

## Jewellery

Archaeologists have found some magnificent Ancient Greek jewellery. The Greeks were especially good at gold and silver work and used enamels to give a touch of colour. Until the Hellenistic Period, coloured gemstones were not widely used except in rings. Cheap jewellery was made from bronze, iron and lead.



Pins and brooches were used to fasten tunics and cloaks. Decorated metal rosettes have been found which may have been sewn on to very expensive clothes.



Rings were made entirely of metal or with a carved, coloured stone. Some were in the form of signet rings.



A lot of Greek women wore drop earrings. Some were very elaborate and detailed.



Various styles of jewelled headbands, or diadems, were worn by noblewomen. Men sometimes wore a plain headband.



Bracelets and armlets were often decorated with animal heads. Another popular design was this snake bracelet.



Women wore many styles of delicately made necklaces and chains. At first men wore very little jewellery – only brooches on their tunics, and rings – but later it became fashionable to wear more.

## Make-up and Hairstyles

Make-up and perfume were worn by women who could afford it. They used a powder made from white lead to whiten their faces and rouge to make their cheeks pink. The eyes and lips were painted too. A mixture containing arsenic was used to remove unwanted hair from the body.



Instead of using soap the Greeks rubbed their bodies with oil. When they scraped it off, the dirt came off with it.



This painting shows a girl washing her hair. Fair hair was fashionable for a time and some women dyed their hair or wore wigs.



## Hairstyles

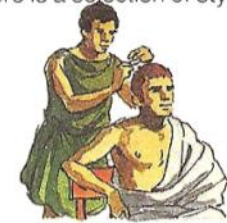


Women grew their hair to at least shoulder length and had it arranged in curls. It was worn loose or piled on

top in various different styles, and held in place by pins, ribbons and scarves. Here is a selection of styles.



Greek men had short or, at most, shoulder length hair. Most of them wore beards, though the younger ones were often clean shaven. By the Hellenistic Period, beards had started going out of fashion.



The barber's shop was a good place to go and meet friends, while you had your hair and beard trimmed.

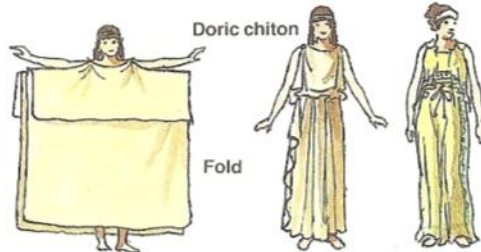


# Clothes

The basic article of clothing for both men and women was the *chiton*, a tunic made from a rectangular piece of cloth. Men usually wore it just above the knee and women wore it full-length.

## Women's clothes

There were two main styles of women's dresses – the Doric and the Ionic. The Doric *chiton* was usually made of wool. The cloth was folded in half lengthways and folded over at the top. It was fastened at the shoulder with brooches. Sometimes the side was sewn up.



The Ionic *chiton* was made of two pieces of cloth, usually linen, sewn up at the sides. It was left open at the top, but fastened together in several places. This style began being worn in Athens in the 6th century BC. Late in the Classical Period, silk and cotton were also being worn.



Dresses were sometimes worn with belts or binding across the chest.

Some materials were patterned or had patterned borders.

## Cloaks and shawls

Light shawls were worn in a variety of different styles. Outdoors, women wrapped themselves in huge cloaks. They sometimes wore a hat too, to protect them from the sun.



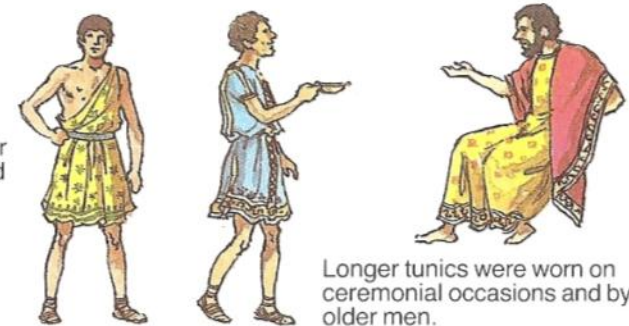
## Men's clothes



Men's tunics were made of wool or linen. They were fastened with a

brooch at one or both shoulders and a belt was worn round the waist.

