

Clothes and jewellery

Vikings used to wear loads of jewellery just to demonstrate how rich they are. They carved shapes and patterns onto things like brooches and handles of swords. These patterns included criss-crosses and animal shapes. Did you know, when vikings woman were buried they wore 2 brooches on both sides of their chest? Viking woman mainly wore brooches just to hold up their dresses. Viking clothes were made out of wool and linen. Mens wore tunics, trousers and a belt and the woman wore two dresses. The rich vikings clothes were made out of silk. They traded them from overseas. Also in winter, vikings wore fur to keep warm.

Religion and Gods

When vikings came to England they were called pagans. Many vikings were converted to christianity. The vikings chief Gods was called Odin and his wife was called Frigg. All the vikings believed that Odin was in Valhalla. This was a type of heaven where vikings go after they die. Pagans believed after death people were buried in their positions so that they could use it in their next life.

Houses and food

Vikings used whatever natural resources that were in stock, to make their houses. Walls were probably made out of stone or wood. The roofs were made out of sticks, mud and dung to keep warm. Vikings kept an open fire to bring heat and for a place to cook. They hung meats and fish above the fire to preserve them with the smoke. Also they made bread by grinding corn into flour and mixing it with water to make dough. They also preserved by drying out the fire with salt. People ate with wooden bowl or plate and ate with a knife. Some vikings drank from horns.

Art and craft

Viking metal workers made objects like iron and gold. Bone and antler were commonly used by good craftsmen to make objects such as combs and handles for knives. Yorvick was an important viking who worked in a making centre. Most craftsman worked on the street building a range of items. A place in the city of York means street of the cup maker. As vikings converted to christianity, their customs and festivals also changed, uniting together the old and new religions, Yuletide became christmas.

Rhyme and writing

Vikings wrote using letters from an alphabet called the Futhark. The individual letters of the viking alphabet were called runes. In total there are 16 runes. Fortune tellers were popular in the viking times. Runes were carved on these small stones and the fortune teller would pull them out of a bag and would read them one at a time, reading the future as each rune was revealed. The vikings loved to make up riddles by carefully choosing words to describe a thing or an object without saying its name. Vikings used rhyme to tell long stories. It is known as a sagas. Sagas often told about heroic characters fighting evil monsters.