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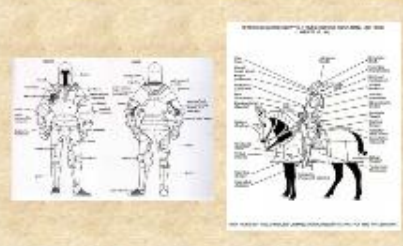
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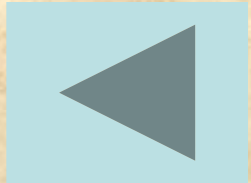


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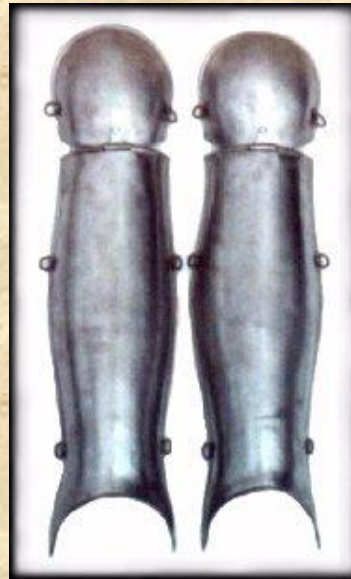
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Menu





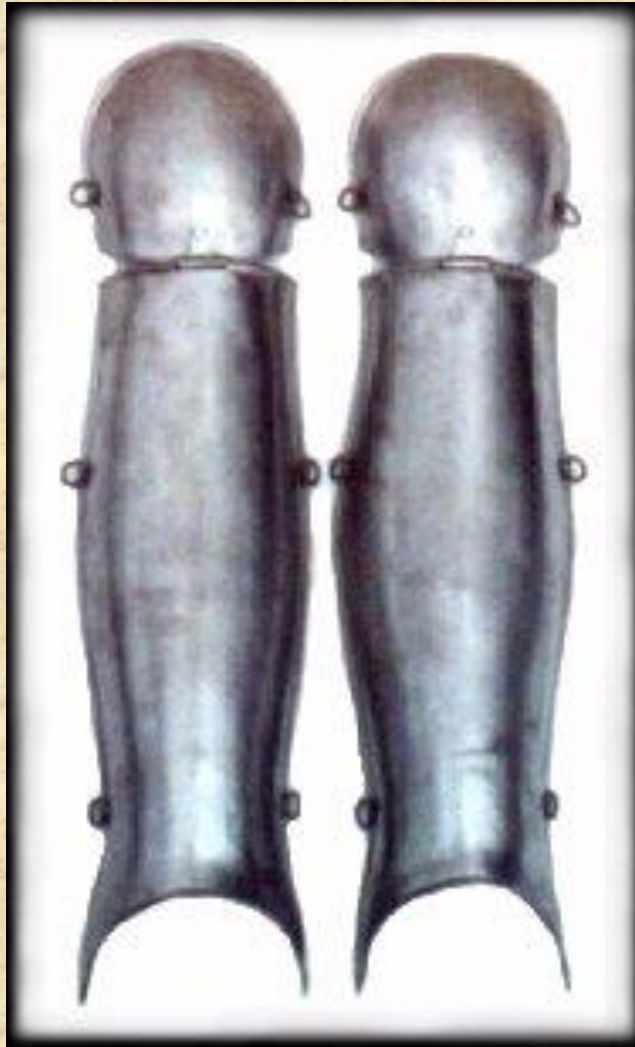




Worn by Roman Legionaries. Replaced old [chain mail armour](#). Made up of dozens of small metal plates, and held together by leather laces.







Worn by Roman Officers as protection for the lower legs and knees. Attached to legs by leather straps.





Used by Roman Legionaries. Handle is located behind the metal boss, which is in the centre of the shield. The boss protected the legionaries hand. Made from several wooden planks stuck together. Could be red or blue.





Worn by Roman Legionaries. Includes cheek pieces and neck protection. Iron helmet replaced old bronze helmet. Plume made of Hoarse hair.







Soldier on left is wearing old chain mail and bronze helmet. Soldiers on right wear newer iron helmets and Lorica Segmentata. All soldiers carry shields and gladius'.