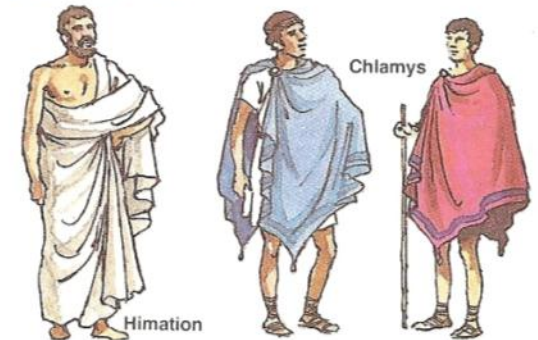
Although plain tunics were common, some tunics were patterned all over or had decorated borders.



Longer tunics were worn on ceremonial occasions and by older men.

## Cloaks

As their climate was so warm, the Greeks did not need many clothes. A large, rectangular piece of cloth, called a *himation*, was often worn wrapped around the body, without a tunic underneath. Young men sometimes wore only a short cloak, called a *chlamys*. For travelling, cloaks were worn over tunics.



Himation

Chlamys

## Hats



Travellers wore caps, or broad-brimmed hats, like these.

## Shoes



Many people went barefoot most of the time. Sandals were the most common form of footwear for both men and women, although boots and shoes were worn sometimes.



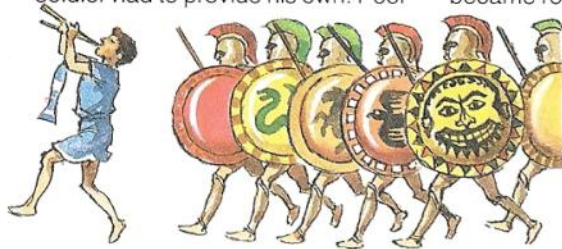
# Greek Armies

In the Classical Period each city state had its own army. All citizens were expected to fight whenever they were needed. There was almost always a war going on somewhere in Greece. When one city wanted to fight another, an animal was sacrificed and its insides were examined, to see if the gods were in favour of a war. Then a herald was sent to declare war. The Athenian army was commanded by ten generals.



Here is a selection of the armour and weapons that were used. Each soldier had to provide his own. Poor

citizens, who could not afford to buy armour, usually joined the navy and became rowers instead.



Greek men were taught how to fight when they were at school. In battle, they fought shoulder to shoulder in a formation called a phalanx. They usually threw their spears and then charged at the enemy to try to break their ranks.



Each army usually had a small force of archers and another of lightly-armed javelin throwers.



This vase painting shows a wounded soldier being bandaged.



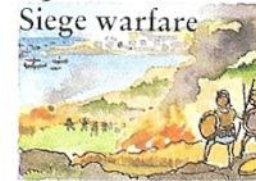
Thessaly and Boeotia had cavalry, but most armies used mounted soldiers only as scouts.

## The Spartan army

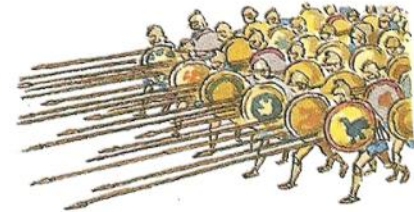
Spartan soldiers were the most feared of all the Greeks. Their education system was specially designed to produce good, obedient soldiers. Even after they married, at the age of 30, they continued to live in the military barracks. The Spartan army was commanded by one of the two Spartan kings\*.



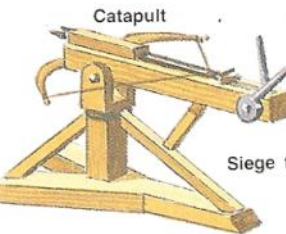
In the Hellenistic Period, cavalry played a more important role. Philip of Macedon and his son, Alexander, were both brilliant commanders, who used infantry and cavalry together.



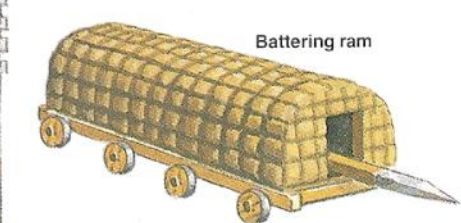
A tactic often used was to destroy the enemy's crops. The army then tried to surround the city by land and sea, to cut off new supplies.



They favoured lighter armour, so that the soldiers could move more quickly. Much longer pikes were used, up to 6m in length.



By about 400BC, the Greeks had started using battering rams to attack enemy walls and catapults



which fired javelins. Siege towers were used to enable soldiers to climb on to enemy walls.



Battles were often fought at sea. Tactics included ramming enemy ships and manoeuvring to break

their oars. Once close to an enemy ship, the soldiers would try to board it and fight.