

Weaponry of the Middle Ages

The weapons of the Middle Ages are very different from those used by today's soldiers. Wars were often scenes of brutal, hand-to-hand fighting. The knights did their fighting protected by heavy suits of armor and riding on horseback, while foot soldiers used bows and arrows or fought hand to hand with crude weapons and wore little protection from the blows of their enemies.

Weapons of the Middle Ages are drawn on the following page. How many of them can you match to their names below?

1. _____ a lance, which was a type of spear carried by knights.
2. _____ a long bow and arrow, used by foot soldiers.
3. _____ a mace was used for clubbing. It was usually carried by foot soldiers. It had a ball with spikes attached to a wooden handle.
4. _____ a dagger.
5. _____ a battle-axe, a weapon of foot soldiers.
6. _____ a crossbow and arrow, a powerful and accurate weapon.
7. _____ a sword, usually carried by a knight, sometimes by foot soldiers.
8. _____ a scabbard, the cover or shield for the sword.
9. _____ a halberd, a combination of a battle-axe and a pike. It was about six feet long and was usually the weapon of a knight.
10. _____ a bludgeon, a type of mace, carried by foot soldiers. It was used like a club with the ball attached to the club by a chain.
11. _____ a war hammer or hawk's beak, so named for its shape. It was used to pierce mail.
12. _____ a mace, made with bars of spikes attached to a handle. Used by foot soldiers for clubbing.

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