

Ancient Civilizations

Where modern ideas began

- ANCIENT EGYPT (c.3100 – 30 BCE) — Hieroglyphs, pyramids, irrigation farming. Built civilization along the Nile.
- ANCIENT GREECE (c.800 – 146 BCE) — Democracy, theatre, philosophy, the Olympic Games. Many ideas in modern law and science begin here.
- ANCIENT ROME (c.753 BCE – 476 CE) — Roads, aqueducts, concrete, the Roman alphabet. Empire stretched across Europe, North Africa and the Middle East.
- ANCIENT CHINA (c.1600 BCE – present) — Paper, gunpowder, the compass, silk, the Great Wall. The world's oldest continuous civilization.
- THE MAYA (c.1500 BCE – 1500 CE) — Advanced astronomy, mathematics (including zero), accurate calendars, monumental cities in Central America.

