

Final Court of the Crown Before Stepping Down

There is no specific litany or ceremony for the Crown's Final Court, however there are certain things that must be done in preparation for the Crown to pass from one hand to the next, namely the releasing of household, guards, etc., and the recognition of service.

Something the Crown should be aware of is how quickly time can run on. While there is an obvious desire to publically thank all who have helped the reign, Coronation and First Courts alone are of considerable length, and the populace has to sit through a great deal. For that reason, it is suggested that the Crown plan in advance and leave as little as possible to their Final Court.

Similarly, while the Crown may have received several recommendations for awards to give at the Coronation event, they should remember that their Heirs will be looking forward to giving awards at the event also, and will have greater opportunity at the event to do so. So it is preferable that the Crown gives no awards other than cyphers when stepping down.

There is a misapprehension that Royal Cyphers can only be given in Final Court. In fact, Cyphers can be given at any time during the reign. Likewise the Lochac Order of Grace, which is given once per reign, is usually left until the Final Court, but this does not have to be the case.

Giving of Cyphers

There is no specific ceremony for the giving of Royal Cyphers.

The Crown may choose to give their Cyphers when releasing their household during their final court, or at various times during their reign, as they see fit.

Releasing the Royal Household

There is no specific ceremony for the releasing of the Royal Household (which includes, but is not limited to, lords/ladies in waiting, royal guards, royal officers and functionaries, advisors, pages, other retinue)

General form:

- Call person(s) forth
 - Thank person(s)
 - Release from Fealty or Oaths of Service (if any)
 - Take back token of office (if any)
 - Give Royal Cypher (if appropriate)
 - Dismiss (person then returns to the populace, NOT to behind the thrones.)
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Basic Schedule for Last Court:

- Final awards given by the Crown
- Lochac Order of Grace (if it has not yet been given this reign)
- Release Royal officers/functionaries/lords and ladies in waiting/pages, etc.
- Release King's guard
- Release Queen's guard
- Give any remaining Royal Cyphers
- If Coronation is not to immediately follow, Close Court and adjourn.