

Era	753 BC–476 AD
Locations	across much of Europe
Items	mosaic floors, weaponry, jewellery
Style	intricate patterns often incorporating animals and symbols of power and strength
Media	stone and tile mosaic, wood carving, metal work, stone carving

Vocabulary:

Topic related vocabulary:

mosaic	art work made with small pieces of glass or tile
intricate	complicated and detailed
tesserae	tiny coloured stones used by the Romans to create mosaics
wealth	plentiful supply, usually of money
scutum	a roman shield
legionnaire	a type of Roman soldier

Facts about the art:

Mosaics

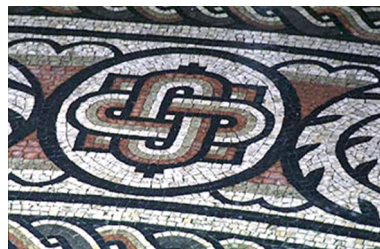
- Romans loved to use mosaics for decoration, particularly on floors.
- Mosaics are made from tiny coloured stones called tesserae which are arranged to make different pictures and patterns. Tesserae were stuck to mortar (cement) to keep the stones in place.
- Mosaics were used to demonstrate wealth or to show important historical events.
- Lots of mosaics have been found from the Roman empire—over 2000 in Britain alone.

Shields

- The shields were mostly made of wood - layers glued together to make the curved shape, then a layer of leather and linen cloth.
- Designs were painted onto the front. One of the most famous is the eagle's wings and lightning bolt. The eagle was the symbol of the Roman army, the lightning bolt was the symbol of Jupiter, the king of the gods.

Key pieces:

Roman mosaic examples

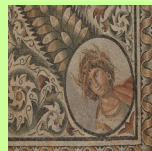


Roman shields



From 753 BC

Roman art



Born 1940

Ken Done



Born 1956

Andy Goldsworthy



today

