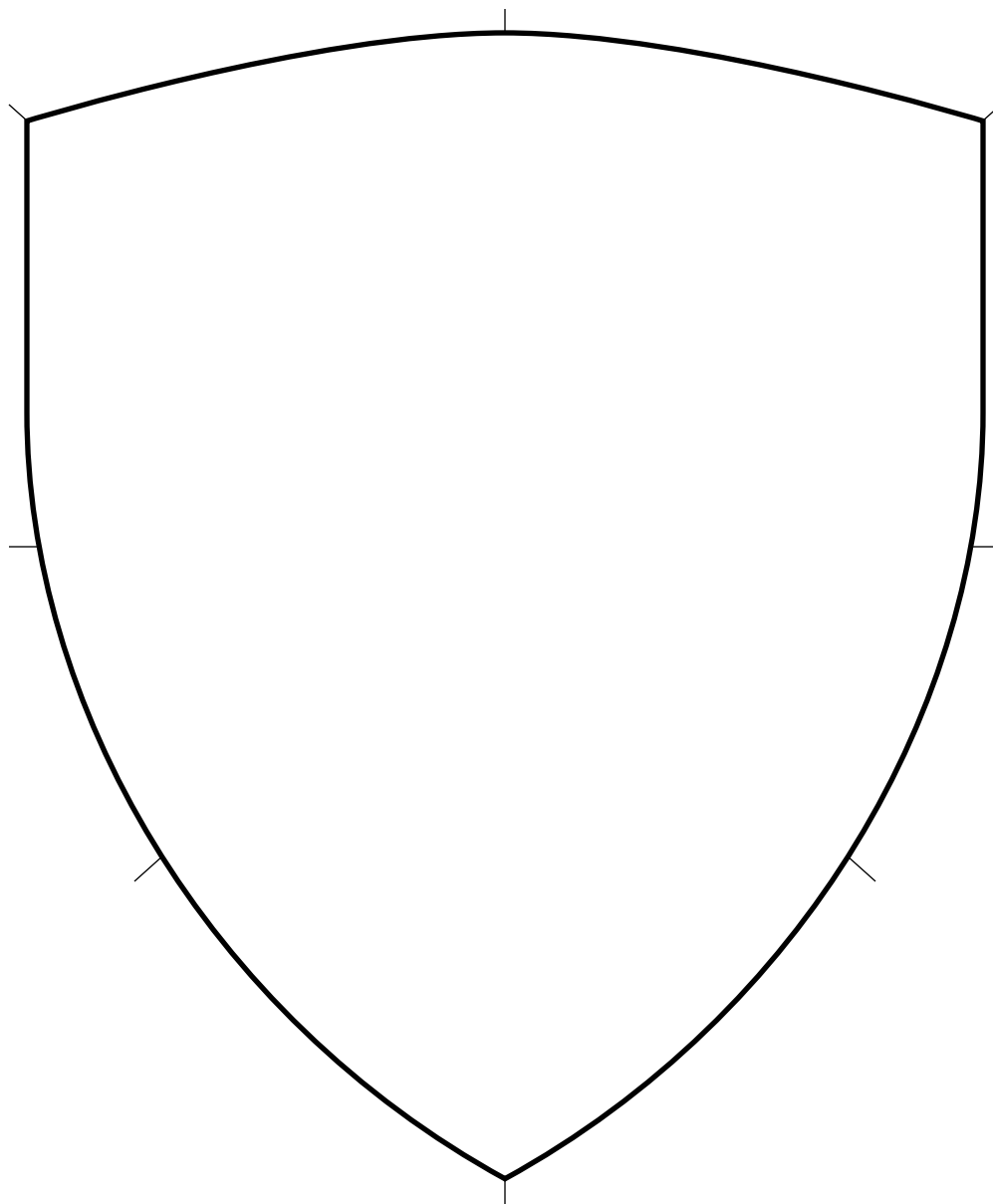
This shield shape is found on the stall plate of John Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, circa 1440.



Embowed Heater (1)

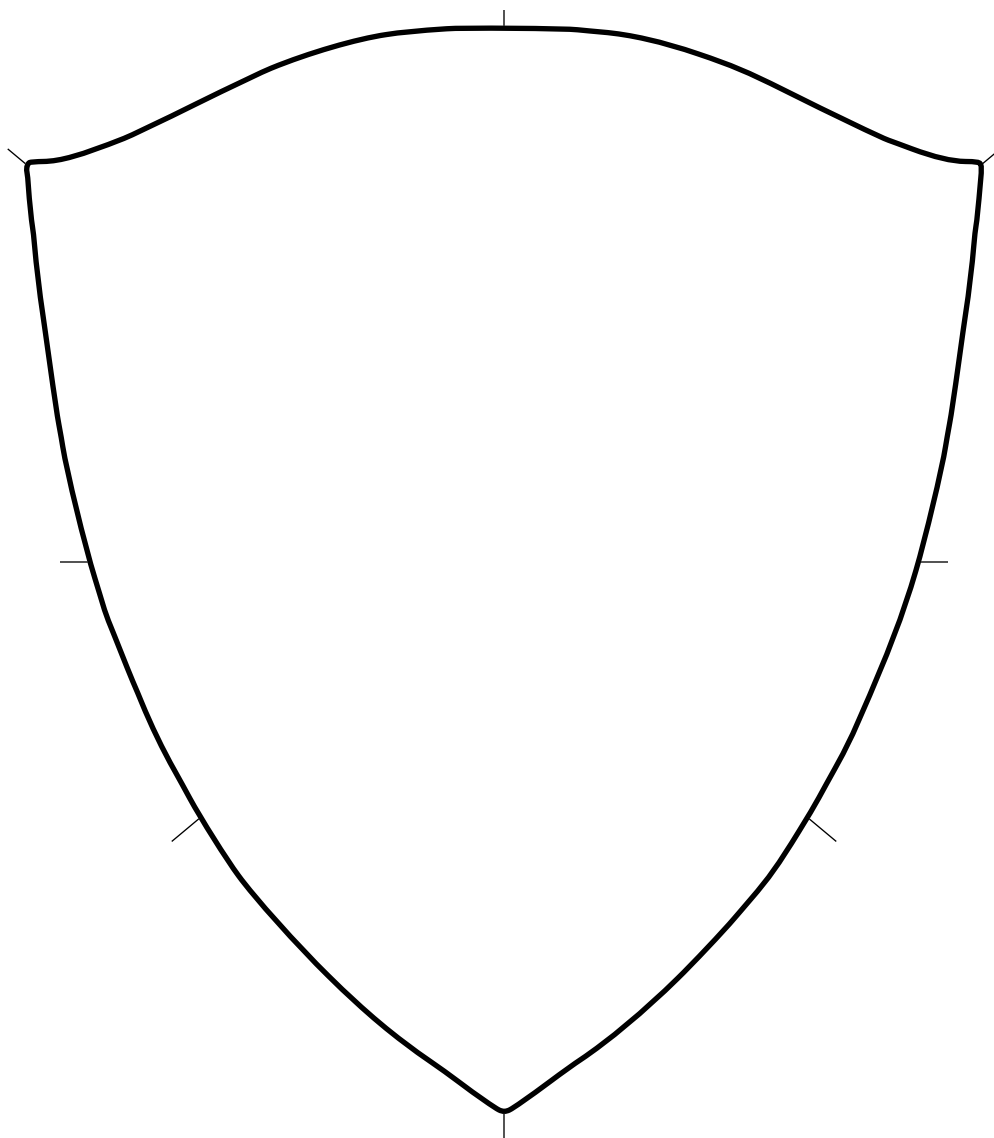
🐉 O.38

This escutcheon is based on a standard heater-shield shape but the top is arched up.



