

WARPSTONE

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WHAT'S IN A NAME? THE EMPIRE by John Foody with Martin Oliver

Some WFRP players (myself included) sometimes have trouble thinking of Germanic names, especially on the spot. This article includes a selection of suitable names that could be used, some of which has been taken from WFRP material.

Titles are as follows; Frau = Mrs, Lady: Fraulein = Miss & Herr = Mr, Master, Lord, Gentleman.

Male forenames	Female forenames	Surnames	
Armin	Andrea	Adorf	Kreuzer
Adolf	Angelika	Albers	Kroetz
Adolphus	Anita	Andra	Kruck
Albrecht	Anna-lise	Arndt	Kruger
Alexander	Astrid	Baer	Kummer
Aldred	Brigid	Baerow	Ladengast
Alfred	Brigitte	Ballifonse	Langenburg
Anders	Camilla	Baumann	Laubrich
Anton	Celeste	Berger	Lauschenberg
Axel	Charlotte	Biedenkopf	Lesch
Bernard	Christa	Bjornstrand	Leverktse
Bernd	Christiane	Blacher	Lochner
Bert	Clementine	Blech	Lommel
Boris	Cordula	Blum	Mack
Bruno	Danielle	Bohm	Mainka
Chedwic	Doris	Bohne	Malkowsky
Christian	Eav	Bohnen	Manzel
Christoph	Edda	Boll	Marx
Claus	Edith	Bormann	Mattes
Clemons	Elga	Brandaur	Meier
Conrad	Elisabeth	Brahms	Mellinger
Dagmar	Elixabet	Bratsch	Messner
Dahlbert	Ellen	Braun	Moescke
Detlef	Etti	Bremer	Muller
Dieter	Frances	Brunkhorst	Murnau
Dirk	Frieda	Brustelin	Noll
Erberhardt	Gabrielle	Buchwald	Nyman
Erik	Gaby	Carow	Oldenhaller
Erich	Gerd	Castel	Ostenwald
Ernst	Gertrud	Clausewitz	Pabst
Erwin	Gisela	Cloos	Pallenberg
Erzbet	Gloria	Dagover	Pascal
Felix	Hanna	Delphinus	Paulsen
Franz	Hanni	Delschaft	Pawlowa

Friedrich	Hannelore	Dickopf	Pittschau
Fredrick	Heidi	Dietrich	Prochnow
Fritz	Helena	Diffring	Raab
Georg	Helene	Dissell	Rack
Gerd	Helga	Dor	Reich
Gotz	Helke	Dreckspatz	Reitsmann
Gregor	Helma	Drexol	Reitz
Gunter	Henriette	Ebertg	Reusse
Gunther	Ingrid	Edel	Ricard
Gustav	Karin	Eiferer	Rommel
Hannes	Karina	Ekman	Rottlander
Hans	Katharina	Engels	Rudiger
Hanzi	Kathe	Ensslin	Rupe
Heiner	Katrin	Erichson	Rupp
Heinrich	Julianne	Euda	Sagebrecht
Heinz	Lena	Faller	Sander
Hieronymus	Lile	Fassbinder	Sauber
Helmut	Lilian	Feher	Schaad
Henri	Lisa	Feiler	Schaake
Holger	Liv	Freihof	Schade
Ingo	Magdalene	Fritsch	Schauble
Jens	Margret	Fuchs	Schenk
Joachim	Margarethe	Ganz	Schwerner
Johann	Magrit	Gerron	Scheydt
Johannes	Maria	Gerrow	Schnell
Jonas	Mariann	Gickel	Schnelling
Jorg	Marianne	Glaubrecht	Schondorff
Josef	Marlene	Goslar	Schubert
Jurgen	Marthe	Gottoht	Schygulla
Kaster	Mellory	Graue	Scmidt
Karl	Monika	Grasser	Semmelrogge
Klaus	Nadja	Griem	Semmelrouge
Knud	Nastassja	Grobschmeid	Sierck
Konrad	Natja	Gronemeyer	Silberg
Kurt	Oliva	Gshwnedtner	Sinkel
Lou	Rena	Guerra	Sigismund
Luitpold	Rosa	Guhne	Sorbas
Manfred	Ruth	Gunzberg	Spears
Marius	Sybille	Gutman	Speilhalter
Max (Maximillian)	Tatjana	Gwisdek	Steinhoff
Mathieu	Ulli	Haack	Stratz
Matthias	Ursula	Harnish	Stumpfnase
Mikhail	Vera	Hartwig	Syberberg
Mortmore	Veronika	Hasener	Tauber
Nathaniel	Winifred	Heinemann	Thiele
Nicholas	Yella	Helfrich	Tietmeyer
Nicholaus	Yvette	Hermann	Trissenaar
Nikolaus		Herzog	Treuer
Norbert		Hinfallig	Ullmann
Oswald		Hintz	Valetti
Otto		Hockscharzer	Veidt
Paulus		Hofbauer	Vogel
Peter		Hoffmann	Vogeler
Rainer		Hoger	Vogler
Reiner		Holkzkurg	von Aschendorf
Rolf		Holt	von Bruck
Rudger		Horn	von Baky