Used as primary weapon by most Roman soldiers. Was used as a thrusting weapon rather than a slashing weapon







Worn by Roman Officers.  
Decorations depict muscles of the body. Made out of a single sheet of metal, and beaten while still hot into shape









Worn by Vikings, Normans, Saxons and most other West European civilizations of the time. Chain mail is very light, flexible, and yet still provides very good protection against most melee weapons. Chain mail is made by shaping tiny strips of metal into circles and then joining each circle with four others. Many thousands of tiny inter-linking metal rings are needed for just one suit of mail. See [Chain Mail Coif](#).

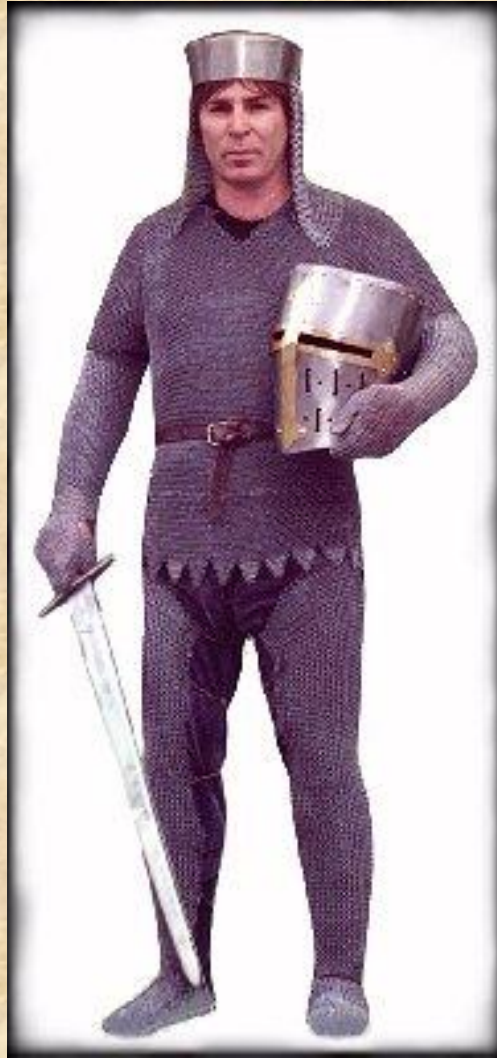




Worn as protection for the lower abdomen. Later worn under plate armour. Also seen, [Maximilian leg armour](#).







Worn with Great steel helmet and under helmet for head protection. Suit made entirely of thousands of tiny inter-linking metal rings.





Worn as protection for the head, neck and upper chest. Sometimes worn under helmet and/or breastplate.





NOTE: Surcoats are worn over armour to deflect desert sun rays.



Worn by European Crusaders during the early crusades. Armour made up of full suit of chain mail, chain mail coif and Great Steel Helmet.





Worn by Norman soldiers around the time of the battle of Hastings. Armour includes [chain mail hauberk](#), skull cap helmet with nose piece and a tall Calvary kite shield.









Includes greaves, pauldrons and large knee plates. Armour is decorated with brass edges.







Includes Pig-faced helmet, chain mail coif, chain mail arm protection, studded leather breast plate, plate mail gauntlets and transitional leg armour. Armour is decorated with brass edges.





Transitional armour is that armour that was worn during the period of transition from [chain mail](#) to [plate mail](#). Early transitional armour contained mostly chain mail and some plate mail, but later transitional armour contained mostly plate mail and some chain mail.







Early breast plate made up of several plates. Armour decorated with brass edges.





Plate metal helmet with pointed skull cap and hinged visor with thin eye slits and long, pointed mouth piece.







Made of a piece of hard, thick leather shaped to fit the chest. Small metal studs are added to give extra strength.