Embowed Heater (2)

This escutcheon is based on a standard heater-shield shape but the top is arched up.
Artist: Ajir Tsagaan.

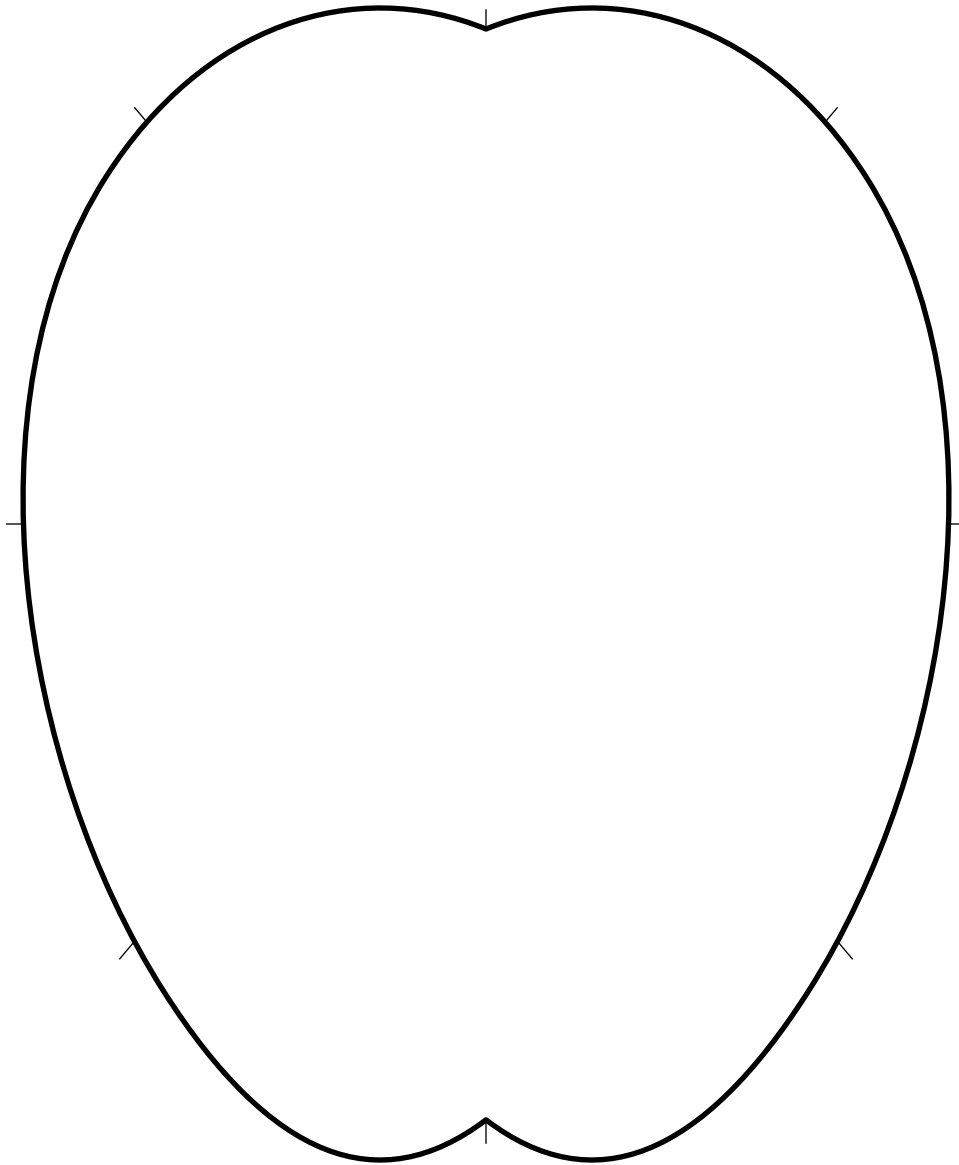


Moorish Adarga

🐉 O.40

A rounded, two-lobed shape derived from Berber calvary shields.

Adapted from a photo of Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna's item HJRK C 195. (Grenada, circa 1490.)

