

Ogham Writing



Ogham originated in Ireland in the 4th century. It may have been used before then but evidence hasn't (so far!) been found. Ogham is found on rocks and standing stones in Ireland (mostly in Munster), but also in parts of the UK.

Ogham writing consists of a set of marks or notches along a central line. Each group of marks represents one letter in the Latin alphabet.

There are 20 letters in the original Ogham alphabet (a handful of others were added later). To convert modern names or words into Ogham you may need to replace some letters with close-sounding substitutes: replace Y with I, replace J with G, replace P with B, replace Q with K, replace V with F, replace X with Z and replace W with UU. Ogham is written phonetically.

Ogham is read from bottom to top. There is a small gap between each letter and a larger gap between words.

