

It is never used in the following instances:

- (a) Limited Companies
- (b) Firms which do not trade under a surname, or the surname does not form the complete name, e.g.

The Devon Mechanical Toy Co.
Anglo-Icelandic Travel Services
John Baker's School of Motoring
The Maurice Wainwright Scholastic Agency.

- (c) Firms whose name includes a title, e.g. Sir John Jones & Partners.
- (d) Firms which bear a lady's name, e.g. Josephine Taylor & Associates. (See use of 'Mesdames' above.)

MULTIPLE SURNAMES

Usually, but not invariably, those with double-barrelled names use both names for everyday purposes, and those with triple-barrelled names the final name only, e.g. the Douglas-Homes use both names, whereas the Twisleton-Wykeham-Fiennes are often generally known as Fiennes, and the Montagu Douglas Scotts as Scott.

There are exceptions, for some with two names often use only the second. One remembers that Sir Winston Churchill did not use 'Spencer', though his surname was Spencer-Churchill, and some Fitzalan Howards are generally known as Howard. The Earl of Minto's surname is Elliot-Murray-Kynynmound (but not his collaterals); his family is usually known by the first name of Elliot. Others prefer to use all three names, such as some of the Cave-Browne-Caves.

A few families have four or more surnames. Sometimes the final two are used for everyday purposes, e.g. the Hovell-Thurlow-Cumming-Bruce family as 'Cumming-Bruce', and the Stirling Home Drummond Morays as the 'Drummond Morays'.

Practice varies according to the individual's wishes. Sometimes all the surnames are restricted to formal occasions such as in wedding announcements and legal documents: it is more usual for all surnames to be placed on the envelope. *If the practice is not known, it is not wrong to use all the surnames.*

A multiple surname was often acquired by Royal Licence from the eighteenth century onwards. When a member of a family marries an heiress who bears arms, and he (or a descendant)

desires to commemorate her surname in addition to his own, the Sovereign's permission for such a change is necessary. By common law a change of name in itself is not regulated in the United Kingdom, in which respect we differ from many other countries and states. One's surname is that by which one is commonly known; but a deed poll is usually required as legal proof of identity and this officially records the change of name. A deed poll may be registered in the College of Arms in any appropriate case. In Scotland a change of name and arms is recognized by Lyon Court, and in other cases the Lord Lyon King of Arms issues a certificate of a change of name.

In recent years it has become fashionable in England to dispense with hyphens, a practice which probably originated in Scotland in order to place the emphasis on the final name, though a few families never adopted them.¹ Without a hyphen it is sometimes difficult to know whether an individual has one surname or two, especially if the signature includes an initial, e.g. J. Leslie Thomas. Is he Mr. John Leslie Thomas, or Mr. Leslie Thomas who prefers to use his second christian name? Accordingly, should one start a letter 'Dear Mr. Leslie Thomas', or 'Dear Mr. Thomas'?

There is a distinction between a surname and a family name. In England the latter is often added to the surname to show the identity of a particular family or a branch. For example, should the surname be Smith, and in one branch most or all children are christened Abel, they are known collectively as the 'Abel Smiths'. Due to the fluid system of names in England it often happens that some members of this family adopt the family name as an additional surname, with the result that their children no longer have this name included as their final christian name.

In Wales, as surnames usually evolved from male line christian names, there are a great number of people with such surnames as Jones, Powell, Evans, Davies, Morgan and Price. This has resulted in the frequent use of an additional name for identification purposes. Sometimes this becomes a surname, and sometimes not.

Also, for the same reason, in England and elsewhere those with a common surname, such as Smith or Brown, often acquire an additional name. This sometimes arises by tacking on a second christian name, especially if derived from a surname, accelerated by the practice of using this second christian name in the signature, e.g. John Berkeley Brown is known by the christian name of Berkeley, and he signs 'J. Berkeley Brown'.

¹ In Scotland the majority of those with multiple names do not use hyphens.