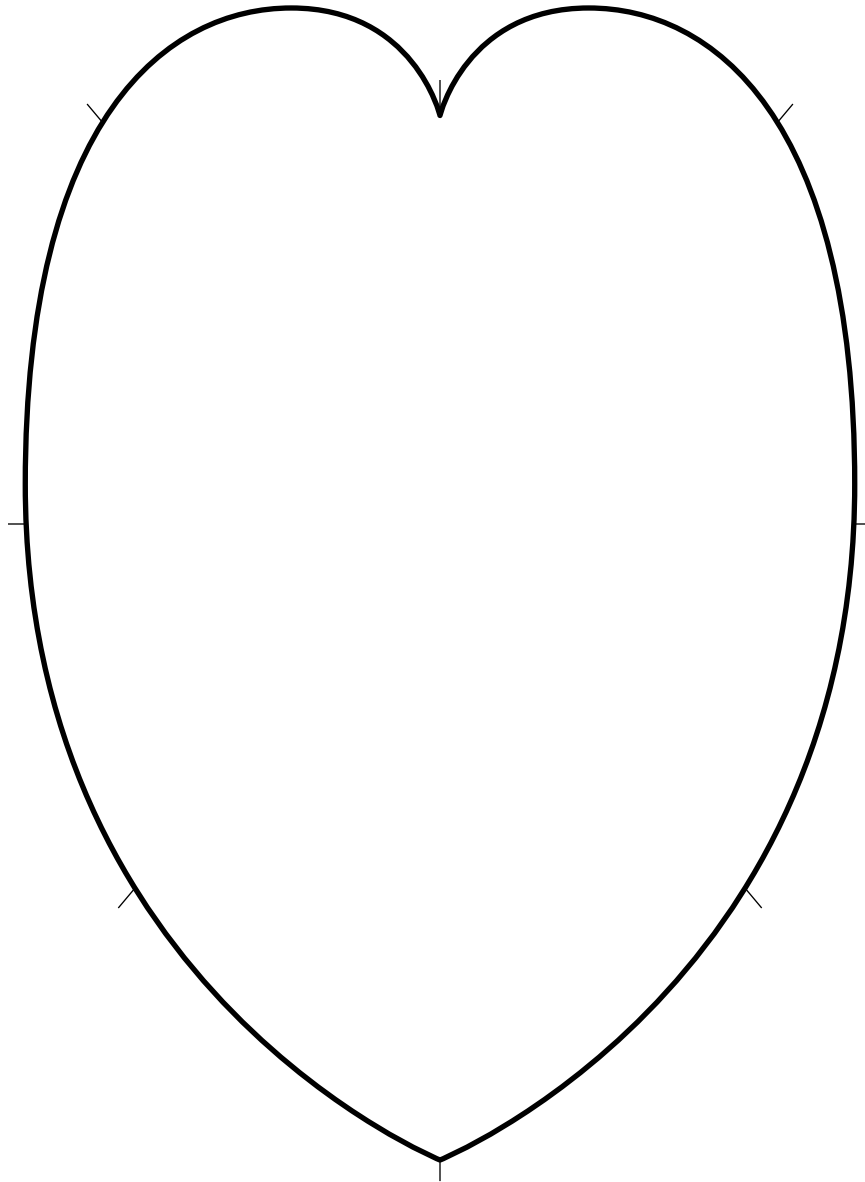


Spanish Adarga

🐉 O.41

A rounded, two-lobed shape derived from Berber calvary shields.

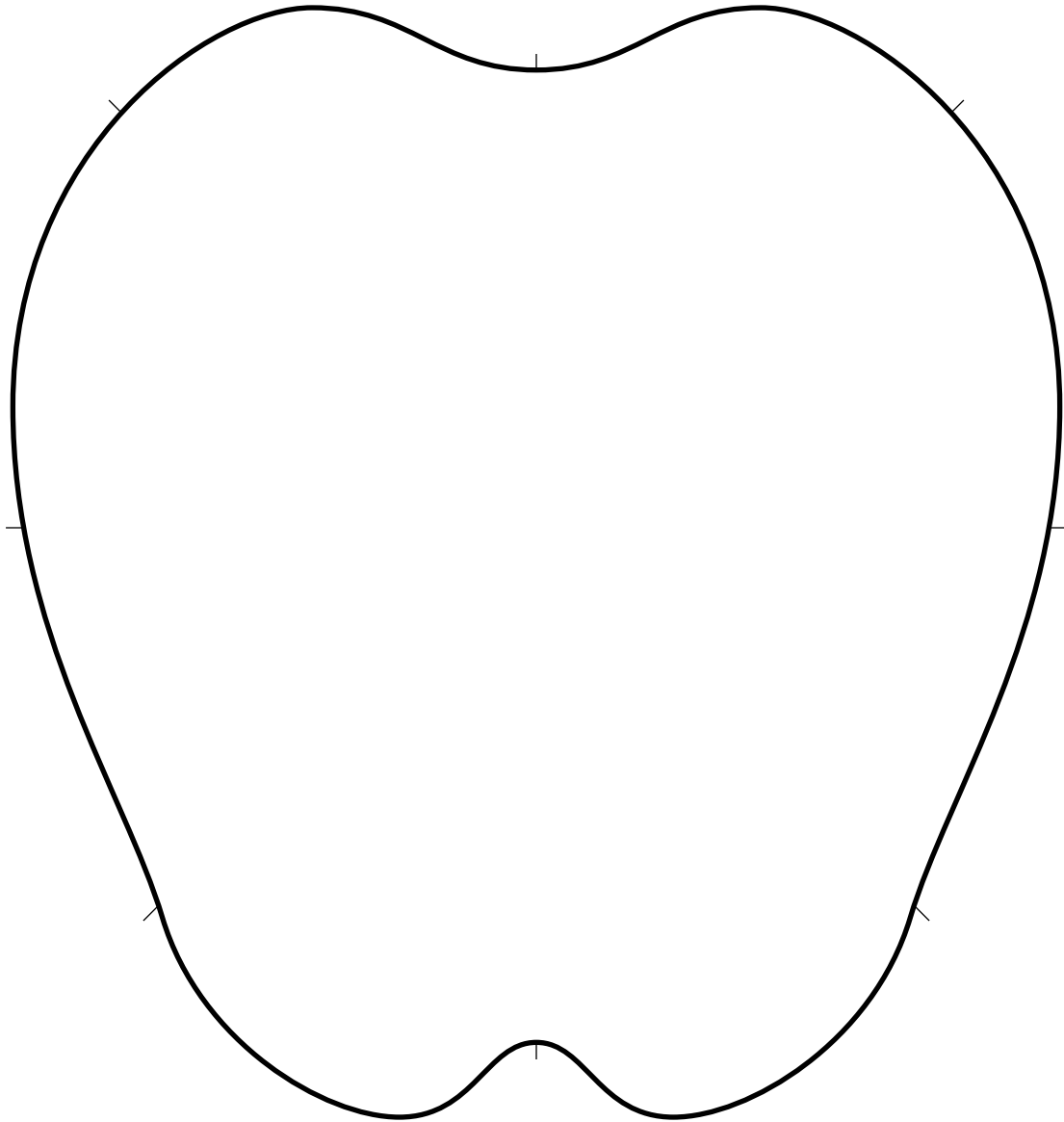
Adapted from the painting "Saint Vincent and Saint Valerius in Prison." (Spain, circa 1495.)



