

## Chapter Summary

### **Section 1: The Early Middle Ages**

The Roman empire was replaced by smaller Germanic kingdoms. When Charlemagne aided Pope Leo III in 799, he was crowned Emperor of the Romans and worked to create a unified Christian Europe.

### **Section 2: Feudalism and the Manor Economy**

The system of feudalism was based on mutual obligation between lords and vassals. Most people were serfs and had hard lives farming the land on manors, which were self-sufficient. People rarely traveled beyond their villages.



## **Chapter Summary** (continued)

### **Section 3: The Medieval Church**

The Medieval Church was the center of village life during the Middle Ages. Priests administered sacraments and traveling friars preached. Popes used excommunication and interdicts to enforce their will.

### **Section 4: Economic Recovery Sparks Change**

Advances in farming technology made the food supply more stable and led to the growth of a middle class made up of merchants and artisans. They formed guilds and created new towns and cities.

## Objectives

- Describe Western Europe after the collapse of the western Roman Empire.
- Describe how Germanic tribes carved Europe into small kingdoms.
- Explain how Charlemagne briefly reunited much of Western Europe and what happened to his empire after his death.



## Terms and People

- **Clovis** – a warrior king of the Franks who established a kingdom in Western Europe after the fall of the Roman empire
- **medieval** – the culture of the Middle Ages
- **Franks** – a Germanic tribe that conquered present-day France and neighboring lands in the 400s
- **Charles Martel** – a Frankish leader who rallied warriors to push Muslims out of France
- **battle of Tours** – a battle in which Christians stopped the Muslim advance into Western Europe

## Terms and People (continued)

- **Charlemagne** – the grandson of Charles Martel; he briefly united Western Europe when he built an empire stretching across France and Germany
- **Magyars** – nomadic people who overran Eastern Europe and parts of Western Europe after A.D. 900
- **Vikings** – farmers and expert sailors from Scandinavia who raided European river towns starting in the late 700s



## How did Germanic tribes divide Western Europe into small kingdoms?

When the unifying force of the Roman empire disappeared from Western Europe, Germanic kingdoms replaced it.

Greco-Roman, Germanic, and Christian traditions blended during the Middle Ages.

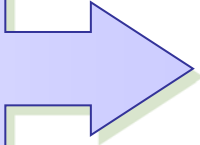
The period between ancient times and modern times during A.D. 500–1500 was called the Middle Ages.



After winning a battle in 496, King **Clovis** established a Christian kingdom in Western Europe.

It was one of many kingdoms that developed when Roman authority collapsed.

**Europe declined during the early Middle Ages, for several reasons.**



1. The unifying force of the Roman empire was gone.
2. The region was invaded repeatedly.
3. Trade and classical learning decreased.



## Many Germanic tribes conquered parts of the Roman empire.

After converting to Christianity, Clovis earned the support of his subjects in Gaul and the pope in Rome.

At the same time, Muslims were creating a new civilization and empire in the Mediterranean region.



Muslim armies overran Christian lands and crossed into France.

**Charles Martel** led Frankish warriors in the **battle of Tours** to push them back.

**Charlemagne**, Martel's grandson, briefly united Western Europe.



- He fought Muslims, aided the pope in Rome, and was crowned Emperor of the Romans.
- Charlemagne was a skilled leader who revived Latin learning and brought scholars to his court.

When Pope Leo crowned Charlemagne Emperor of the Romans, the idea of a united Christian empire was revived.

Charlemagne spread Christianity to conquered people throughout his kingdom and set up a strong, efficient government.

However, the pope's action angered the emperor in Constantinople and deepened the split between east and west.

After Charlemagne died, his empire was split up.  
His heirs faced waves of invasions.

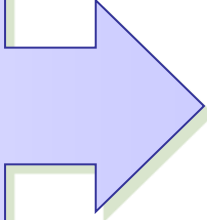


**Invaders included the nomadic people called the **Magyars**, who overran Eastern Europe around 900.**



- They went on to plunder parts of Western Europe.
- After 50 years, the Magyars were pushed back to Hungary.

Charlemagne's empire broke apart even more when the **Vikings** began attacking European coastal and river towns.



- These Scandinavian people were expert sailors.
- They opened trade routes linking northern Europe to the Mediterranean.

## Objectives

- Explain how feudalism shaped medieval society.
- Describe the life of knights and nobles.
- Analyze how the economic system of the manor worked and how it affected peasants and nobles.