Rudolf		Horney	von Groninghof
Rudolph		Jaegar	von Hassel
Ruy		Jager	von Konigswald
Sepp		Junghams	von Kleist
Siegfried		Kahl	von Liebenfels
Stefan		Kannicher	von Praunheim
Sven		Kant	von Schwerin
Thadius		Kappelmuller	von Steinhoff
Theodor		Karge	von Thun
Udo		Kaslain	von Trotta
Ulrich		Kauffmann	von Twardowski
Ulrike		Keller	von Weizsacker
Volker		Keusch	von Winterstein
Werner		Keilgeld	Wagner
Wiesel		Kier	Wandtke
Wilhelm		Kieslick	Wartha
Wim		Kinski	Weinrich
Wolf		Klammer	Wennemann
Wolfgang		KlugeKnopp	Wegener
		Kochl	Weyraih
		Kohl	Wiene
		Koltzack	William
		Kopp	Winkler
		Korff	Witzenberg
		Korte	Wolheim
		Kortner	Wolk
		Kotulla	Zauberlich
		Krauss	Ziewer
			Zischer

What's in a name?: The Empire
A revised listing By Peter Rutkowski

The original article by John Foody and Martin Oliver way back in Warpstone 2 did much to enable non-German WFRP gamers to come up with suitable names for PCs and NPCs. Some names were taken from published material, some added. While this undoubtedly enhanced the game and made GMing a bit easier, there are still some mistakes in the lists. What follows is a new attempt (probably the 529th) to give all the Brits and Yanks a grip on that dastardly unmelodious language of the Empire, jawoll!

Note the third column has surnames; note that the longer ones could be used as placenames to be added to a noble's name. Corrections, like shifting Dagmar over to the female list, also have been made.

Some names are simply variants of each other. These have been joined, with the most prominent one always first (example: Andreas/Anders). Some names have diminutives added which have come into use as full first names; these are printed in italics (example: Wilhelm (*Willi*)). Upwardly mobile Old Worlders (nobles, intellectuals, bureaucrats and artists) like to give their first name a classical tinge (example: Paul (Paulus)). Some names are more prominent in the north (Knut, Sven, Olaf), some in the south (Ignaz, Udo, Josef), but as long as adventures take place near to waterways where people from different provinces mix more often than in some godsforsaken mining village in the Middle Mountains, you should always be on the safe side.

The names of Empire gods and goddesses have not been included, because thou shalt not take the Lord's name in vain. Presenting a coward by the name of Ulric could bring down the righteous wrath of that bigoted Ulrican priest in your party upon yourself. Better to

use Ulrich for the poor sod. Now, Sigmar is completely out of the question. As are Myrmidia, Shallya and Ranald. Verena is possible, but who in his right mind would call his child Taal?