Italian Adarga

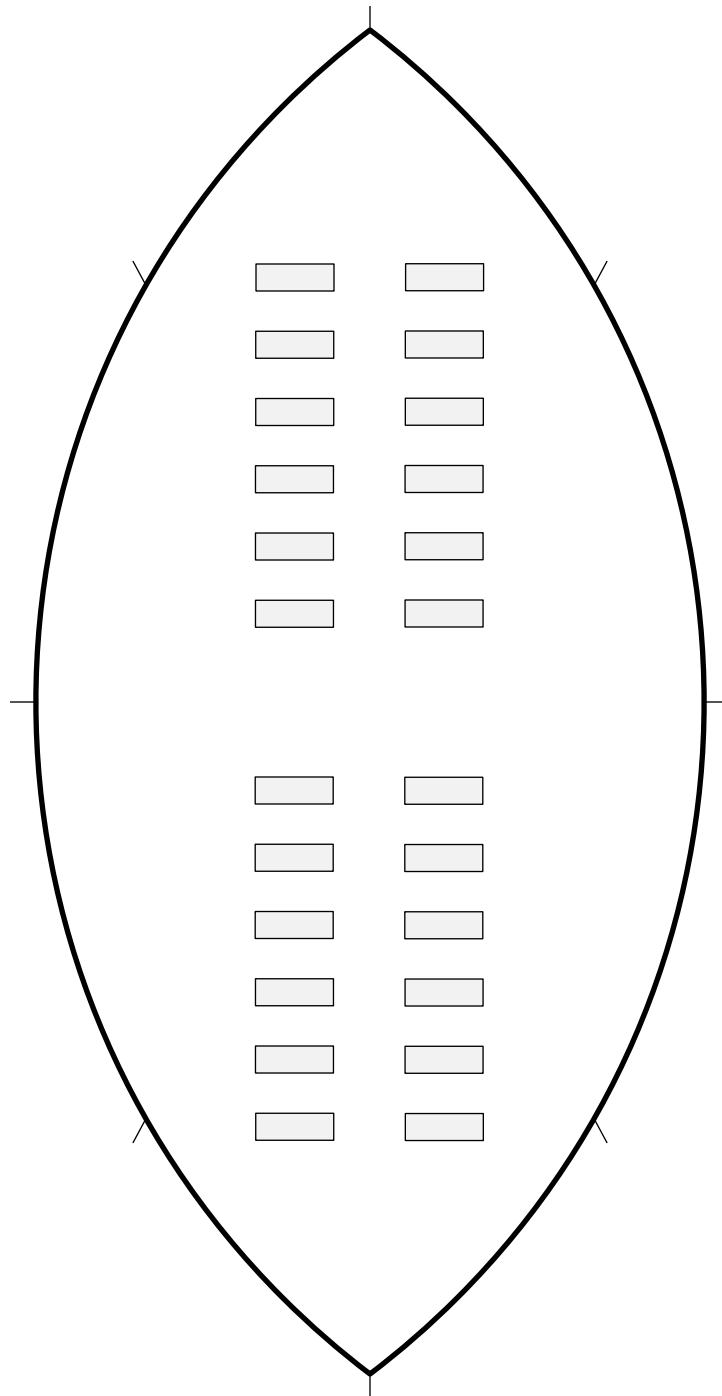
🐉 O.42

A rounded, two-lobed shape derived from Berber calvary shields.
Source: Cappugi 200. (Italy, eighteenth century.)

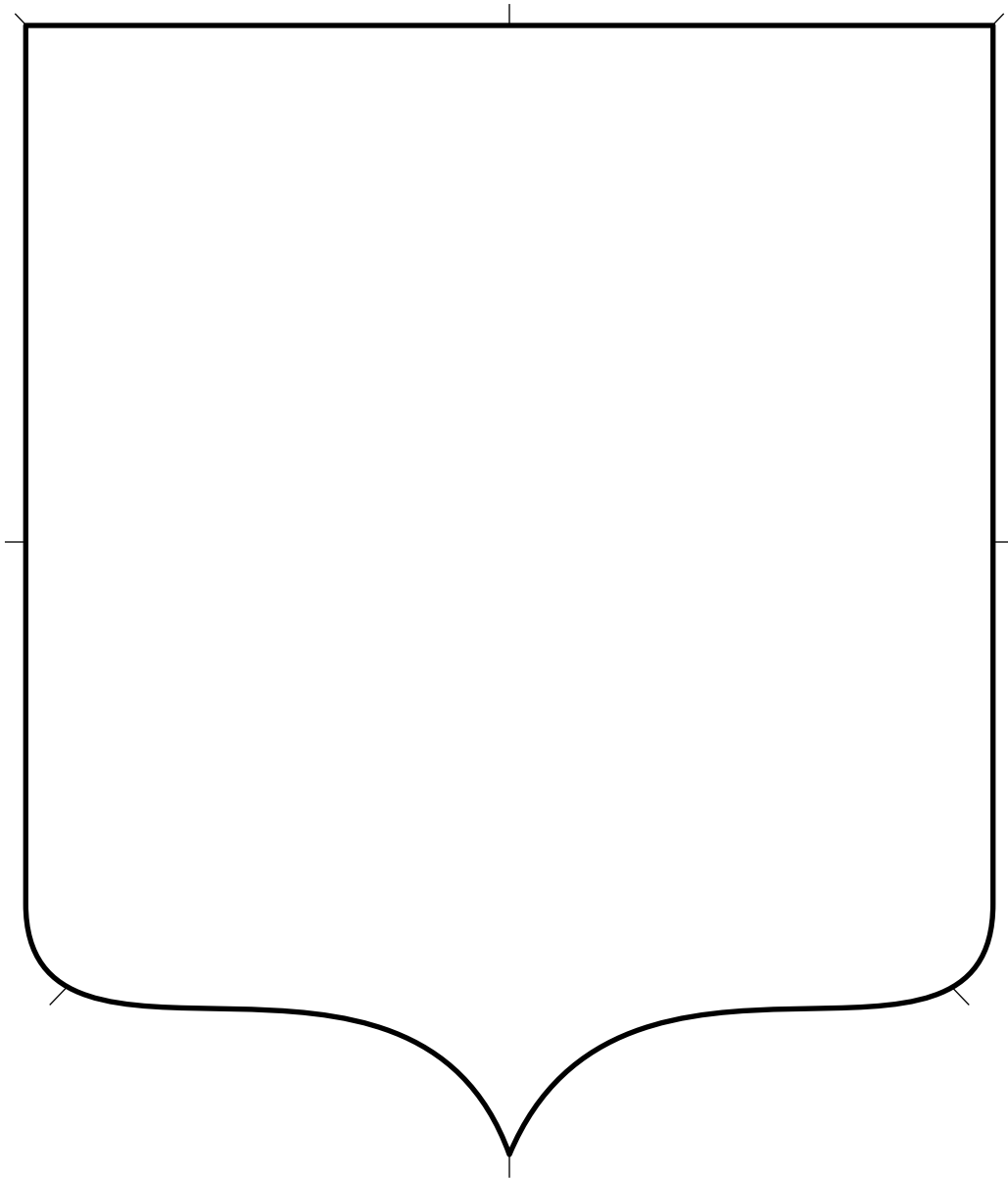


Nguni Shield

An oval shield with pointed ends found throughout southern Africa.



