



L.O. to describe the clothing of a
Roman soldier

- I can label the clothing worn by a Roman soldier
- I understand the designs of roman shields
- I can describe the materials the clothes are made of





The Roman Empire stretched across three continents, from the border between England and Scotland, all the way to modern day Iran. This enormous territory was governed without the use of cars, planes or mobile phones. How did the Romans do it? The answer was their army.

The Roman army was the largest and best organised fighting force in the world. Every last detail from their equipment, to their battle formations, to their leadership was carefully considered and copied across the Roman Empire.





Why become a Roman Soldier?

You could earn
a good reliable
wage

Travel the
world

Uniform, weapons
and equipment all
provided

You would be fit,
strong and brave -
impress all the
women!



If you were brave,
you were rewarded
with a laurel
crown!

While you are in
the Army part of
your wages were
saved so you
could retire in
comfort

You could earn
extra money from
robbing those you
defeated





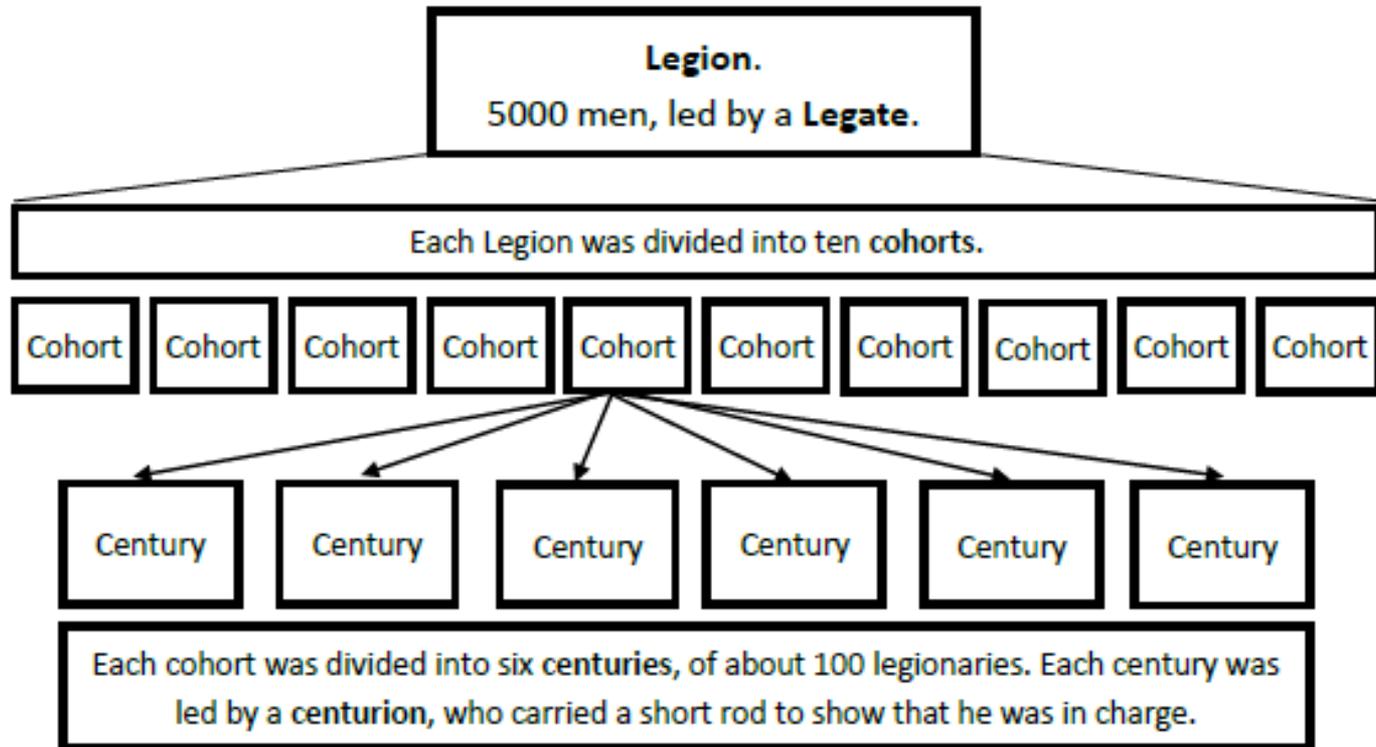
A Roman soldier was called a legionary. They all had the same armour and weapons equipment, perfect for marching and fighting across Europe, North Africa and the Middle East.

Each legionary also carried spare clothes, cooking equipment and food. Every time they set up camp, the army would build a small wooden fort so each legionary would carry some wooden stakes and tools, so that the fort could be taken down in the morning and reassembled in the evening.



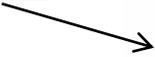


Roman soldier ranking

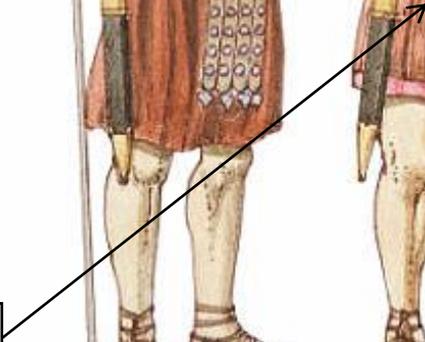




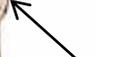
Soldier



Centurion



Legate





Cassis: A metal helmet, with a peak designed to protect the forehead from being smashed, and a guard at the back to protect the neck.

