

Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age)

During the Palaeolithic period, people were purely hunter-gatherers. They were nomadic, which means they moved from place to place, hunting and gathering food along the way, rather than living in one location.

At this time, stone tools with sharp edges were made. They were used for hunting wild animals and cutting plants.



Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age)

This era began as the Earth's climate became warmer and ice that covered the land began to melt.

Sea levels began to rise, creating islands, and allowing plants and animals to flourish.

People started to live in one place for longer periods so they could experiment with farming the land, growing crops such as wild grains. There were still nomadic hunter-gatherers, especially in areas where the land was less suited to farming.



Neolithic (New Stone Age)

Farming was gradually introduced. Cultivating crops and domesticating animals became common.

Agriculture changed the way that humans used the land. Crops were farmed so they could be stored, therefore feeding more people for longer.

New technologies were developed for farming, such as the invention of wheel carts, ploughs and irrigation systems. As more people could be fed, the size of tribal settlements grew.