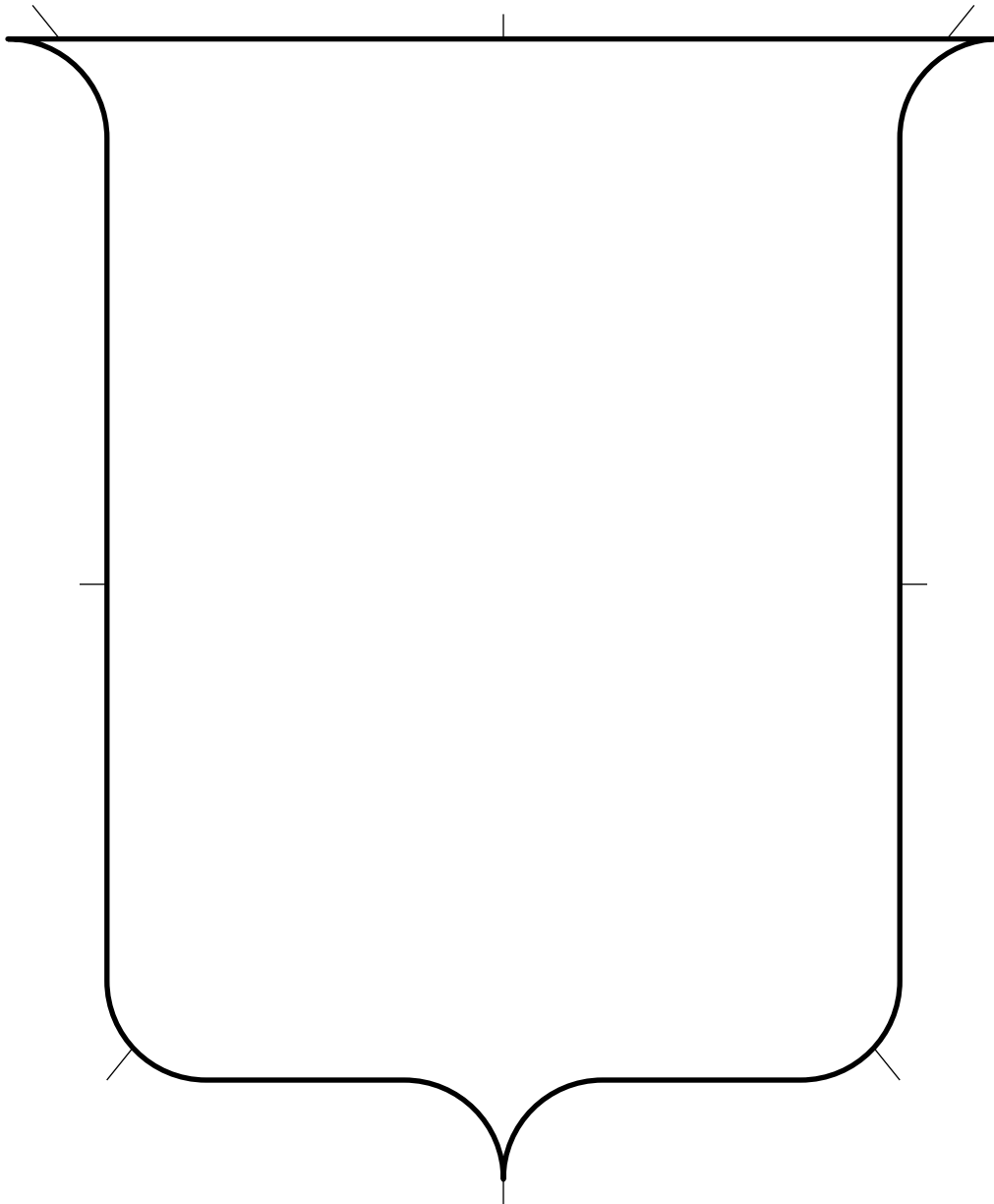
A wide shield with an expanded base allowed for marshaled arms to be displayed together.