## Terms and People

- **feudalism** – a loosely organized system of rule in which powerful local lords divided their landholdings among lesser lords
- **vassal** – a lesser lord in the system of feudalism
- **feudal contract** – an exchange of pledges that created the political and economic relationship between lords and vassals
- **fief** – an estate
- **knight** – a mounted warrior

## Terms and People (continued)

- **tournament** – a mock battle fought by knights
- **chivalry** – a code of conduct adopted by knights which required them to be brave, loyal, and true to their word
- **troubadour** – a wandering musician
- **manor** – a lord's estate
- **serf** – peasant on a manor



## How did feudalism and the manor economy emerge and shape medieval life?

Medieval society was a network of mutual obligations.

It was part of a new political and economic system called feudalism that guided European life during the Middle Ages.

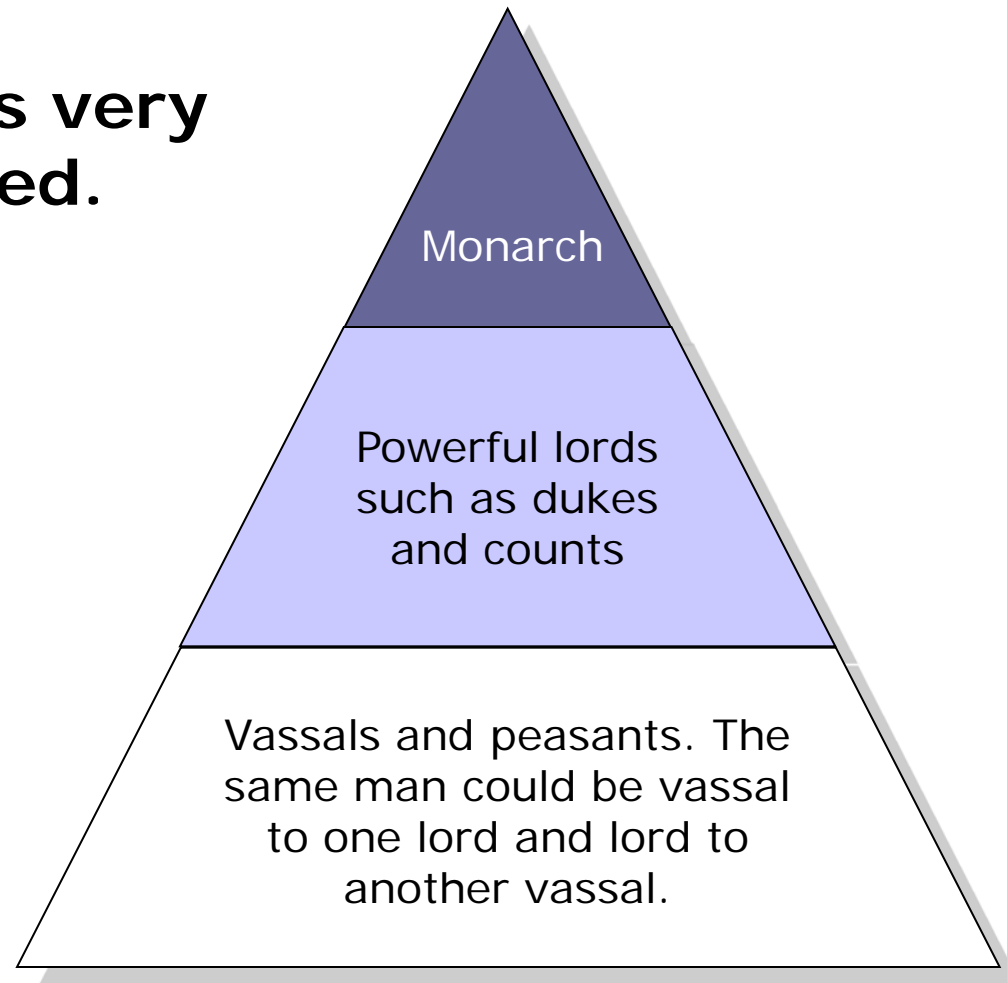
**Feudalism** developed in Europe in response to the need for protection from outside invasion.