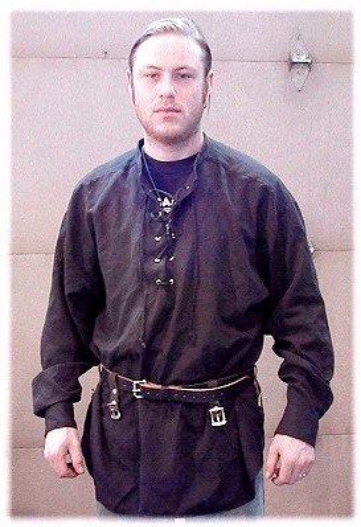


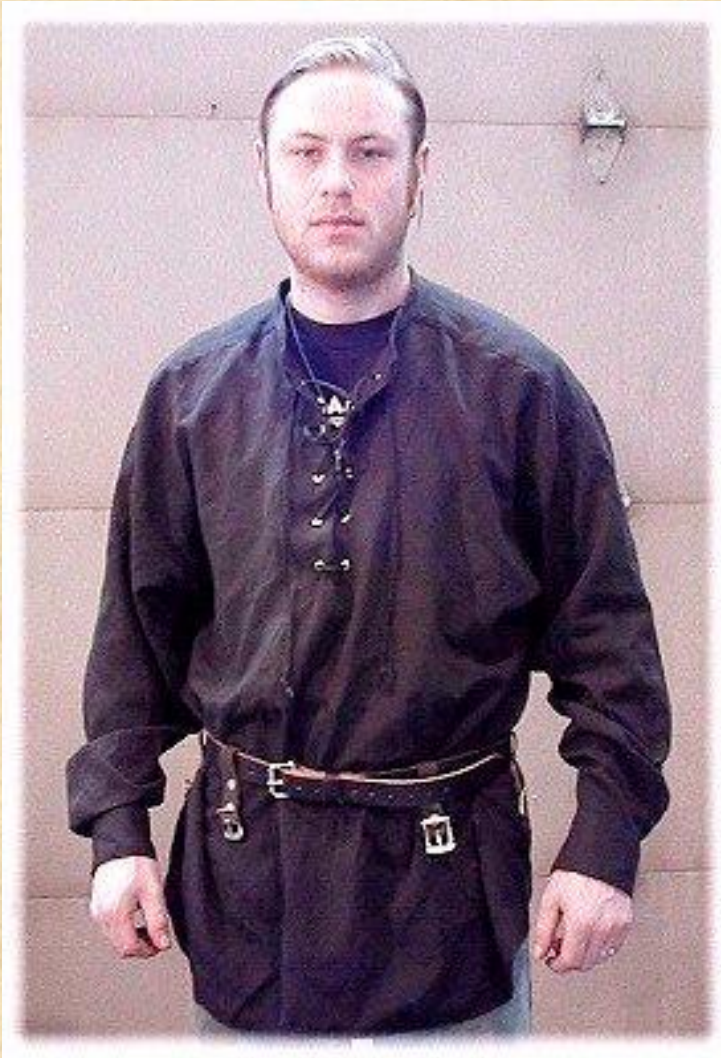


Includes a mix of [chain mail](#) and early plate mail arm pieces. Gauntlets are very large [plate mail gauntlets](#) with articulated finger plates. Armour is decorated with brass edges.









Worn as an undercoat to plate mail armour. It Provides extra protection and cushioning of blows, and stops the armour rubbing the body.







These gauntlets have several plates to protect each individual finger. Other gauntlets only have one or two plates to protect all four fingers.





Plate mail armour is the most advanced type of armour. It consists of dozens of metal plates of various sizes all shaped to fit a certain part of the body. Eg. upper thigh, shoulder, head, etc. Under a suit of plate mail is worn a quilted jacket called an \*\*\*\*\*. (See \*\*\*\*\* for more info.) Onto certain places of this jacket are sewn sections of [chain mail](#). This chain mail serves to protect the areas of the body that are difficult to cover with plates. Eg. the back of the knee, or the back of the elbow. Each plate is made out of a single piece of metal, by heating it and then beating it into the correct shape. The Plates are kept on by leather straps. Many plates are joined together with rivets. This allows for much of the flexibility of the armour.







Shown here are the plates that make up the protection of the back half of the body. They include the helmet, the back plate, shoulder plates, arm armour, gauntlets and the greaves.





Helmet includes dual thin eye-slits, large hinged mouth piece, holes for breathing and a large metal crest on the top of the skull cap, mainly for decoration.







Includes full plated leg protection and large, round ended plate mail sabatons.









Milanese armour was an early type of plate mail. It included early developments such as chain mail sabatons, chain mail skirt, non-finger gauntlets, lack of plated neck armour, and an early 'T' faced helmet.





Side view of a slightly later suit of Milanese armour. Includes later developments such as fully plated sabatons and tassets.







Cuirass includes two-piece breast plate, armpit guards, fauld of four lames (waist protection) and tassets. Cuirass held together by leather straps and rivets.





Early hand gauntlets didn't usually include separate finger pieces, instead they had a single plate. Such is the case here.







