

Year 1 Block 4 History Knowledge Organiser - Who was William the Conqueror?

Timeline of William the Conqueror

1. 1028	William the Conqueror is born.
2. 1037	William became Duke of Normandy at the age of only seven years old.
3. 1052	Married Matilda of Flanders. William and Matilda had six daughters and four sons.
4. 1066	14th October: The Normans and the Saxons fought the Battle of Hastings. King Harold was killed. William had won the Battle of Hastings. 25th December: William was crowned King of England in Westminster Abbey in London.
5. 1070	The Building of Norman castles in England including the Tower of London.
6. 1086	Compilation of the Domesday book.
7. 1087	9th September: William the Conqueror died at Rouen, Normandy.

Significant People: William the Conqueror



- Became King in 1066
- Beat Harold of Wessex at the Battle of Hastings.
- Came from Normandy.

Vocabulary

1. Castle	A large building that had thick walls, battlements, towers, and in many cases a moat.
2. King	Male ruler of a country. Can be husband to Queen.
3. Queen	Female ruler of a country. Can be wife to a King
4. Lord and Lady	Important people of high rank who run and own the castles. Lords are men and Ladies are women.
5. Battlements	The top of the castle wall with raised sections and lowered sections to allow people to fire arrows at their opponents in
6. Portcullis	A strong iron gate that can be raised to allow the drawbridge to be lowered.
7. Drawbridge	A bridge that can be lowered or raised to enter and exit a castle.
8. Moat	A deep ditch that surrounds a castle. It can be filled with or without water.
9. Turrets	A small tower built on the castle, at the corner or on top of a larger tower.
10. Keep	Fortified tower built within castles for defence.
11. Bailey	The outer wall of a castle.
12. Ramparts	A wall used to defend the castle.
13. Hall	The main room in a castle.
14. Solar	A Lord or Lady's bedroom.
15. Rebellion	Revisiting or fighting against authority (people in charge)

Types of Castle

Motte and Bailey

- Built first because they were **quick and cheap** to build.
- King William** needed castles as soon as possible to defend his new crown.
- Made out of **wood**.
- It has been said that nearly 1000 motte and bailey castles were **built by the Normans**.
- A famous motte and bailey castle is **Warwick Castle**.

Keep and Bailey

- Built when rebellion against **King William** calmed down.
- Longer to build.
- Made of wood, but **some made from stone**.
- The keep top was sometimes covered with animal skins.
- Famous keep and bailey castles are **Windsor Castle and the Tower of London**.