



Irish Naming Conventions



Irish naming conventions, like all others, were not always followed, but for the most part, were extremely popular from the 18th century right through to, in some areas, the mid-20th century.

These conventions were as follows:

Male Children

- The eldest son would be named after his paternal grandfather
- The second son would be named after his maternal grandfather
- The third son would be named after his father
- The fourth son would be named after his father's oldest brother
- The Fifth son usually would be named after the mothers eldest brother

Female Children

- The family's first daughter was named after her mother's mother,
- The second daughter was named after the father's mother,
- The third daughter of the family was named after her mother.
- The fourth daughter was usually named after the mother's eldest sister.
- The fifth daughter was usually named after the father's eldest sister.

However, if there were only one or two children in the family, then it was normal for the father's relatives to take precedent.

Of course, like anything to do with Family History, you still need to back it up with documented sources, but hopefully, you can be much more certain of your accuracy when it comes to the guesses you make when trying to move back that extra generation.