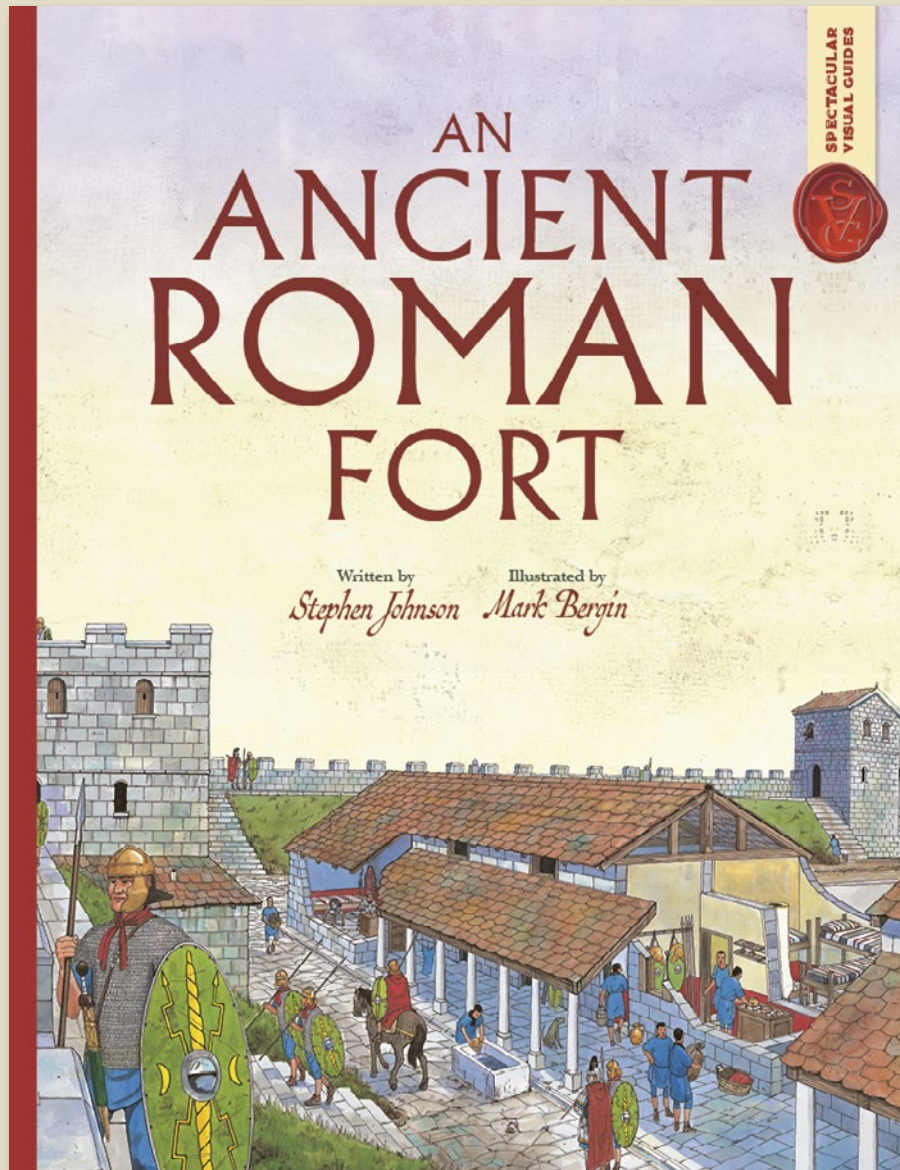


# Spectacular Visual Guides: An Ancient Roman Fort



**An informative visual guide to the Ancient Romans, featuring spectacular cutaway illustrations.**

- Packed with information, including a full glossary, maps, captions and cutaway illustrations to engage readers
- Perfect introductory guide to the ancient world and the Roman empire - a great resource for history studies or teachers
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## FORT COMMANDER'S HOUSE

**T**he Fort Commander lived in great style, often in the centre of the fort and usually made use of the best materials available. His house was a two-story building, with a central courtyard and a garden. The house was built on a raised platform, and the ground floor was used for entertaining guests and for the commander's private quarters. The upper floor was used for the commander's private quarters and for the quarters of his family. The house was built with stone and brick, and the walls were decorated with frescoes and mosaics. The house was built on a raised platform, and the ground floor was used for entertaining guests and for the commander's private quarters. The upper floor was used for the commander's private quarters and for the quarters of his family. The house was built with stone and brick, and the walls were decorated with frescoes and mosaics.

## KEEPING A CLEAN FORT

**A** large amount of work was needed to keep a fort of 600 men in good order. The fort was a large, walled enclosure, and the ground was hard and dry. The fort was built on a raised platform, and the ground floor was used for entertaining guests and for the commander's private quarters. The upper floor was used for the commander's private quarters and for the quarters of his family. The house was built with stone and brick, and the walls were decorated with frescoes and mosaics.

## THE SETTLEMENT

**O**nce the fort was built, the Roman soldiers and their families settled in the surrounding area. The settlement was built on the ground floor of the fort, and the upper floor was used for the commander's private quarters and for the quarters of his family. The settlement was built with stone and brick, and the walls were decorated with frescoes and mosaics. The settlement was built on a raised platform, and the ground floor was used for entertaining guests and for the commander's private quarters. The upper floor was used for the commander's private quarters and for the quarters of his family. The house was built with stone and brick, and the walls were decorated with frescoes and mosaics.

## THE BARRACKS

**A** fort for a cohort of around 600 soldiers would have had six barrack blocks, each containing the living space for a century of 80 men. Plans that have been discovered show that barrack blocks were long and narrow, with the living quarters for the centurion in command at one end. In some parts of the Empire, barracks for the troops had two storeys. The barracks had foundations of stone and the upper parts had a framework of wood, filled with rubble and plastered over. The building would have been roofed in tiles, stone slates, or wooden shingles, depending on what materials were available locally.

Water was precious so rainwater was collected from the roofs of buildings in tanks like this (above). As well as providing water for washing and cooking, the sides of the stone tank could be used to sharpen knives and swords.

Centurions' helmets had distinctive crests. This meant they could be easily recognised by the men in a century.

The living quarters for the troops were cramped, with 8 men in two small rooms. One was used for sleeping, the other for their equipment, some of which took up a lot of space.

GETTING DRESSED

An auxiliary soldier's uniform was not standard issue, but the tunic, put on over the undepictamentum, was usually a woollen tunic.

Over the tunic, chain mail might have been worn to protect the soldier's arms and body. This could reach as far as the knees and was heavy!

Wooden wheel sandals on their feet, their soles reinforced with iron studs. In colder climates, soldiers wore chunky woollen socks.

There were several different designs of helmets, but they normally protruded against sword cuts on the crests and the neck.

Centurions had different patterns for different units and wore oval or rectangular.

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