

History - LKS2 Year B



How the Roman Army Was Organised:

The Roman army was divided into groups known as legions, with around 5,000 soldiers in each. In these legions were smaller groups of 80 soldiers each. These were called centuries and were commanded by centurions.

These were soldiers who were in charge - they had to make sure their century trained hard and all followed orders. Centurions would wear a helmet with tall bristles on it, and carry a short rod that showed they were in charge - sometimes, the rod would be used to beat the soldiers who were disobedient. Many centurions were known to be very cruel.



Army Training:

The training that soldiers had to do was very tough and thorough and included marching 20 miles a day wearing full armour. This meant that the Roman armies were very fit and organised.

This training combined with having the most advanced equipment at the time made the Roman army really powerful. The Roman army had many weapons and tactics that other armies hadn't even heard of before!

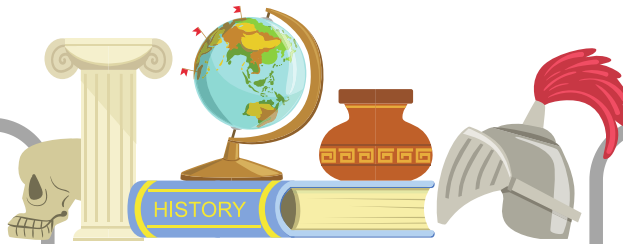


753 BCE: Founding of Rome

509 BCE: Rome became a republic

27 BCE: Augustus became Emperor and leader of the Empire

476 CE: Fall of Rome



Myth: A myth is a traditional, ancient story that is fictional. Often used to explain something.

Empire: A number of nations controlled by one country

Territory: is an area of land which belongs to a person, organization, institution

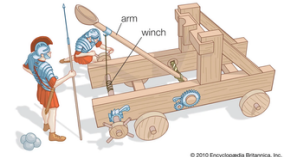
Tribute: a tax paid to the Roman Empire

Emperor: man who rules an empire

The Roman Empire 753 BCE – 476 CE Why were the Romans able to conquer Britain?



They would use huge catapults which were able to fling rocks over distances of several hundred meters. Sometimes these catapults were used to knock down walls of cities that they wanted to capture.



They also used bows and arrows and had some soldiers who were especially skilled in this area too. They also had javelins and swords.



Invasion of Britain:

- Led by the famous military commander Julius Caesar, the Roman army first tried to invade Britain in 55 and 54 BCE. The attempt in 55 BCE failed because of bad weather.
- A year later the Romans had limited success, only conquering the southern Celtic tribes. They collected tributes (taxes) but made no major attempts to expand their territories.
- However, they were back almost one hundred years later in 43 CE under the command of Emperor Claudius. Claudius brought a much larger army and pushed north and west from the south coast. The Romans travelled as far as modern-day Scotland but were unable to keep this area under control, building a wall to keep the northernmost tribes out (Hadrian's Wall).
- Following the successful conquest of much of Britain, the Romans stayed in Britain until 410 CE. By 410 CE the city of Rome was under attack and the empire was falling apart. So the Romans had to leave Britain to help back home. now".

The Roman Legacy:

- Romans built new **roads**.
- London** - When the Romans invaded, they built a fort beside the River Thames. 'Londinium' grew and grew, until it was the most important city in Roman Britain.
- Introduction of **Christianity**
- Language - latin** If a place-name has chester, caster or cester in it, it's almost certainly Roman. Gloucester, Worcester, Colchester, Doncaster and Manchester are good examples. The word chester comes from the Latin word 'castrum' which means a fort.
- The Romans introduced the idea of living in **big towns and cities**. Roman towns were laid out in a grid. Streets criss-crossed the town to form blocks called 'insulae'. In the middle was the 'forum', a big market square where people came to trade.