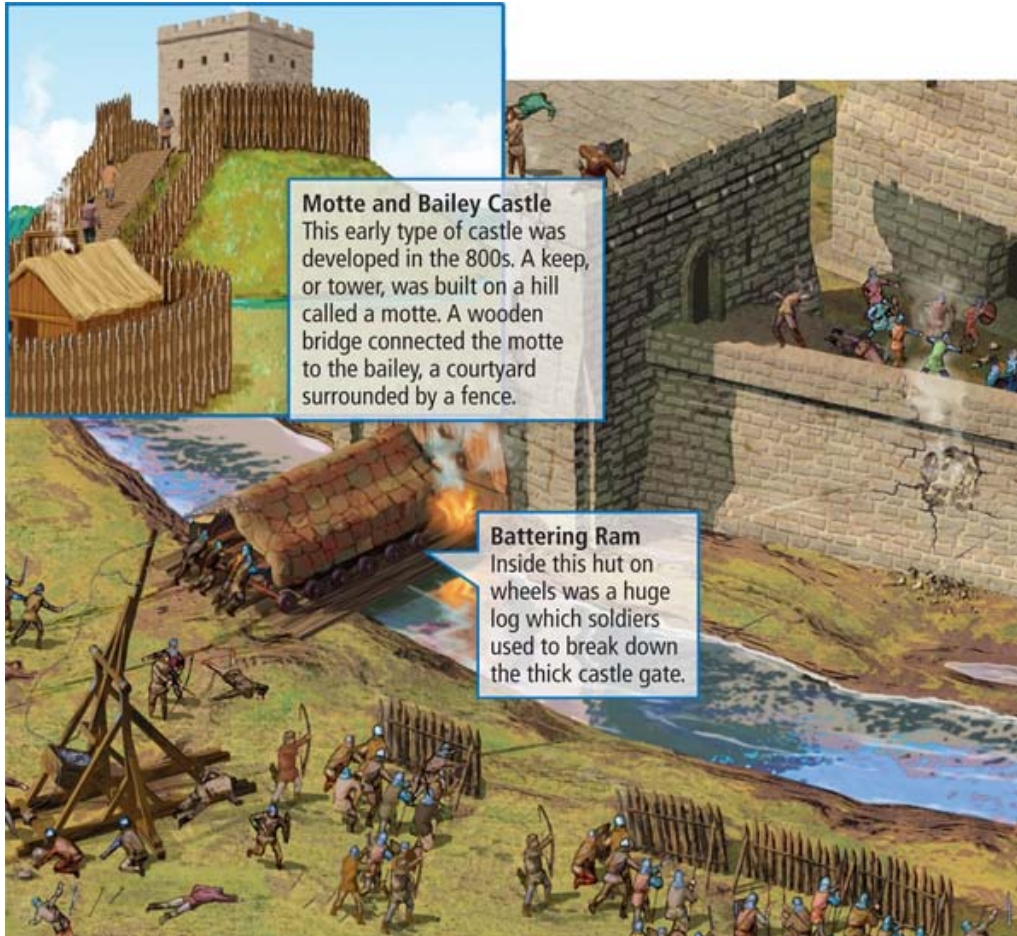
- Local lords divided their landholdings among **vassals**.
- These **vassals** pledged service and loyalty to the lord for a **fief**.
- This system was set by an exchange of pledges known as the **feudal contract**.

**Under the feudal arrangement, both lords and vassals had obligations to each other.**

Obligations of the lord	Obligations of the vassal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Protect the vassal</li><li>• Grant the vassal a fief, or estate</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pledge loyalty to the lord</li><li>• Provide the lord with 40 days of military service per year</li><li>• Provide money payments and advice</li></ul>

**Society was very structured.**





Warfare was a way of life during this time.

Castles were built for defense, and nobles began training at a young age to be **knights**.

Boys as young as seven went to the castle of their father's lord to learn to ride and fight.

When training was done, the young man was made a knight in a public ceremony.

Knights engaged in warfare and mock battles called **tournaments.**



Knights adopted a code of conduct called **chivalry**.



- It required them to be brave, loyal, and true to their word, as well as to fight fairly.
- **Troubadours** sang about brave knights and their devotion to their loves.

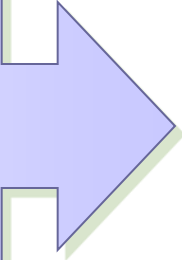
**Siege Tower**

If attackers could span the moat, they would roll this huge tower up to the castle walls. Then they faced hand-to-hand combat at the top.

**Warfare at this time usually consisted of trying to seize a castle.**

These fortresses housed lords and knights and provided refuge to peasants in time of war.

