

Marquess

Marquess (**marquis** in [French](#)) is a title of [nobility](#) in many countries in [Europe](#). It is a [rank](#) higher than an [earl](#) but lower than a [duke](#). 'Marquis' is correct in [France](#), and 'Margrave' in [Germany](#) for a local ruler.

This title was usually granted by a [monarch](#) to reward a subject for longtime faithful service or some very notable deeds. The title is [hereditary](#), meaning that it passes from a father to his eldest son. Usually if a man holding this title dies without having any male [heirs](#), the title is said to become [extinct](#), meaning that it is no longer held by anyone living.

The female equivalent of this title may be styled **marquess**. This rank may be held by the wife of a marquis or granted to a woman in her own right. A woman with the rank of marquess is called a marchioness in the U.K. and elsewhere a marquise.

This [short article](#) about [Europe](#) can be made longer. You can help Wikipedia by [adding to it](#).

Retrieved from "<https://simple.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Marquess&oldid=9544083>"