Similar to the Great Helm. The 'T' shaped gap allows good vision and air circulation. Was a fairly primitive helmet with no visor. Upper part of helmet is shaped so that sword blows will glance off.









Gothic armour was an intermediate type of plate mail armour. It includes fully plated gauntlets, sabatons, neck armour, skirt and armpit guards. The armour includes a small amount of *fluting*, which is prevalent in [maximilian armour](#).





Helm includes bare skull cap, hinged protruding neck pieces, and single thin eye slit. Helmet has no neck or lower chin protection. Helm does not include mouthpiece.







Gauntlets feature a single finger piece which is shaped like individual finger plates. The gauntlets also include a separate thumb piece, and a long, fluted vambrace overlap.





The Back plate connects to the plate mail skirt at the bottom and is overlapped by the shoulder plates at the top. Back plate is partially fluted in the centre.







Gothic breast plate is made of several plates, and is fluted near the armpit and neck. Also seen; shoulder plate and armpit guard.

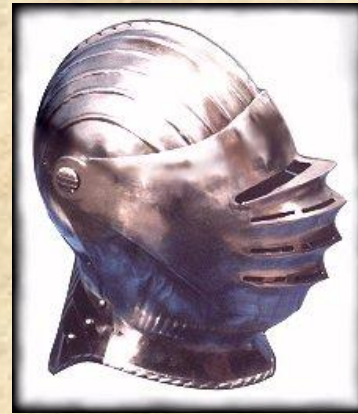




Gothic  
single piece  
undecorated  
greaves.  
Sabaton has  
a very long  
pointy thing  
at the end.









Full suit of Maximilian armour. Armour has small ridges called *fluting*, for decoration and also for extra protection. Maximilian armour is a very advanced type of armour.







Gauntlets are worn over thick leather glove. Gauntlets shown are non-finger gauntlets.





Protected the back and connected to the shoulder plates.







Legs were protected by sabatons, greaves, articulated knee plates with side wings, and cuisse.





Advanced Maximilian arm armour includes elbow piece shaped like a “pikeman's pot” helmet.







Helmet includes fluted skull cap and hinged visor with rather odd eye slits.









Greenwich armour was a very advanced type of armour. It included the use of advanced finger gauntlets, multi-piece pauldrons, advanced vambrace guards, multi-piece plated skirt, multi-piece cuisses and a 'spanish-style' breast plate.





Leg armour includes advanced fully-articulated sabatons, single-piece greaves, knee-guard wings and multi-piece cuisse.







Includes articulated cavalry tassets, 'Spanish-style' breast plate, multiple rerebrace plates, single piece vambrace and elbow guards.





Greenwich  
helmet with  
hinged visor.  
Includes neck  
plates.

