

What belongs in the great hall?

The servants at the Palace have been cleaning the great hall and everything is a mess! Do you know which items below belong in the great hall? Circle what you think belongs in the room and then see if you are right with the answers below!



Stokesay Castle medieval great hall



Answers

Items used during the medieval period



Herbs – Drying herbs was an important job to do and they would be hung inside, possibly from the roof beams. The herbs would be used in cooking and for scent and creams as well as medicines.



Cat – A cat would be expected to pay for its keep by catching and eating rats and mice.



Sword – Useful in times of war but only the wealthy would own one.



Books – Books were handmade with pages made of vellum (animal skin) and belonged to monks. The majority of people in England at that time could not read or write.



Lamb and sheep – Would be kept for wool and eating and any remains used for clothes, cooking oil. The bones would be used for gaming pieces or toys. In bad weather or to stop poaching, the animals would be brought inside.



Canopy bed – This is the type of bed, someone of high status would have. There would be curtains to pull around the bed from the canopy.



Quill and ink – Would have been used at this time but the scribes were mainly those living in ecclesiastical residences and the majority of people could not read or write.



Coin – Would be used, although many people would barter their wares or time instead of handing over coins. Coins, made from precious metals, would be cut for payment if no change was on offer.



Horse cart – This is only useful if you owned a horse, pony or oxen. Most people could not afford to own these animals..



Hand cart – This was a useful item as it could be pulled by a person.



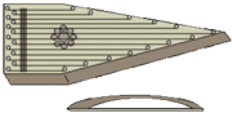
Calf – Would be brought inside in bad weather and to stop poaching. If possible the larger animals would be housed in an adjoining barn. The calf's mother would be milked. When this could no longer happen, the cow would be sold on or eaten and the skin, fat, and bones were used to make clothes, shoes, strapping, bags, soap like creams, cooking oil, candles and spindles for spinning and the loom, needles, handles for items, gaming pieces and toys.



Spinning wheel – Spinning was done mainly by women or older people.



Feathers – These would be used for mattresses and pillows for wealthy people that slept on a raised bed.



Psaltery – This is an instrument like a small harp.



Hay – This could be used for making a mattress and pillows. Often people would sleep on the floor or on a slightly raised pallet bed. Sometimes the whole family would sleep in the same bed.

Items not used during the medieval period

Sewing machine



Electric kettle



Four poster bed



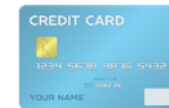
Television



Goldfish



Credit card



Camel



Drum set

