



## Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age

The **Stone Age** is split into three periods.

- **Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age)**: people were hunter-gatherers and used basic stone tools.
- **Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age)**: people still hunted and gathered but began to live in small groups.
- **Neolithic (New Stone Age)**: people started farming, building permanent homes and using polished stone tools.

- The **Stone Age**, **Bronze Age**, and **Iron Age** are all part of **prehistory** (before written records).
- Archaeologists use artefacts to learn about the past.

Humans changed from **nomadic hunter-gatherers** (moving around to find food) to **settled farmers** (growing crops and keeping animals).

Tools and weapons changed over time:

- Stone tools in the Stone Age.
- Bronze tools in the Bronze Age.
- Iron tools in the Iron Age.

**Barrows** are earth burial mounds built in prehistory (especially the Bronze Age).



### Vocabulary

prehistory	the time before people wrote things down
artefact	an object made or used by people in the past
hunter-gatherer	someone who hunts animals and gathers wild plants for food
nomadic	moving from place to place, not staying in one home
settlement	a place where people live

Around 2400 BC, the **Beaker** people came to Britain.

- They brought new customs, beliefs and technologies (the "Beaker package").
- They also helped to develop **Stonehenge** as a ceremonial and burial site.