**Noblewomen took over the duties of the lord when he went off to war.**



- Eleanor of Aquitaine was a political leader in Europe for many years during this time.
- Women's rights of inheritance were restricted, however, and they were expected to bear many children.

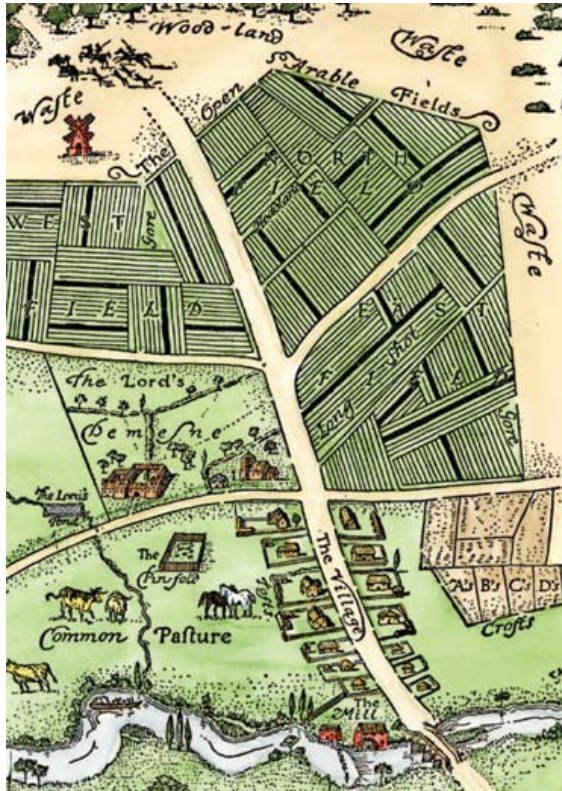
## The **manor** was the heart of feudal life.

It included a village or two and surrounding lands. The manor system worked by mutual obligation.

Most of the population were **serfs**, who were bound to the land.

THE MANOR SYSTEM	
Lord of Manor to Peasants	Peasants to Lord
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use of land for farming</li><li>• Protection</li><li>• Could not be forced off land</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Money or crops as rent</li><li>• Labor on lord's lands</li><li>• Certain fees</li></ul>

Most **manors** were self-sufficient, producing everything the people there needed.



Most peasants never traveled farther than a few miles away during their entire lives.

**Life was harsh and short for the peasants.**



- Everyone worked long hours, and few lived past age 35. They ate a simple diet of bread and vegetables and slept in huts with their livestock.
- Peasants celebrated at Christmas and Easter by dancing and playing rough sports.

## Objectives

- Explain how the Church shaped medieval life.
- Understand monastic life and the influence of medieval monks and nuns.
- Analyze how the power of the Church grew during the Middle Ages and how reformers worked for change in the Church.
- Describe the situation of Jews in medieval Europe.



## Terms and People

- **sacrament** – a sacred right of the Church
- **Benedictine Rule** – regulations for monastic life created by a monk named Benedict and used by monasteries and convents across Europe
- **secular** – nonreligious; having to do with the worldly, rather than the religious
- **papal supremacy** – authority of the pope over all secular rulers, including kings and emperors
- **canon law** – the body of laws developed by the Church



## Terms and People (continued)

- **excommunication** – the penalty of throwing someone out of the Church and forbidding them from receiving sacraments or a Christian burial
- **interdict** – an order excluding an entire town, region, or kingdom from receiving most sacraments and Christian burial
- **friar** – a monk who, rather than living in a monastery, traveled and preached to the poor
- **St. Francis of Assisi** – a wealthy Italian who gave up his comfortable life and founded the first order of friars



## How did the church play a vital role in medieval life?

The Christian Church and its teaching were central to medieval life. **The Church became the most powerful force in Europe.**

Religion shaped everyday life and exerted great economic and political influence.

**By the late Middle Ages, Western Europe was a Christian civilization.**



- Everyday life was shaped by Church rituals.
- The parish priest administered **sacraments** and explained the Bible.



People went on pilgrimages to visit holy places, often in spring.

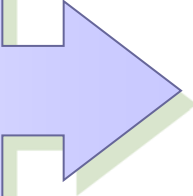
In *The Canterbury Tales*, Geoffrey Chaucer portrays members of all three classes of society as they travel on a pilgrimage to Canterbury.



