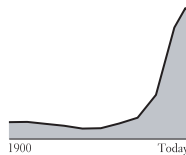


Last Names First

Conventional surnames have arrived with a splash as first names. They appeal to creative namers with their freshness, while their familiarity and

heritage keep them down-to-earth. Creative-rustic: the perfect new-millennium combo. No wonder they're just catching on now . . . right?

Actually, what we're seeing today is only the latest wave of last-name crossovers. Starting at the turn of the



last century, American parents flocked to classic surnames of English literature and aristocracy. Those parents, including many poor immigrants, had grand dreams for their sons. They wanted to send them into the world with sophisticated names ready to take their places in high society. Thus they turned to such historical icons as (John) Milton and (Sir Philip) Sidney. Unfortunately for poor Milt and Sid, the actual aristocrats continued to give their sons names like John and Philip, and the elegant image of their surnames quickly faded.

So how are the newly popular surnames different? The new favorites still lean on their British Isles heritage to conjure up a lifestyle, but that style is a far cry from the Oxbridge world of Milton and Sidney. Instead of nobility, we're seeing hardy tradesmen: Coopers, Tanners, and Masons. And parents have turned away from England to focus on Irish and Scottish traditions: Riley, Mackenzie, Brennan. These new names are rugged and rakish—and they're used for boys *and* girls.

Parents of boys delight in a new field of names with classically masculine features. The trade names in particular are brisk, direct, and stocked with hard consonants. For parents of girls, surnames present an opportunity to start afresh with lively names that carry no gender baggage.

So will these names escape the fate of Sid and Milt? Certainly, some portion of the new names will hold their ground over time to join the ranks of the perennials. Russell, for example, is an old surname that we now accept as a classic first name. Yet with any surgingly popular name group comes the risk of a “freshness date” that soon passes. To avoid a trendy name with a short shelf life, consider some of the similar but less popular alternatives below. Better yet, search your own family tree for surnames that might be revived. When a name's significance is personal, it has roots that shifting fashions can't sweep away.

TRADE NAMES

Archer	Bowman
Bailey	Bailiff, county officer
Barker	Tanner or shepherd
Baxter	Baker
Bridger	Builder of bridges

Carter	Transporter of goods
Carver	Carver of wood or stone
Chancellor	Administrative officer
Chandler	Candle maker
Chapman	Merchant or peddler
Cooper	Barrel maker
Coster	Fruit seller or grower
Currier	Leather finisher
Cutler	Knife maker
Dexter	Dyer
Draper	Maker or seller of cloth
Farrier	Ironworker
Faulkner	Falconer
Fletcher	Arrow maker
Forester	Forest warden
Foster	Shearer
Gardner	Gardener
Garner	Keeper of the granary
Glover	Maker or seller of gloves
Gunner	Artillery operator
Harper	Harp player
Hooper	One who fits hoops on barrels
Hunter	Hunter
Jagger	Peddler
Keeler	Boat builder or pilot
Marshall	Tender of horses/military officer
Mason	Stonemason
Mercer	Fabric merchant
Miller	Miller of grain
Packer	Wool packer
Parker	Gamekeeper
Piper	Piper
Porter	Gatekeeper or load carrier
Potter	Pot maker
Ranger	Game warden
Ryder	Mounted soldier or messenger
Sadler	Saddle maker
Sailor	Sailor
Sawyer	One who saws wood
Slater	Slate roof maker

Smith	Metalworker
Spencer	Pantry servant
Sumner	Court summoner
Tanner	Preparer of hides for leather
Taylor	Tailor
Thane	Freeman or feudal baron
Thatcher	Straw roof maker
Tillman	Farmer
Tucker	Dresser of cloth
Turner	Lathe operator
Tyler	Tile maker
Walker	Dresser of cloth
Weaver	Weaver
Webster	Weaver
Wheeler	Wheel maker
Wright	Builder or machinist

BRITISH ISLES SURNAMES

Addison	Bradford	Carson	Delaney	Gannon
Ainsley	Bradley	Cassidy	Dennison	Garrick
Alden	Brady	Chauncey	Dillon	Garrison
Alton	Brannon	Clancy	Dixon	Gibson
Anderson	Branson	Clifton	Donovan	Grady
Arden	Braxton	Clinton	Doyle	Grant
Arley	Brennan	Cody	Drake	Grayson
Ashton	Brigham	Colby	Easton	Greer
Aubrey	Brock	Coleman	Edgerton	Griffith
Austin	Broderick	Colton	Edison	Hadley
Avery	Brody	Connolly	Ellis	Hailey
Baldwin	Brogan	Courtney	Elton	Hamilton
Bannon	Bryant	Dalton	Emerson	Hardy
Barclay	Bryson	Daly	Everett	Harlan
Barrett	Buckley	Darby	Everly	Harley
Barron	Burke	Darcy	Finley	Harmon
Barton	Cabot	Darnell	Flynn	Harris
Beck	Callahan	Darwin	Ford	Harrison
Beckett	Campbell	Davis	Forrest	Hartley
Bennett	Carey	Dawson	Fraser	Haskell
Berkeley	Carlton	Dayton	Freeman	Hayden

Hayes	Kennedy	Maddox	Preston	Stanford
Hillary	Kenton	Madison	Quincy	Stanton
Hilton	Kiley	Maguire	Quinlan	Sullivan
Hogan	Kinsey	Mallory	Quinn	Tate
Holden	Kyler	Marley	Ramsay	Tatum
Hollis	Lacey	Maxwell	Reagan	Terrell
Holt	Landon	McKay	Reid	Thurman
Houston	Lane	Mckenna	Remington	Tierney
Hudson	Laney	Mckinley	Richmond	Tobin
Hughes	Langston	Merrick	Ridley	Tracy
Jackson	Larkin	Merritt	Riley	Truman
Jameson	Larson	Mitchell	Robinson	Tyson
Jarrett	Lawson	Montague	Roosevelt	Vaughn
Jarrod	Leland	Montgomery	Ross	Walden
Jefferson	Lennox	Murphy	Rowan	Walton
Jordan	Lindsay	Neilson	Rowland	Watson
Judson	Logan	Nelson	Schuyler	Watt
Kane	Loudon	Newton	Shea	Waverly
Keane	Lowell	Nicholson	Shelby	Wesley
Keaton	Lyman	Oakley	Sheridan	Weston
Keegan	Mackenzie	Parrish	Sherman	Whitney
Kelsey	Mackinney	Paxton	Sidney	Willis
Kendall	Maclean	Payton	Simpson	Wilson
Kendrick	Macy	Presley	Spencer	Winston