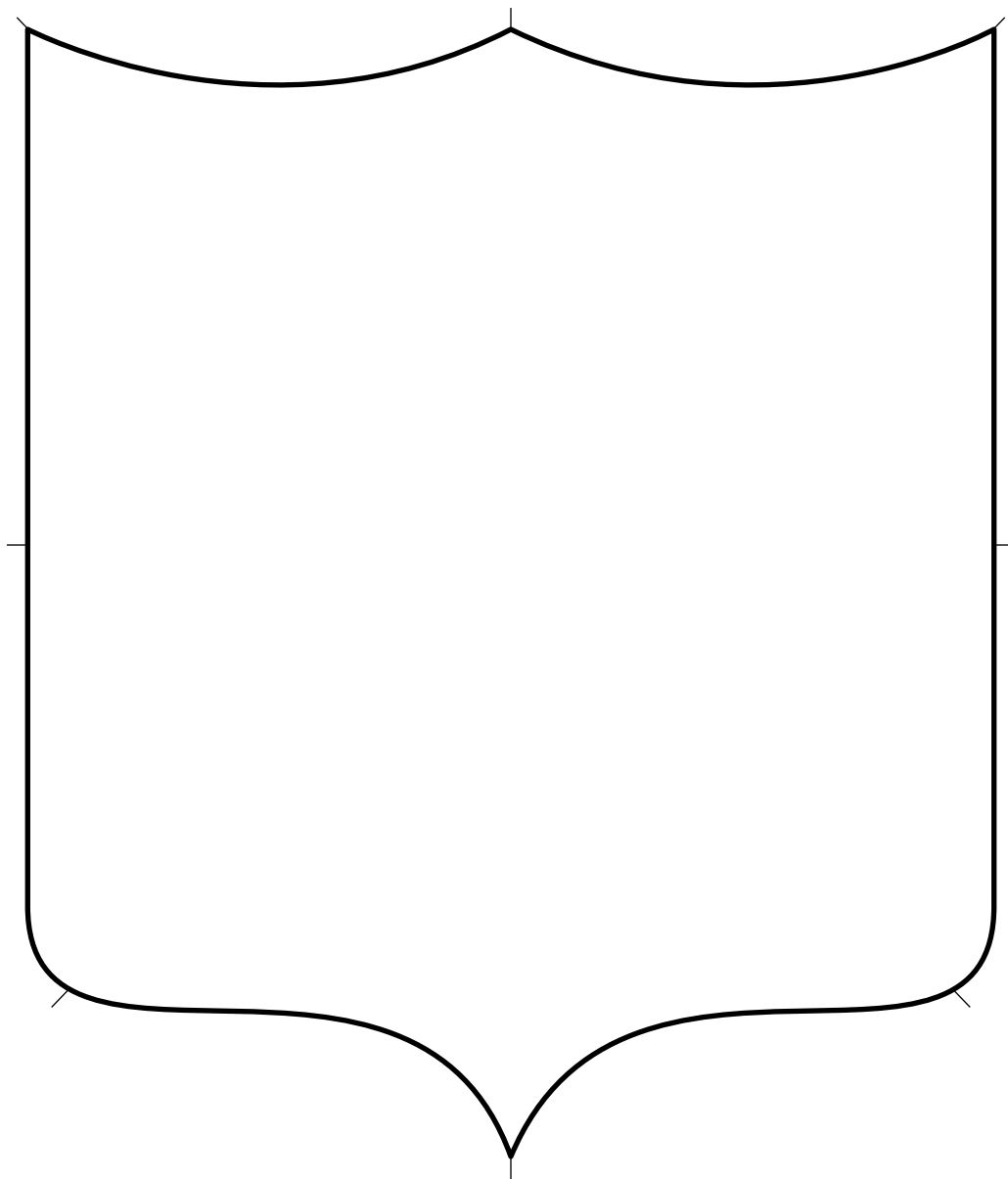
Late-Period English

🦁 0.45

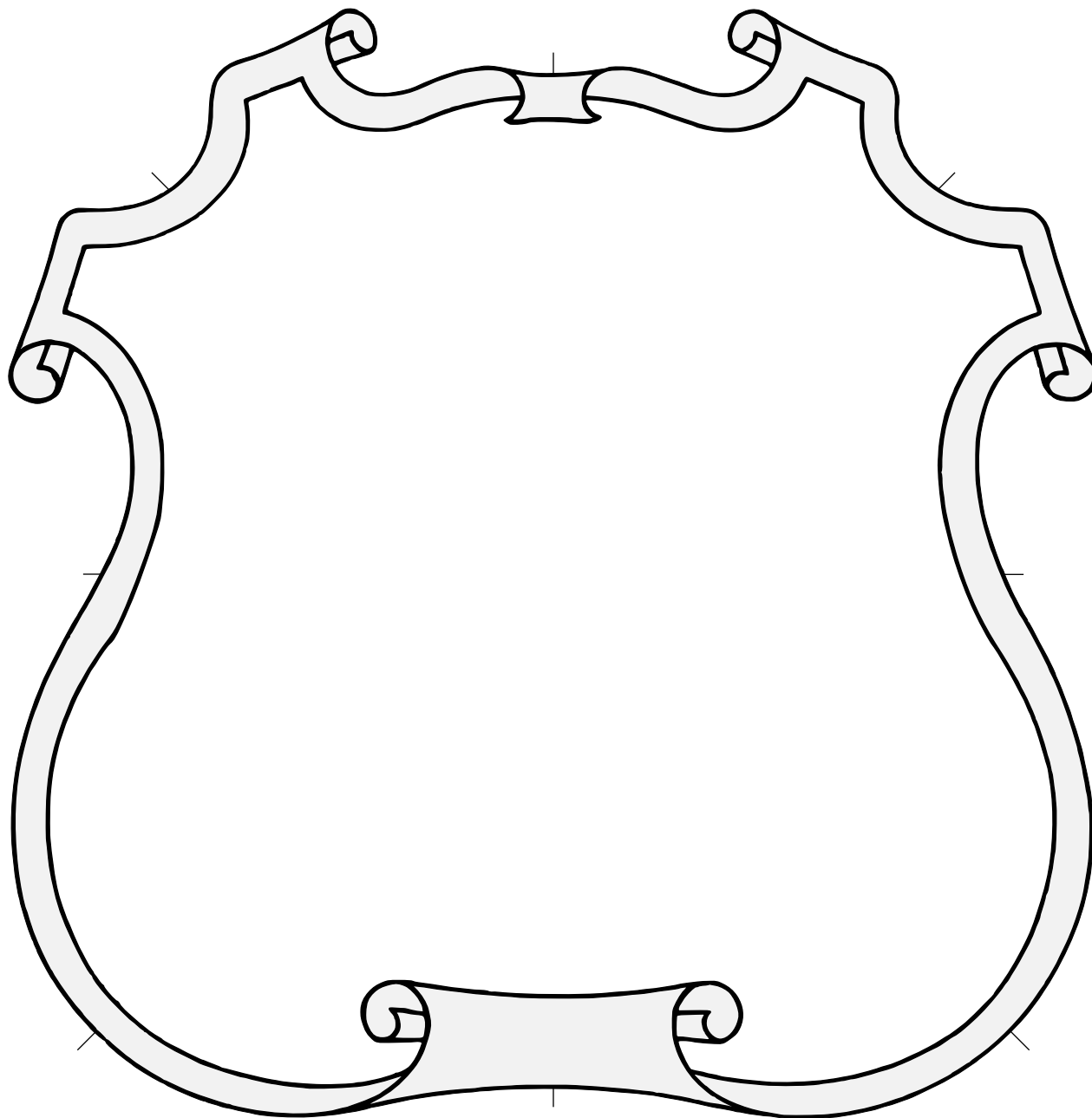
A rectangular shield with small flared corners provided space for complex Tudor designs



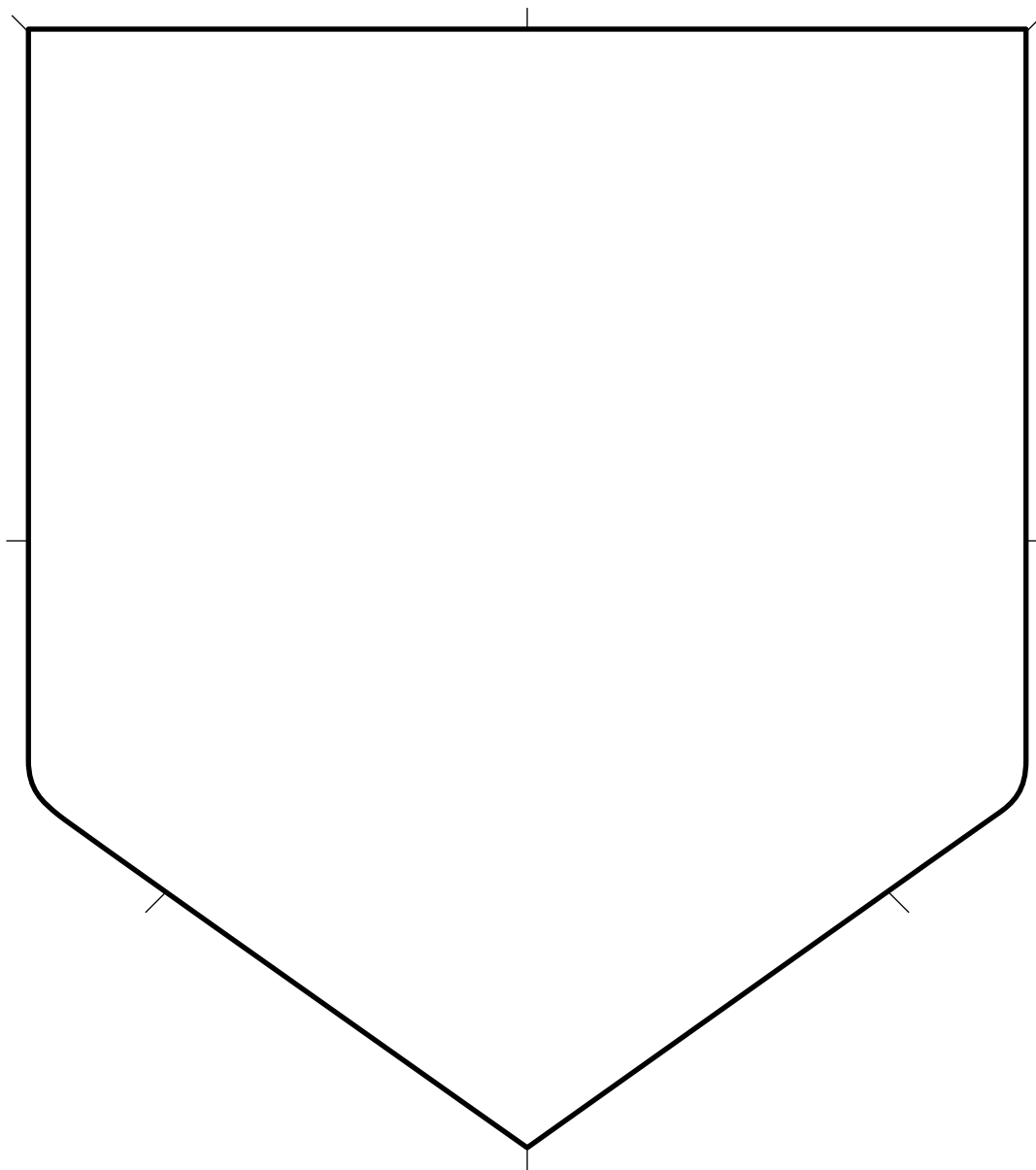
The rounded notches in the upper edge of this shield are a late-period development.