The list of surnames is based on the one in the original article. I have scraped those that simply aren't names and have added a few here and there. The number of suggestions for each letter conforms more or less to how often you find names with that first letter. So it's clear one doesn't get too many names beginning with a C, but rather more beginning with a K.

General rules for surnames are: If you have a suffix of *-burg*, *-berg*, *-stein*, *-stock* or *-wald* then a noble 'von' is alright. Names ending on *-er* often denote a job like *Reiter* (rider) or *Bauer* (peasant), so they are mostly reserved for the grovelling masses.

Historically, quite often individuals heaped a load of names upon themselves to make clear that they were something special. One of the professional military men from my own campaigns goes by the name of Obrist (colonel) Konrad Schwall zu Boineberg and this is actually a real one from the late 16th century!

Nobility nowadays is marked by the well-known 'von'. Max von Katzenstein is clearly a noble, so is Isolde von und zu Magen; literally, this would translate as 'from and to'.

Now, Heiner zu Hammerschmitt, Katharina von den (from the) Walden and Achim zum (to the) Bronzen aren't! Odd, isn't it?

If you want to make things even more complicated, then you could introduce regional differences in surnames. In Ostland you could have Prussian and Silesian names dominating. These go something like Wentzke, Holitzke and Schimbera, Magiera respectively. Also, names like Zitzewitz and Schleinitz would be alright for nobles from these areas. In the South you could have the Bavarian/Austrian variants: This includes everything ending on *-meyer* and *-thaler* for example. Like Sedlmeyer (or Sedlmayr) and Augenthaler.

Male Forenames

Adalbert/Adelbert, Adam, Adolf (Adolphus), Albert/Albrecht, Aldred, Alexander (*Axel*), Alfons, Alfred, Alois (Aloisius), Andreas/Anders, Anton (Antonius), Armin, Arnold, Art(h)ur, August (Augustus), Balthasar, Benedikt, Bernhard (*Benno*, *Bernd*), Berthold (Bartolomeus), Bertram, Bonifaz (Bonifatius), Clemens, Cyrillus, Daniel, David, Detlef (*Dette*), Dieter/Diet(e)rich, Dirk, Eberhard, Edgar, Edler, Edmund, Eduard (*Ede*), Egolf, Egon, Eitel, Elmar/Elmer, Emil (Emilius), Erhard, Erich/Erik, Ernst, Erwin, Eugen, Fabian, Felix, Ferdinand (*Ferd*), Florian, Frank, Franz (Francius), Friedrich (*Frieder*, *Fritz*), Gabriel, Georg, Gerhard (*Gerd*), Götz, Gregor, Gunter, Gustav (Gustavus), Harald, Heinrich/Heiner (*Heinz*), Herbert/Heribert, Herman(n) (Arminius), Hieronymus, Holger, Hubert, Hugo, Ignaz (Ignatius), Isidor, Jakob (Jacobus), Joachim/Achim/Jochen, Johann(es)/Hans/Hannes, Jonas, Jonathan, Jorg, Josef (Josephus, *Sepp*), Julius, Jurgen, Karl (Carolus), Kasimir, Kaster (Castor), Kaspar/Kasper (Caspar), Knut, Konrad/Conrad (*Konz*), Konstantin, Kurt, Laurenz/Lorenz (Laurentius), Leonhard (*Leo*), Ludwig/Lodew(e)ik, Luitpold, Lutz, Manfred, Marius, Markus, Martin, Mathias (Mattheus), Maximilian (*Max*), Melchior, Michael/Michel, Moritz, Nathan, Nikolaus/Niklas/Klaus, Norbert, Olaf, Oskar, Oswald, Otto, Paul (Paulus), Peter (Petrus), Philipp (Philippus), Pius, Raimund/Reimund, Rainer/Reiner, Richard, Robert (*Bert*), Roland, Rudiger/Rudger/Roger, Rudolf (*Rolf/Rud*), Ruprecht (*Rupert*), Samuel, Siegfried, Silvester, Simon, Stefan/Stephan (*Steffen*), Sven, Thadeus, Theodor (*Theo*), Thomas, Timotheus, Titus, Tobias, Udo, Ulrich, Valentin, Veit, Viktor, Volkmar/Volker, Walter, Wendel, Werner, Wolfgang (*Wolf*), Wilhelm (*Willi*), Zacharias

