

First name

The term *first name* is synonymous to *given name*, *forename* or *Christian name*. It refers to the name that was given to the child at birth and is, in Europe, generally combined with the *family name* (also called *last name*). In some countries it is possible to have a combined first name (e.g. Dutch: Jan-Willem), or to have multiple names (in case of the USA and Canada, the second one is referred to as *middle name*).

In some countries, however, people may have only one name (e.g. India, Indonesia, Tibet, Mongolia). In case they do have more names, the format is often similar to western names (given name, optional middle name, family name).