

The Stone Age

The Stone Age was divided into three different time periods –

Palaeolithic Age <i>Old Stone Age</i>	800,000 BC – 10,500BC
Mesolithic Age <i>Middle Stone Age</i>	10,500 BC – 4000 BC
Neolithic Age <i>New Stone Age</i>	4000 BC – 2400 BC

In the Old and Middle Stone Age, people moved from place to place. They lived in temporary homes such as **caves** and **teepees**.

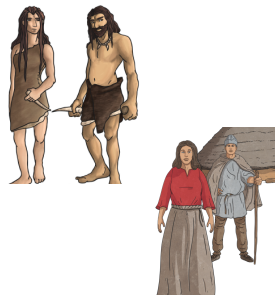


In the New Stone Age, people had started to live in **permanent homes**. Frames made with wooden poles and they were covered with **thatched reeds**, **animal skins** or **turf**.



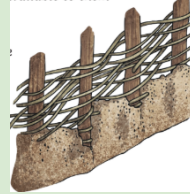
In the Stone Age, people made tools using **stone** and **animal bones**.

During the Stone Age people were **hunter-gathers**, which meant they foraged for **edible plants** and **berries** and **hunted** and **killed wild animals** and **fish**.



Bronze Age 2300 BC—800 BC

People lived in **villages**. The houses were often **circular** and made with **wattle and daub**. This is a building method where **woven branches** are covered with a mixture of **mud** and **manure**.

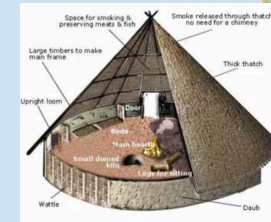


In the Bronze Age, people made **stronger weapons** and **utensils** using **bronze**, which was made by mixing **copper** and **tin**. They made **axes**, **chisels** and **bows** and **arrows**.



Iron Age 800 BC—43 AD

Many Iron Age homes were built on **hill forts** - the hill forts made it easier to **defend their settlements** against attacks from other tribes.



In the Iron Age, **iron ore** was melted in a **fire** and **reshaped**. This was much **stronger** than **bronze**.



During the Bronze and Iron Age, people **farmed** on the land next to their homes. They also kept animals such as **sheep** and **cows**. The development of tools made **farming** easier.