Female Forenames

Adelheid (*Heide*), Agathe/Agatha, Agnes, Alexandra (*Alexa*, *Alix*), Andrea, Angelika, Anna/Anne/Anneliese, Annette, Antonia, Augusta, Beata/Beate, Bert(h)a/Bert(h)e, Brigitte (*Gitte*, *Britta*), Cacilie, Camilla, Carola/Karola, Charlotte (*Lotte*), Claudia, Clementine, Cordula, Cornelia/Kornelia, Daniela, Dora, Doris, Dorothea, Edda, Edith, Eleonore, Elisabeth (*Elsbeth*, *Elsa*, *Lisbeth*), Elke, Ellen, Else, Elvira, Emilie/Emilia, Erika, Esther, Eugenie, Eva, Felicitas, Franka, Franza, Franziska (*Franzi*), Frieda, Friederike,

Gabriele, Gerda, Gertraud/Gertraut, Gertrud(e), Gisela, Gloria, Hanna/Hannelore, Hedwig, Helene/Helena, Helga, Helma, Henriette, Hildegard (*Hilde*), Ida, Ilse, Ina, Ingrid, Isabella, Isadora, Isolde, Johanna, Josephine, Judith/Jutta, Juliane/Julia, Karin, Karla, Karoline, Katharina (*Kathe, Kathrin*), Leonore, Liliane, Lore, Luise, Luzia, Magda, Magdalene (*Lene, Lena*), Margarete /Margareta (*Grete(I)*), Margit, Margot, Marie, Marianne, Marion, Marlene, Martha/Marthe, Mathilde, Michaela, Monika, Nadja, Ottilie, Paula, Petra, Rebekka, Regina/Regine, Renate/Renata, Rikarda, Rosa, Ruth, Sabine, Sibylle, Silvia, Sophie, Stefanie/Stephanie, Susanne/Susanna, Therese, Ulrike, Ursula (*Ursel*), Valentina, Verena (*Vera*), Veronika, Viktoria, Wilhelmine, Winifred

