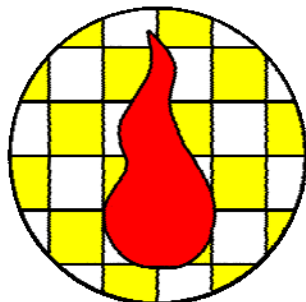


Badge of the Order of the Goutte de Sang

In An Tir tradition, any Charter or Scroll created for Their Majesties' use in welcoming an individual into the Most Noble Order of the Goutte de Sang, needs to have this badge included somewhere in the design.



Blazon: *Checky Or and argent, a goutte de sang.*

A Blazon is the formal or legal written description of a heraldic device. A Blazon also tells the scribe with words, how a heraldic image is to be drawn and colored. It describes the field (background) and the charge or charges (graphic images) placed upon the field.

The very first words of a blazon indicate how the background (field) is to be depicted. In this instance "**Checky Or and argent**" means that the field is to be a checkerboard of squares (**Checky**) of the alternating colors gold/yellow (**Or**) and silver/white (**argent**). **NOTE:** The first color called out (**Or**) is the color to be used in painting the first square of the checkerboard (i.e., the upper leftmost square).

The next two words of this blazon "**a goutte**" indicate the single charge upon the field of a stylized drop.

The last two words "**de sang**" are words used to describe the charge. Normally, these words would be the heraldic tincture (color) of the charge. However, "**gouttes**" are sometimes treated differently. Each different color of "**goutte**" has a special name. Our "**goutte de sang**" is a drop of blood and its tincture is red (**gules**). **NOTE:** A "**goutte de vin**" is a drop of wine with a tincture of purple (**purpure**) and a "**goutte d'or**" is a drop of gold, etc.

An attempt to draw or color a heraldic device differently than the blazon describes would make it no longer the appropriate device. In other words, heraldic emblazons permit little, if any, artistic license. A scribe should never stray from the instructions given in the blazon.