Source: Cusack's Freehand Ornament. (Plate 25.) Artist unknown.

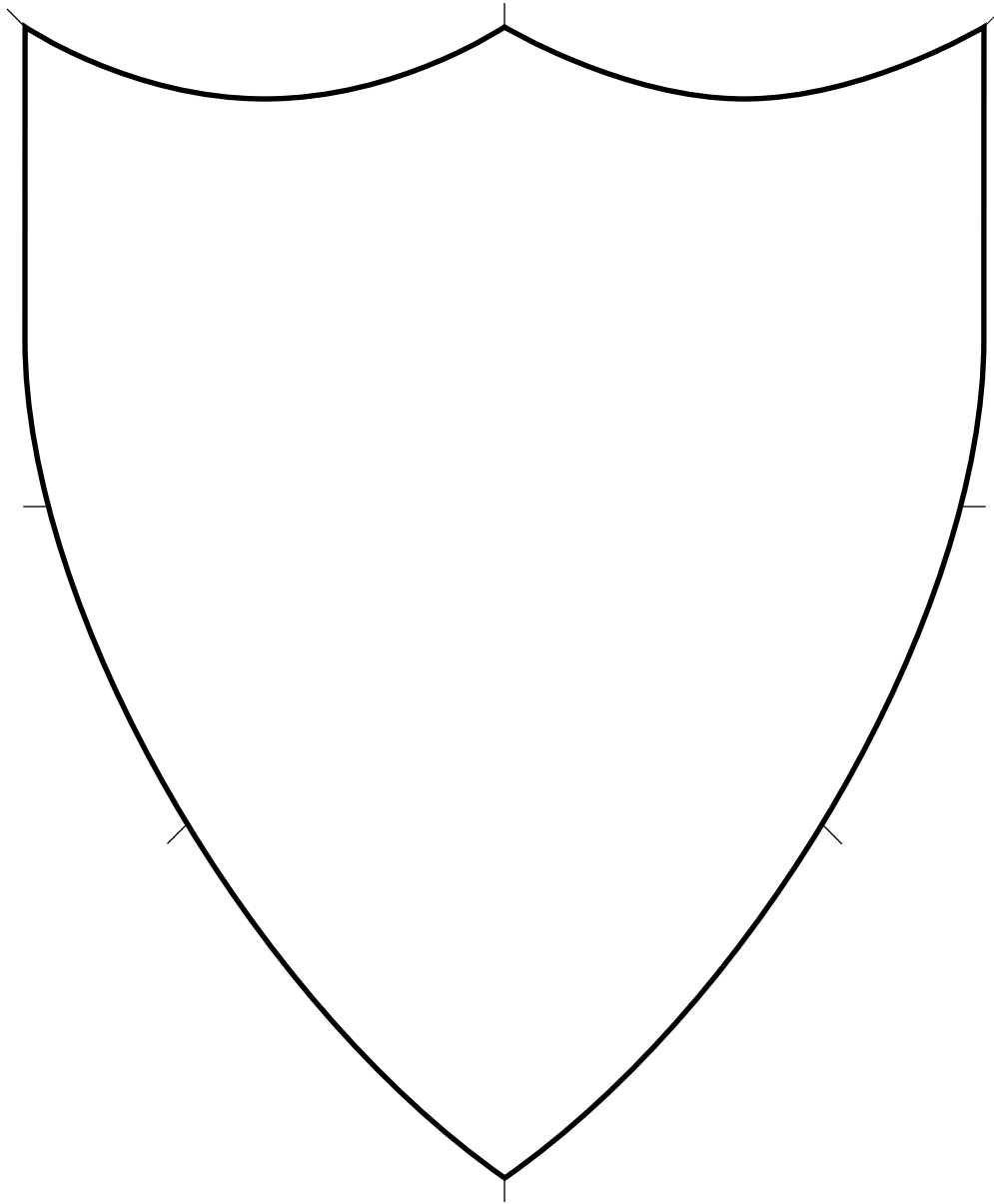


An extra-wide shield. Source: University of Victoria Ms. Brown.Eng.2. (Circa 1580)



Engrailed Heater (1)

