

Getting dressed



Iron Age **CLOTHING** was made from **wool**, **linen** and **leather** (animal skins). In the winter people wore animal **furs** and wool **cloaks** to keep warm. But you couldn't just buy clothes from a shop. You had to make your own!

Archaeologists know about **IRON AGE** clothing because during our excavations we find the **tools** used to make them.



Spindle whorls were used to twist and spin **wool** from sheep into **thread**.



Loom weights held the **thread** tight on the loom as it was woven into **fabric**.

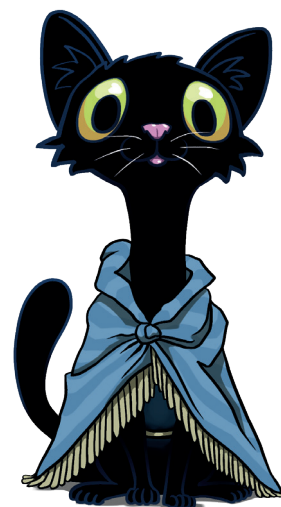


Needles made from bone or metal were used to sew **clothes** together.

We don't have any pictures of Iron Age **clothing**.

We also don't usually find them during our excavations because natural materials like **wool** and **linen** break down quickly. But sometimes archaeologists are very lucky. They can find pieces of Iron Age clothing in wet places like **peat bogs**.

Clothing found in peat bogs tell us Iron Age people liked bright **colours**. They used dyes from **berries** and **plants** to make their clothes **blue**, **red**, **yellow**, and **green**.



Make your own brooch

They didn't have zips or buttons in the Iron Age! They used **pins** and **brooches** instead.

These could be very simple or beautifully **decorated**. How brooches looked and what they were made from tell the archaeologists a lot about the person who owned it. The more gold and decoration, the richer you probably were!

Brooches could also be **traded** from other parts of Britain, or places like France.



ACTIVITY: It's time to dress to impress and make your own brooch!

For this activity you will need a pencil, scissors and a piece of kitchen foil.

Follow the step-by-step instructions on the activity sheet and create your brooch - you can even wear it! (make sure you ask an adult to help you!)

Creative writing



These are some brooches which have been found in **England**.

Some have **coloured patterns**, others are shaped like animals and dragons!



Romans brought over new types of brooches, these included **animal designs**; brooches could be shaped like rabbits, chickens, and fish.



ACTIVITY: Imagine you are an archaeologist digging on the A428 and you have just found a beautifully decorated brooch.

Use the template and follow the prompts to write your story!