Once Christianity had spread throughout Europe, anyone who was not a member of the Church was viewed with suspicion.

## Daily life in the village revolved around the Church.

The church was the largest public building in the village.



By the 1100s, communities had built large cathedrals to glorify God.

## Church attitudes toward women were two-sided.

Women were viewed as weak and easily led to sin.

The Church often punished women more harshly than men for similar misdeeds.

However, Mary was seen as the pure mother of God and prayed to as an ideal.

The Church also protected women and fined men who injured their wives.

**Some men and women lived their lives in monasteries as monks or nuns.**

- **Benedictine Rule** was a set of rules to regulate monastic life.
- It spread to monasteries across Europe.
- Monks and nuns took **vows of obedience, poverty, and chastity.**
- They worked in the field or workshop, prayed and studied.
- Monasteries served as basic schools, inns, and libraries. **They kept learning alive.**



Women could not become priests, but they could enter convents.



- There, they could compose music and write. Abbess Hildegard of Bingen wrote plays.
- During the later Middle Ages, the Church withdrew rights from nuns.

Medieval popes claimed **papal supremacy**, and the Church had absolute power in religious matters.

The Church developed its own rules, known as **canon law**.

Those who disobeyed faced penalties such as **excommunication** or the **interdict**.

The Church was also a force for peace.

It used its authority to end fighting among nobles. Warfare declined during the 1100s.

The success of the Church caused problems and corruption. There were several movements for reform.

New preaching orders of **friars** developed. The first was founded by **St. Francis of Assisi**.

He gave up a comfortable life when he heard a voice speak to him during prayer.

**Jewish communities existed all across Europe at this time.**



- Since Muslim rulers were tolerant of Jews and Christians, Spain became a center of Jewish culture.
- Prejudice against Jews increased by the late 1000s and thousands migrated to eastern Europe.

## Objectives

- Summarize how new technology sparked an agricultural revolution.
- Explain how the revival of trade revolutionized commerce and led to the growth of towns.
- Analyze the rise of the middle class and the role of guilds.
- Describe life in medieval towns and cities.



## Terms and People

- **charter** – a written document that set out the rights and privileges of a town
- **capital** – money for investment
- **partnership** – a group of merchants who pooled their funds to finance a large-scale venture
- **tenant farmer** – a farmer who paid rent for his land
- **middle class** – a new social class ranked between nobles and peasants

## Terms and People (continued)

- **guild** – an association of merchants or artisans
- **apprentice** – a trainee
- **journeyman** – a salaried worker



## How did changes in agriculture and trade lead to the growth of towns and commerce?

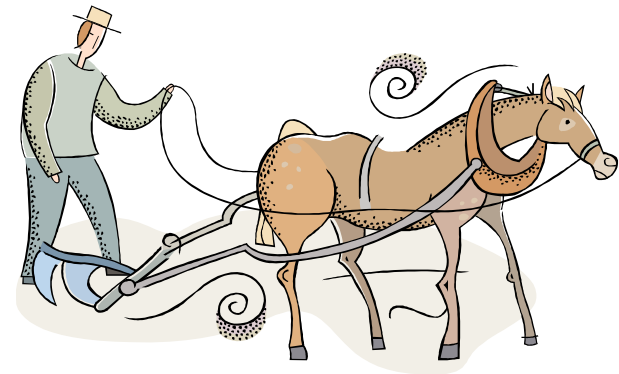
Enormous changes occurred in medieval Europe that led to the rise of the middle class and apprenticeship agreements.

These changes began in agriculture.

