

## How to build your motte

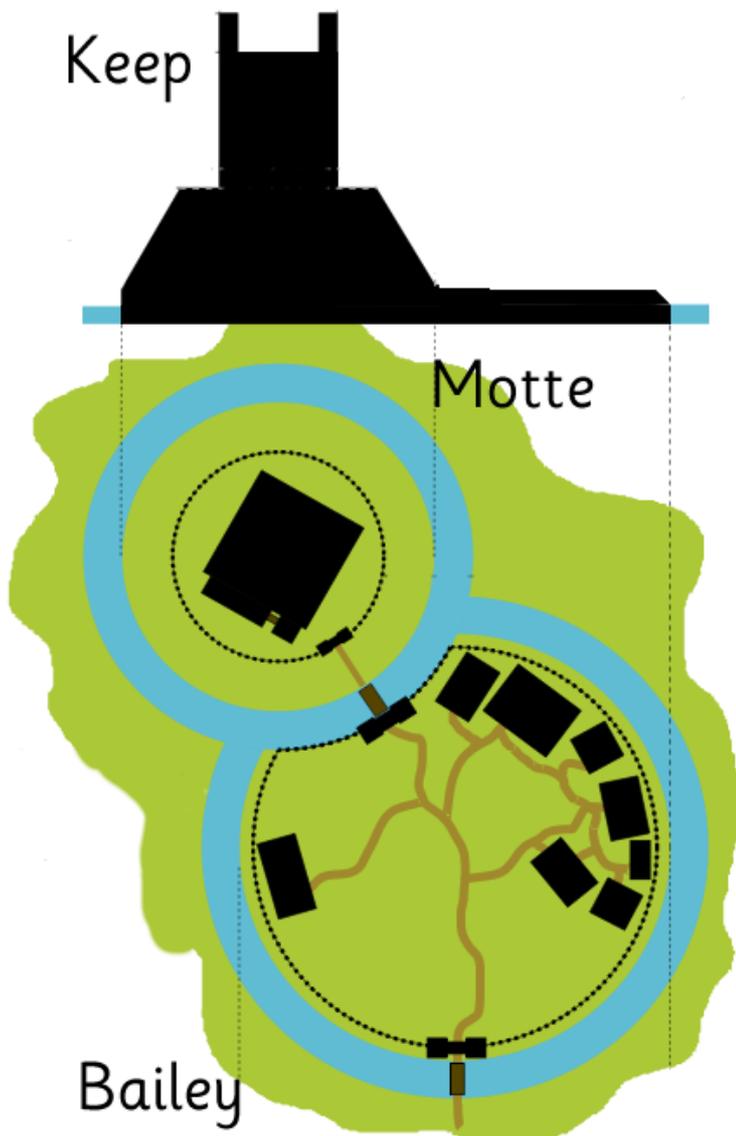
### What you need:

- ✓ large sheet of cardboard
- ✓ small cardboard box
- ✓ newspaper
- ✓ masking tape
- ✓ tissue paper
- ✓ glue
- ✓ green paint
- ✓ straw (optional)

### Fact file:



The motte is a large earth mound with steep sides and a flat top. Mottes can be man-made or a natural mound. Sometimes mottes were created by building over older structures. The motte could vary in size from 3 metres to 30 metres high and 30 metres to 90 metres in diameter. A motte was protected by a ditch around it which was often where the earth that built it came from! The ditch could be filled with water or spikes for defence.



1. Choose a large piece of stiff cardboard to use as a platform to build on.
2. Draw out a figure of eight onto the cardboard to create the baseline shape for your motte and bailey.
3. Glue a small box to form a platform for your motte onto the card.
4. Scrunch up pieces of newspaper and tape to the box to create a mound. Use masking tape as this is easier to paint over. Make sure your mound is wider at the bottom and narrower at the top.
5. Create a smooth finish to your mound by covering in layers of papier-mâché made from glued layers of tissue paper.
6. Paint your mound green, for grass! Glue on some straw to add texture before painting for added effect. Paint the bailey outline at this point too.

## How to build your keep

### What you need:

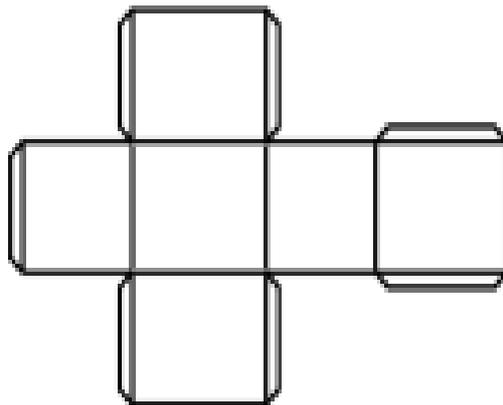
- ✓ small cardboard box (to fit on top of your motte)
- ✓ cardboard strips
- ✓ grey and brown paint
- ✓ grey and brown felt-tip pens
- ✓ glue

### Fact file:



A keep with a protective wall was built on top of the motte. The keep is a strong defensive building. Older keeps were made of wood and then later replaced with stone. Some keeps were simple towers with room for just a few soldiers whilst larger keeps were much grander with cellars, kitchens and living and sleeping quarters.

1. Use a small box, which will fit on top of your motte, or create your own using a simple cuboid net.



2. Cut some crenellations out of a long strip of card (remember they must be long enough to go around all four sides of your box) and attach to your box with glue.



3. Paint the box grey and, when dry, add some stone work details with felt pen. Add other details including arrow loops and an arched doorway.
4. Attach your keep to the top of your motte with glue.
5. Add a defensive wall around the top of your motte using a long strip of card, painted to look like wooden planks.

### How to build your bailey

#### What you need:

- ✓ selection of small cardboard boxes
- ✓ white paint
- ✓ brown and black felt-tip pens
- ✓ yellow card
- ✓ brown card
- ✓ 'lego' figures (optional)

#### Fact file:



The bailey was an enclosed castle compound, like a small village. It was overlooked by the motte and surrounded by a wooden fence called a palisade ditch. The bailey would contain a wide range of buildings, including a hall, kitchens, a chapel, barracks, stores, stables, forges and workshops. The bailey was linked to the motte either by a bridge stretching between the two or by steps cut into the motte.

1. Paint your boxes white. When dry add details such as 'wattle and daub' windows and doors using felt-tip pens.
2. Create simple roofs for each building by folding the yellow card, fringing the edges and attaching to each box with glue. Adding 'lego' animals and people can also be effective.
3. Link the keep and bailey either by painting a walkway down the surface of the motte or by adding a ramp made from card and gluing down the side of the motte.
4. Add a palisade to the bailey by adding a long strip of card, painted to look like wood, around the edge of the bailey. Tip: cut several small and equally spaced slits into the card and fold to create a ridge which can be glued to the flat surface of the bailey.
5. Paint a moat around your motte and bailey as a finishing touch.