Lorica: A suit of armour made out of metal strips tied together with leather straps. It was very protective, but still allowed freedom to move.

Tunica: Under the armour, a red, woollen tunic.

Pilum: A long, metal tipped javelin to throw at enemy shields. The metal would bend on impact making it difficult for the victim to remove.

Gladius: A short, sharp, double-edged sword for short range combat. Carried on the right.

Baltea: A belt, or apron, of leather strips to protect lower part of the body, weighed down with metal weights.

Scutum: A large shield made of thick wood covered in leather, and rimmed with iron. It was curved to deflect arrows and wrap around the legionary.

Caligae: Heavy leather sandals for marching, with nails driven into their soles to improve the grip.

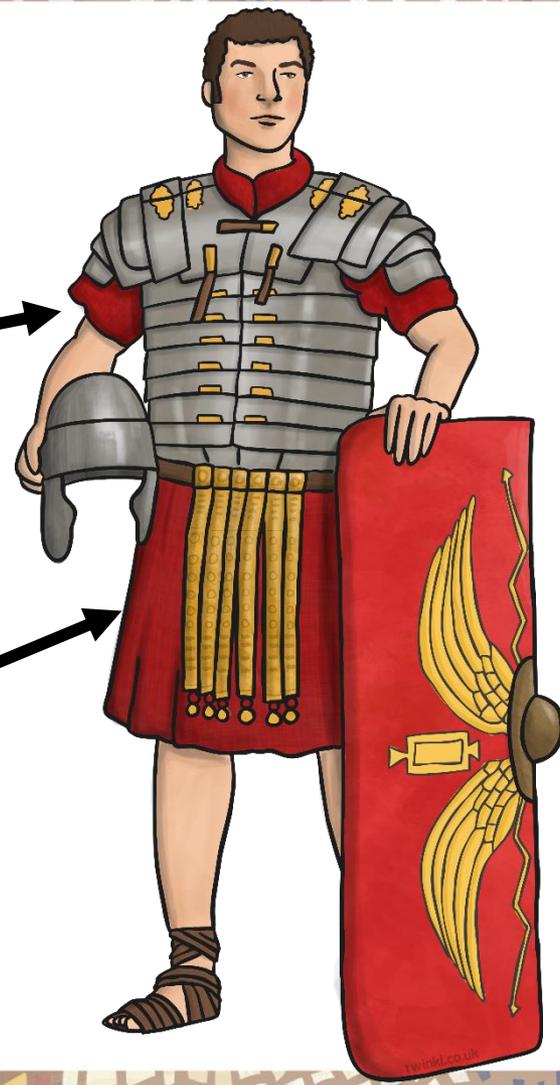
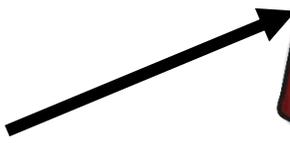




Linen undershirt



*Tunica -
Worn under the
armour, a red,
woollen tunic.*



Lorica Body Armour

The body armour was made from overlapping iron strips.

The iron strips were fastened with hooks and laces at the front and hinged at the back.

The strips were held together with leather strips on the inside so that the armour would be flexible so the soldier could bend.

The whole of the body armour was strengthened by front and back iron plates below the neck.



Cassis

The helmet of a roman soldier was named a cassis.

It was made of metal.

It was designed to protect the head from sword blows.





Scutum

The shield was called a scutum.
It was quite light so it could be held in one hand.

It was curved so that it would fit around a soldier's body to protect from blows.

It was wide enough so that soldiers could join their scutums together in formation in battle.

The metal protrusion on the front could also be used to attack the enemy by using it in a punching motion.





Caligae

Roman sandals were called caligae.

They were made from different thicknesses of leather.

Hobnails (metal studs) were attached to the sole of the sandal so that it would not wear easily, it could be used on rough ground and also for striking enemies with after they had fallen.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5f7RovSbmc&feature=related>





First task: Label the Roman soldier's uniform



Tunica
Cassis
Lorica
Gladius
Baltea
Scutum
Caligae





Second task: Explain why each part of a Roman soldier's uniform was useful and important.

L.O. to investigate the past

Roman Equipment

A legionary typically carried around 27 kilograms of equipment. This kit consisted of his weapons and 15 days' food rations. There were also tools for digging and constructing a 'castra', the legion's fortified base camp.

	Name of equipment	Why it was useful
	Cassis/ Helmet <i>Centurions and other officers wore a crest on their helmet so their soldiers could identify them.</i>	_____
	Loricula/Body armour	_____
	Gladius/Dagger	_____
	Rucksack <i>Contained necessary provisions - a cloak, some wine (mixed with water), a pot and some food. Each soldier carried his own.</i>	_____
	Baltea/Belt	_____

	Name of equipment	Why it was useful
	Caligae/Sandals	_____
	Tunica	_____
	Scutum/Shield	_____
	Pilum/Spear	_____