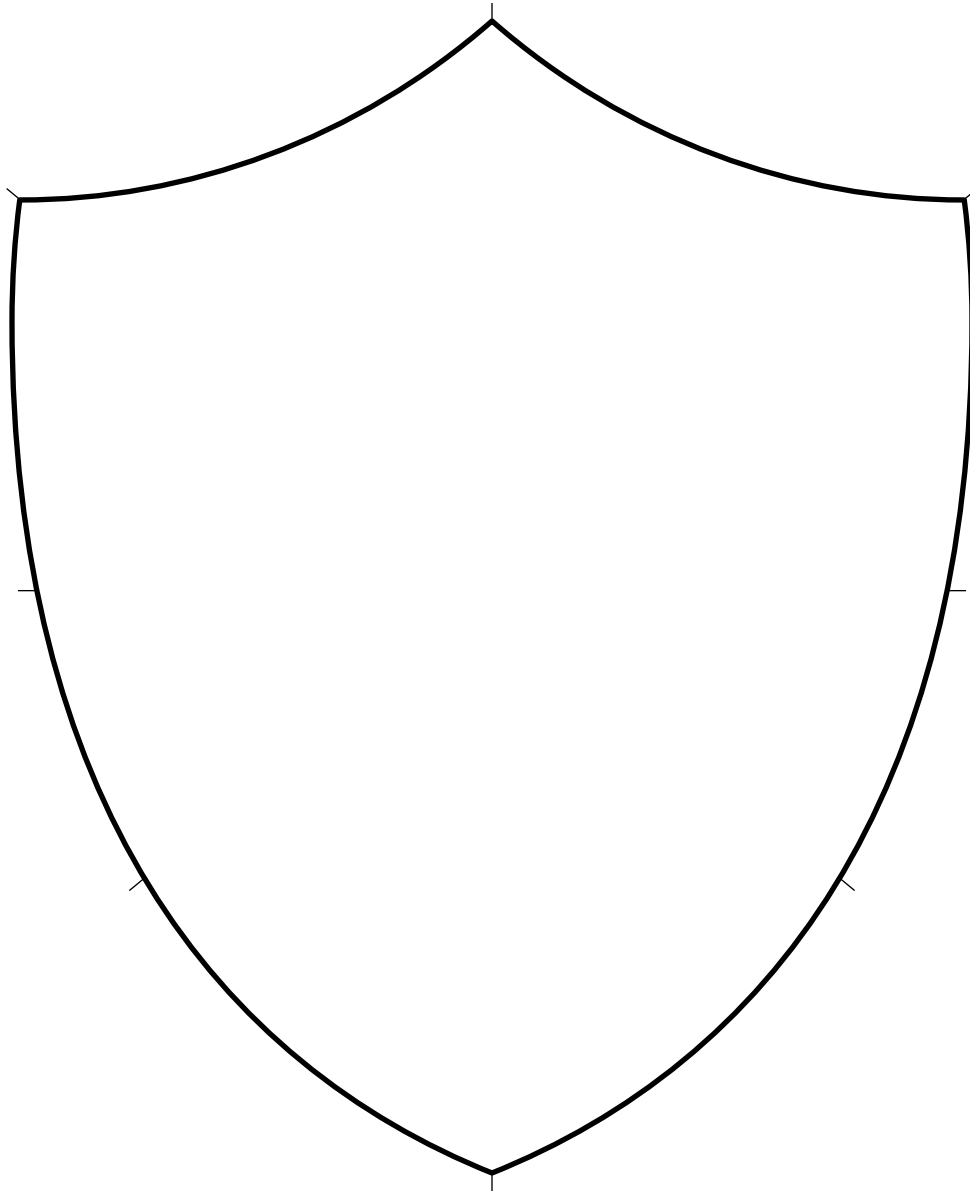
The rounded notches in the upper edge of this shield are a late-period development.



Engrailed Heater (2)

🐉 0.50

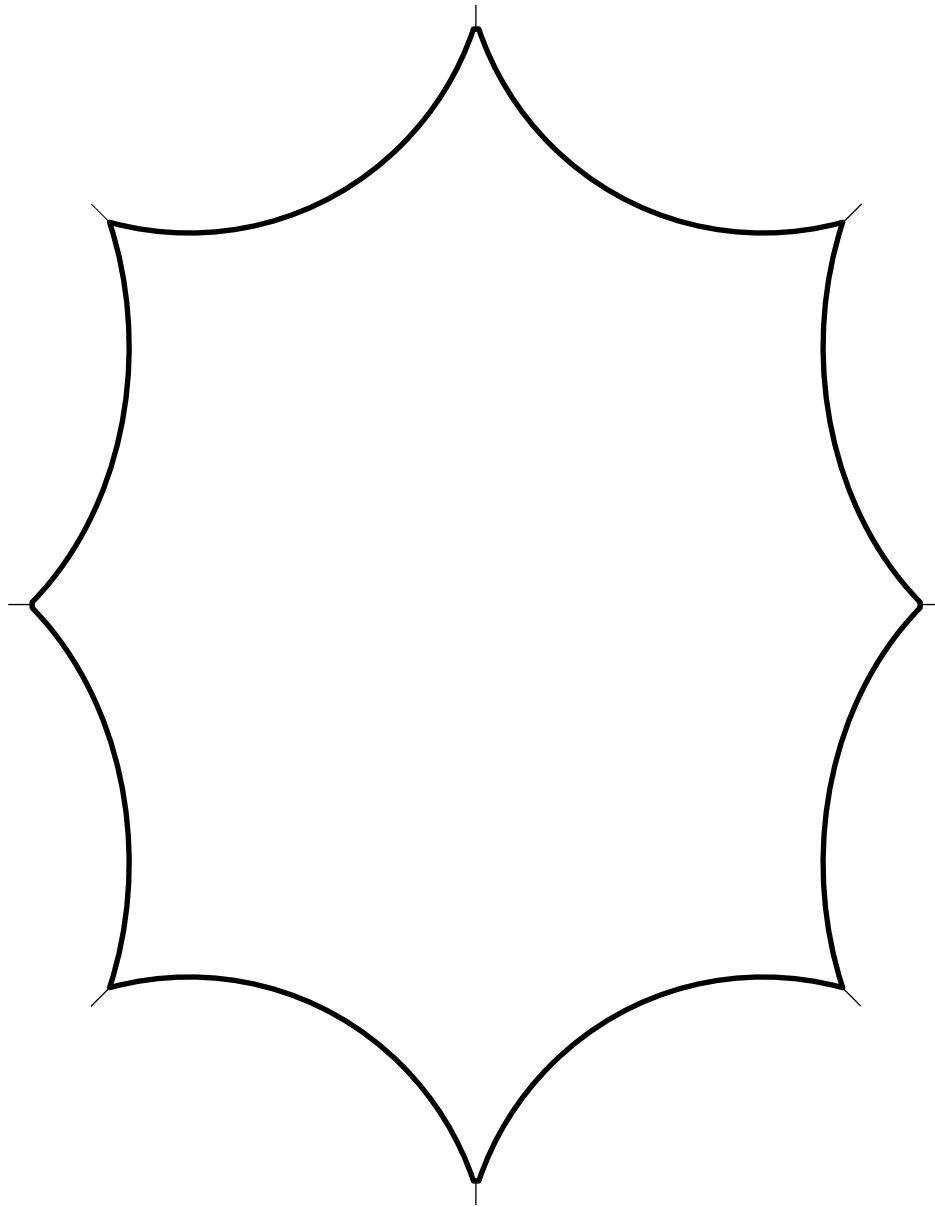
The curving peak on the upper edge of this shield may be a post-period affectation.



Octagon Ployé

🐉 0.51

Devices may be displayed on a modified lozenge that has been expanded into an octagon.



Federal Shield

This post-period shield shape is used the the U.S. government for highways and police.

