

## Roman Roads

Roads come in many shapes and sizes. Did you know they were first invented by the Romans? They were first built when the Roman Empire conquered the world. Ever wondered how they were built? Now's your chance!

Having the best roads meant that the army could march from one place to another. They built the roads as straight as possible, so that the army could take the shortest route.

First, the Roman builders would clear the ground of rocks and trees. Then they dug a trench where the road was to go and filled it with big stones. Next, they put in big stones, pebbles, cement and sand which they packed down in order to make a firm base. After that, they added cement mixed with broken tiles resulting in another strong layer.

On top of that rough construction, they put paving stones in order to make the flat surface. These stones were cut so that they fitted together tightly. Finally, kerb stones were put at each side of the road, this allowed the paving stones to stay in place. It was also used to make a channel for the water to run away and act as a draining ditch.

The roads in the Roman era were known as the best! Imagine a world without roads. That is how Roman roads were built!



## Vocabulary (Roman Roads)

### Never Heard Word Grid

Word	Never Heard	Heard but not sure of meaning	Simple definition

## Retrieval (Roman Roads)

1. When were roads first built?
2. Why did the Romans build roads in the first place
3. What was the second thing the Romans did to build a road?
4. What was mixed with cement to create a strong layer?

## Summarise/Predict (Roman Roads)

1. Summarise the main process of building the roads. Use bullet points or numbers.
2. Predict what would happen if we didn't have any roads today.

### Explain/Compare (Roman Roads)

1. Compare how roads today are similar/ different to Roman roads.
2. Explain why the stones were cut.
3. The Romans built roads as straight as possible. Explain why they did this.
4. Why were kerb stones put at the sides of the road?

### Inference (Roman Roads)

1. What was used in order to make a flat surface?
2. How did the stones fit tightly together?
3. How did the Romans make sure there was not too much water on the roads?
4. What was added to the cement to make the layer even more stronger?