



# Clan COOPER

(Cowper, Cowpar)

**ARMS**

A gold shield with a saltire and a chief, both blue, and on the chief three gold leopard's heads crowned argent.

**CREST**  
**MOTTO**

Not available  
None

**C**OOOPER, Coupar, Couper, Cowper. This surname occurs in one form or another in nearly every county in Scotland. The name was in most cases derived from Cupar in fife, but the occupation of 'cooper' has also contributed to its origin. The earliest record of the name is territorial, when dominus Salomone de Cupir appears as a charter witness in 1245. The name also, is common n early Fife records from the thirteenth to the fifteenth century, additional evidence of its local origin. An instance pointing to the occupation as the source of the name occurs in 1329 when payment to "Alanus cuparius" (i.e. the "cooper") is recorded. John Cupar held land in Aberdeen, 1281. Christian Cowper who held lands in Ravenysden near Berwick in 1275 may have been a relative of Symon Coupare of Berwickshire who rendered homage in 1296. Michael Couper was tenant in ville de Butyll, 1376, and William Coupare had a tenement in Irvine, 1426. Thomas de Cupro, canon of the church of St. Andrews, 1406. Patrick Culpar (the l is silent), witness in Aberdeen 1468 appears in 1477 as Cowlpar and his wife as Cowlper. Finla Couper in Belnakeill, Atholl, was fined for resetting outlawed Macgregors, 1613, Patrick Cowper in Tilliemaad, 1634, and Helen Copper in Keltie, 1672. William Cooper, the poet, writing to Mrs. Courtenay, one of his friends says: "While Pitcairne whistles for his family estate in Fifeshire, he will do well if he will sound a few notes for me. I am originally of the same shire, and a family of my name is still there". Couopar 1479, Couppar 1662, Cowpar 1500, Cowpare 1512, Cuper 1286.

*Taken from "The Surnames of Scotland", by George F. Black, The New York Public Libray 1999.*

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