

So...

How did the Romans change Britain?

When the Romans arrived in **AD43**, they introduced new ideas and ways of living to Britain.

They gave us new towns, plants, animals, a new religion and ways of reading and counting. Even the word 'Britain' came from the Romans.



Roman Roads

Britain had no proper roads before the Romans - there were just muddy tracks. So the Romans built new roads all across the landscape.

The Romans knew that the shortest distance from one place to another is a straight line. So they made all their roads as straight as possible to get around quickly.

They built their roads on foundations of clay, chalk and gravel. They laid bigger flat stones on top. Roman roads bulged in the middle and had ditches either side, to help the rainwater drain off.



Religion

Before the Romans came, the native Britons were pagans. They believed in lots of different gods and spirits.

The Romans were pagans too, but they didn't believe in the same gods as the Britons. They let the Britons worship their own gods, as long as they were respectful of the Roman ones too.

Christianity arrived in Britain during the second century. At first only a few people became Christian. When Christianity started to get popular, the Romans banned it. Christians refused to worship the Roman emperor and anyone who was caught following the new religion could be whipped or even executed.

Language, writing and numbers

Before the Romans came, very few people could read or write in Britain. Instead, information was usually passed from person to person by word of mouth.

The Romans wrote down their history, their literature and their laws. Their language was called Latin, and it wasn't long before some people in Britain started to use it too.

We've still got lots of words and phrases today that come from Latin. Words like 'exit', which means 'he or she goes out',



Roman
numerals

How did the Romans change towns?

The Romans introduced the idea of living in big towns and cities. Roman towns were laid out in a grid. Streets criss-crossed the town.

After the Romans, the next group of people to settle in Britain were the Anglo-Saxons. They were farmers, not townspeople. They abandoned many of the Roman towns and set up new kingdoms.



TASK: Write one or two sentences for each one. Do not just copy the information put it into your own words or use your own research facts from Monday!

Roads



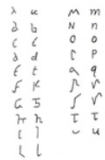
The Romans ...

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