

**Key Questions:**

Why were castles built?

Who lived in a castle?

How have castles changed over time?

**Timeline**

**Iron Age:** British tribes build hill forts to defend themselves from attack.

**Romans:** Forts and fortresses are built to house the Roman army. These are later taken over by **Angles, Saxons and Jutes**.

**Normans (1066):** After the Battle of Hastings, William I ("The Conqueror") becomes King of England. He begins a huge castle-building project. There were two stages:

1. Motte and Bailey castles made of wood.
2. Stone castles centred around a keep.

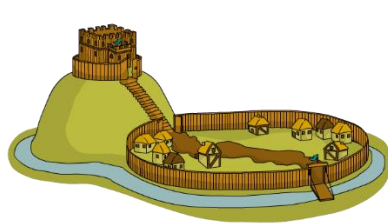
**Windsor Castle** is built by William the Conqueror.

**12<sup>th</sup> Century:** concentric castles (two layers of stone walls) are developed.

**14<sup>th</sup> Century:** castles become more comfortable and less focused on defence.

**Highclere Castle** is built in the 14<sup>th</sup> Century as a residence for the Bishop of Winchester.

**Tudors onwards:** Castles are now almost entirely used as stately residences rather than defensive buildings.



*A motte and bailey castle*



*A moat surrounding a castle*



*A stone castle keep*



*A drawbridge which can be raised and lowered*



*Highclere Castle today*



*Windsor Castle today*

**Key Vocabulary**

**Bailey** - an enclosure filled with wooden buildings, animals and food.

**Cannon** - a large gun that fires cannonballs.

**Castle** - a building designed to protect the people inside.

**Drawbridge** - a bridge over a moat that can be raised to keep people out.

**Gong farmer** - a servant who had the job of keeping the privy (toilet) clean.

**Keep** - a strong building in the middle of the castle where the Lord and Lady lived.

**Lord/Lady** - a wealthy and important person.

**Moat** - a ditch around the castle filled with water.

**Motte** - a man-made hill with steep sides.

**Servant** - a worker in a castle. They might cook, clean or farm.

**Soldier** - a fighter who would defend the castle.