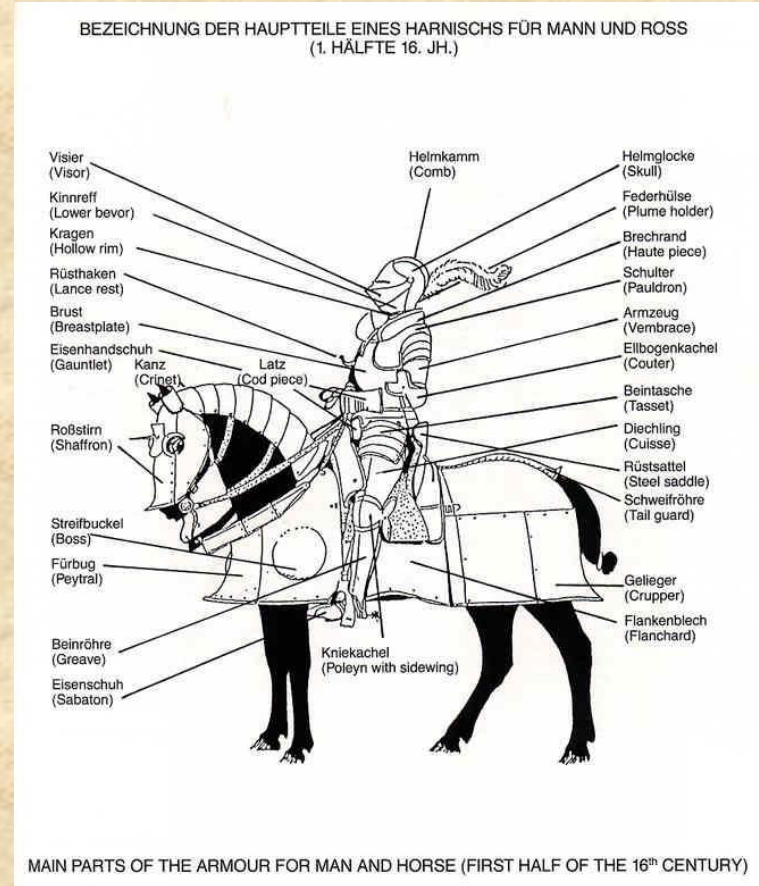
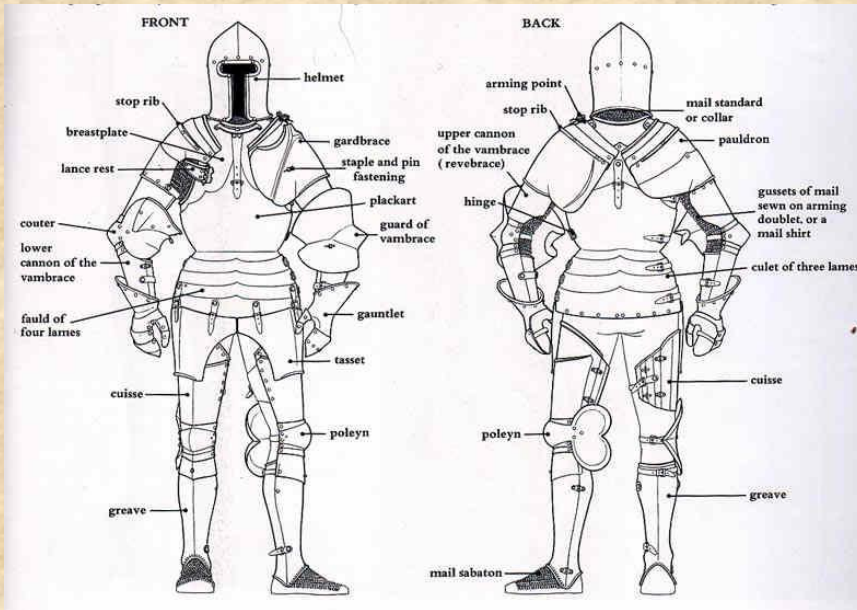






