



ANGLO SAXONS

Name

Date

What's in a name? Our names can often tell us something about our past. For many of us who live in England, we may find that our name dates back to Anglo-Saxon times. Let's look at some of the evidence and try to trace the origins of our name.

First names or *Christian* names.

Today, these names have as much to do with fashion, as they do with history. When the Anglo-Saxons were converted to Christianity, many of them chose *Hebrew* names from the bible for their first name. These are still very popular today! Is yours amongst this list?

John Rachel Mark Rebecca Matthew Mary
Sam Ruth Ben Amy Michael Joseph Sarah

As well as hebrew names, the spread of Christianity also brought many Latin and Greek names into popularity. Can you see your name here?

Amanda Andrew Caroline Jason Catherine
Justin Amy Patrick Rosemary Timothy

If you live in Cornwall, Wales, Scotland or Ireland- regions that did not come under Anglo-Saxon influence, then perhaps you'll find your name here.

Glenda Kevin Ryan Ross Megan
Fiona Neil Craig Gary Ian Tara Trevor

Truly Anglo Saxon or Old English names remain popular today. Check out this list for your name- you might be surprised at one or two of them!

Edward Lee Stewart Whitney Elvis Elton
Ashley Alfred Archibald Audrey Beverly
Blake Brad Brenda Burt Warren Wayne
Ralph Richard Rodney

Last names or Family names.

Sometimes the origins of these names are difficult to trace, but these guidelines may help.

-son If your name ends with this (**Jackson, Johnson, Watson, Thompson**), then it is certainly Saxon or Scandinavian.

Job Names like, **Smith, Carter, Thatcher, Miller** all refer to the person's job. A smith was a blacksmith, a carter made carts, a thatcher made roofs and a miller ground corn for bread. Do you have a 'job' name?- if so that is also Anglo-Saxon.

Mc or Mac If your name begins with these it is of Scottish or Irish origins.

Place names like **Wood, Hill, Field** are also very common and are usually Anglo-Saxon.

Can't find your name here? One excellent place to start is the Internet. Try out these two sites-

Ask Jeeves for kids at

www.ajkids.com

Parentsoup at

<http://bnf.parentsoup.com/babyname>

Now go to the sheet, 'The History of My Name' to fill in all the details you can about the origins of your name.