Surnames

Abel, Abend, Abendrot, Achenbach, Ackermann, Adler, Albers, Allendorf, Alsheimer, Alt, Arndt, Aschendorf
Baer, Baumann, Berger, Biedenkopf, Blacher, Blech, Blum, Bockenheim, Bohm, Bohne, Bohnen, Boll, Bormann, Bornheim, Brandauer, Brahms, Bratsch, Braun, Bremer, Bruck, Brunkhorst, Brustellin, Buchwald
Carow, Castel, Clausewitz, Clemm, Cloos
Delschaft, Dickopf, Dietrich, Diffring, Dissel, Dornbusch, Dreckspatz, Dabisch, Damm, Datz, Daube, Denker, Diestelmeyer, Dippel, Dirnbach, Dollinger, Donner, Dreyer, Dusterberg
Eberlein, Ebert, Eckstein, Edel, Eibl, Eifer, Eiferer, Eigenbrot, Eckmann, Emmel, Engels, Ensslin, Erbach, Eschenheim
Fabel, Faller, Fassbinder, Fasnacht, Feder, Feiler, Feldmann, Feuerbach, Feyerabend, Fischer, Fleischer, Frei, Freihof, Fritsch, Fuchs
Ganz, Gehweiler, Geissler, Gickel, Glaubrecht, Goetz, Goldstein, Gottschalk, Grau, Grasser, Griem, Grobschnitt, Gronemeyer, Gschwendtner, Guhne, Gunzberg, Gutmann
Haak, Hack, Harnisch, Hartwig, Hasen, Hasener, Hassel, Heinemann, Helfrich, Hermann, Hinfallig, Hintz, Hockscharzer, Hofbauer, Hoffmann, Hoger, Holzkrug, Holt, Horn
Jaeger, Jackel, Junghans
Kahl, Kannicher; Kant, Kappelmuller, Karge, Kaufmann, Keller, Keush, Keilgeld, Kier, Klammer, Kleist, Kluge, Knopp, Kochel, Kohl, Konigswald, Kopp, Korff, Korte, Kortner, Krauss, Kreuzer, Kroetz, Kronenhof, Kruck, Krug, Kruger, Kummer
Ladengast, Lang, Langenburg, Laubrich, Lauschenberg, Leinweber, Leipzig, Lenz, Lesch, Liebenfels, Lochner, Lommel, Lupenrein
Mack, Macken, Magen, Maiwald, Mankau, Manzel, Marx, Mattes, Meier, Mellinger, Messner, Moseke, Moosburg, Moser, Muller, Murnau
Nagel, Nass, Neubauer, Nieden, Noll, Nutzniesser
Oberlander, Offen, Olbricht, Oldenhaller, Ostenwald, Otterbach
Pabst, Pallenberg, Panke, Patzer, Peilstock, Pfeffer, Plotz, Pommer, Praunheim
Raab, Rabeneck, Radmacher, Reich, Reitsmann, Reitz, Reusse, Rommel, Rotlander, Rudiger, Rupp
Sagebrecht, Sander, Sauber, Schaden, Schaake, Schauble, Schenk, Scheydt, Schnell, Schondorff, Schubert, Schmidt, Schwanenheim, Semmelrogge, Sierck, Silber, Sinkel, Speilhalter, Steinhoff, Stratz, Stumpfnase
Tauber, Tetzl, Tiele, Tietmeyer, Tischler, Trapp, Treuer, Trommler
Ullmann, Uebele, Ulbricht, Unverzagt, Unzeit
Veigl, Vieweg, Viertel, Vockenburg, Vogel, Vogler
Wagner, Weinrich, Weizsacker, Wennemann, Wegener, Weyrauch, Wiene, Winkler, Winterstein, Witzenberg, Wolkenstein
Zech, Zierenberg, Zimmermann, Zischer, Zopf, Zweifel

Place Names

I've also taken the liberty (sadistic me) to translate some of the original English geographical names, because it sounds rather strange speaking of "the fair town of Kruzikofen in the Middle Mountains". Who dares may use "the fair town of Kruzikofen in the Mittelberge".

Sea of Claws = Klauensee

Wasteland = Kargeland
Forest of Shadows = Schattenwald
Middle Mountains = Mittelberge
Drak Wald Forest = Drakenswald
Grey Mountains = Grauberge (for Bretonnia 'Les Gris')
Axe Bite Pass = Axtschlagpass
Great Forest = Grosswald
Reikwald Forest = Reikwald
The Moot = The Meut (pronounce *-eu-* as *-oi-*)
Upper Reik (or any other) = Niderreik
Blackfire Pass = Dunkelfeuerpass
Blackwater = Schwarzer See
Black Mountains = Dusterberge
The Vaults = Dachberge
World's Edge Mountains = Weltendberge

On of the things that make German such a difficult language is the abundance of compounds, words made up of at least two separate words. Some of these can be used in WFRP as place or family names. The following list contains some which actually work as the bad pun routine established in the original WFRP releases

Aberglaub, Ableben, Alldruck, Ankunft, Backenbart, Beckmesser, Bockmist, Brechreiz, Dampfndel, Denkfehler, Ehrbar, Erbschleicher, Fadenscheinig, Fallbeil, Glimmstengel, Grauspecht, Hirnschmalz, Holzleim, Kastengeist, Kleinkram, Langohr, Lendenschurz, Maulkorb, Mondschein, Nebelhorn, Niednagel, Obenauf, Ohnmacht, Piesepampel, Pillendreher, Rattenschwanz, Rotzbengel, Schaufelblatt, Sumpfhuhn, Tassenrand, Tattergreis