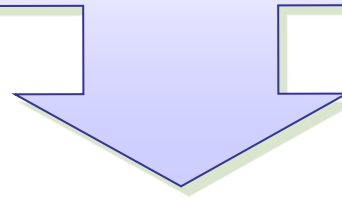


**An agricultural revolution transformed Europe around A.D. 1000.**

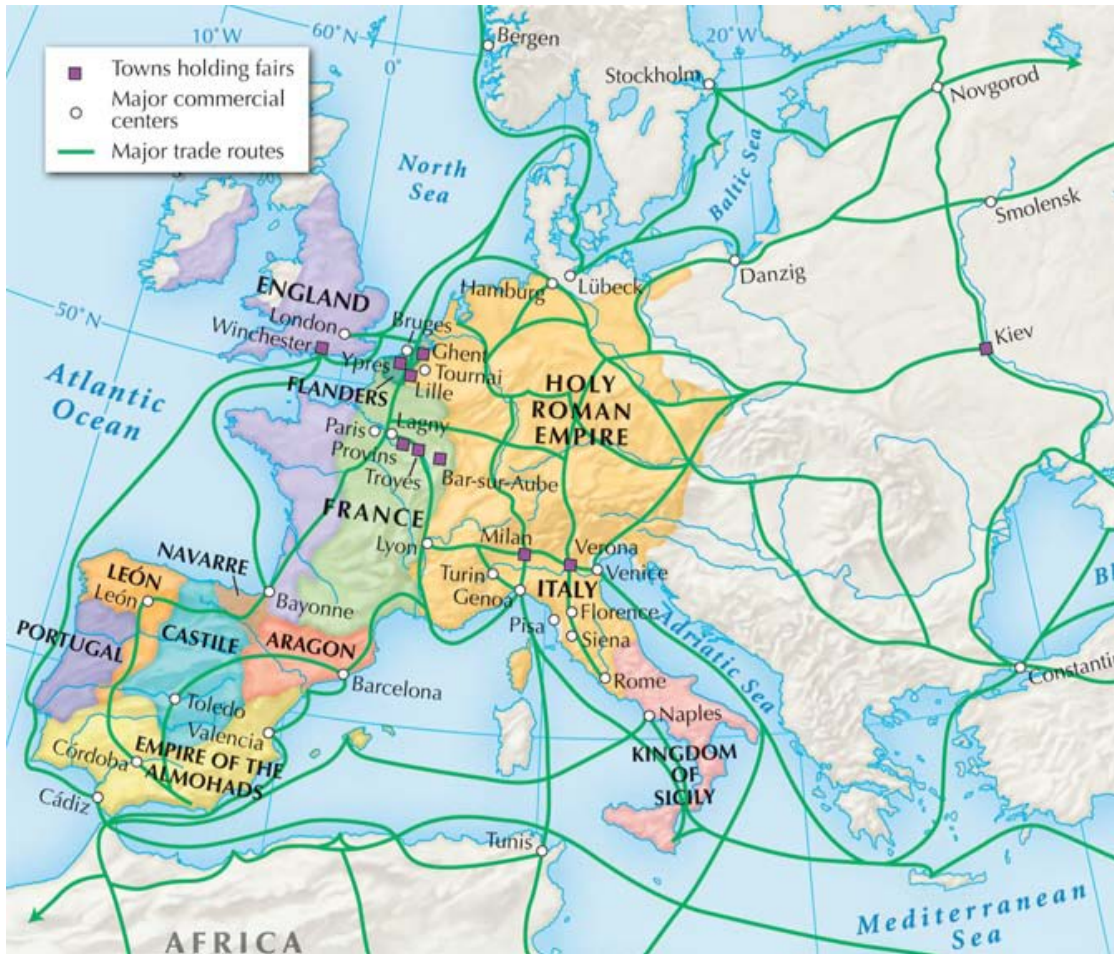
Peasants began using horses, a new kind of harness, and iron plows, and to plant more crops.



**In addition to these improvements, peasants began to rotate crops to increase yields.**



As a result, the population of Europe tripled between 1000 and 1300.



As the population grew, warfare declined and people began to travel.

Trade routes expanded, leading to the exchange of goods such as silk, jewels, spices, and metals.

At the same time, towns and cities grew.  
A merchant who set up a town got a **charter**.



## The use of money changed society.

- As people sought **capital**, banking grew.
- Merchants formed **partnerships** and developed insurance. Serfs became **tenant farmers**, who paid rent.

Merchants, traders, and artisans formed a new **middle class**.

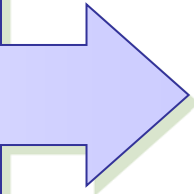
They operated in **guilds**, using emblems such as these to advertise.



**Guild** members cooperated with each other and prevented nonmembers from operating in the trade.

- To become part of a guild, a child would first be an **apprentice**, or trainee.
- Most people worked for guild members as **journeymen**.

Women worked in many crafts and had their own **guilds**, especially in silk and wool making.



Sometimes, a woman had the same trade as her father or husband and inherited his workshop.



## Medieval cities were very different than the cities of today.

They were surrounded by high walls and had very narrow streets.

There was usually a church with a steeple that could be seen from far away.

They were terribly overcrowded and had no sanitation.