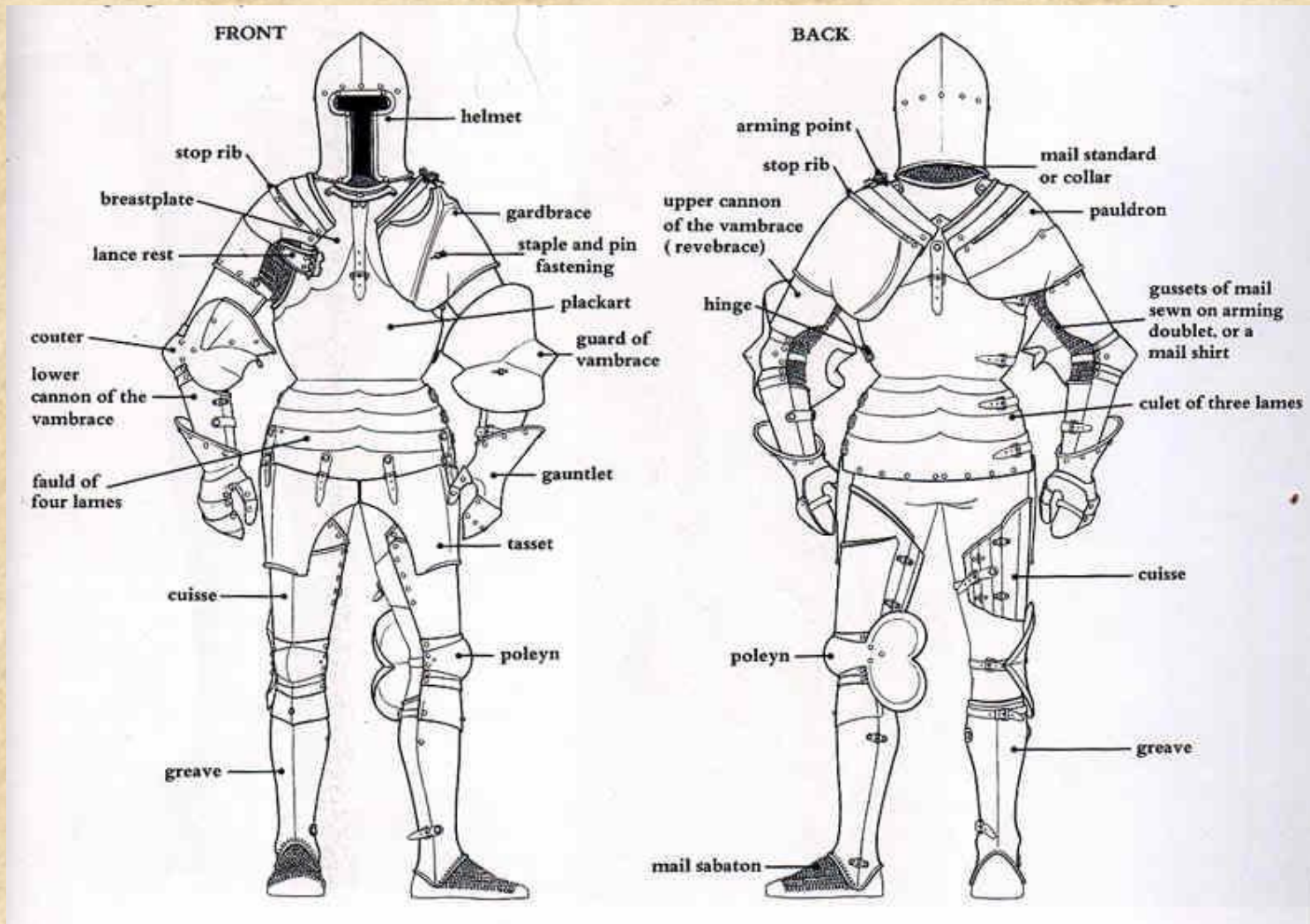
Advanced finger gauntlets with long vambrace overlap.



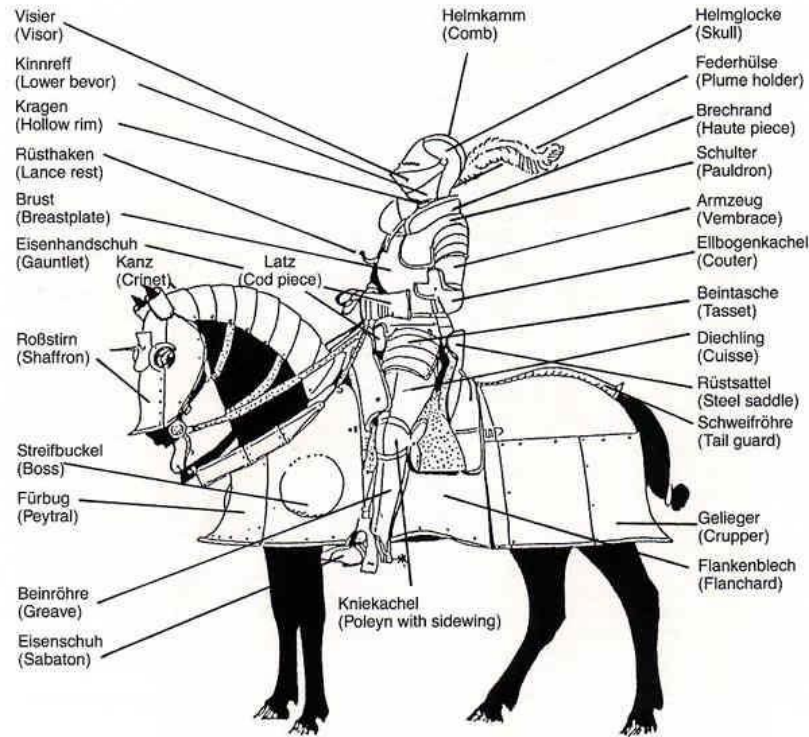


# The Credits





BEZEICHNUNG DER HAUPTTEILE EINES HARNISCHS FÜR MANN UND ROSS  
(1. HÄLFTE 16. JH.)



MAIN PARTS OF THE ARMOUR FOR MAN AND HORSE (FIRST HALF OF THE 16<sup>th</sup> CENTURY)





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All Armour Pictures Thanks to  
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