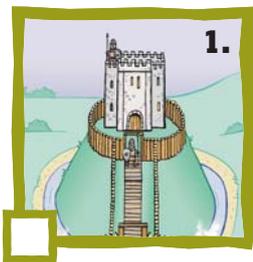


# So you're in a Norman castle.

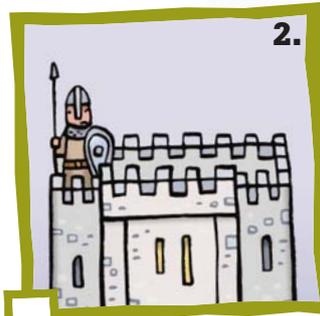
## How do you know it's Norman?



### LOOK OUT FOR:

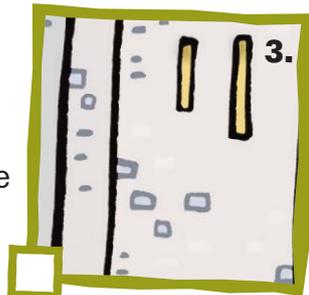


**1. The 'Motte'** – the mound where the castle was built. This had steep sides to make it tricky for the enemy to run up.

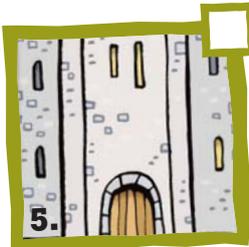
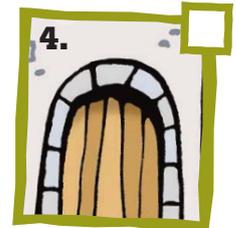


**2. A big, stone 'Keep'** – the lookout tower and central strong-point.

**3. Large, stone building blocks and thick walls** – they didn't have bricks in 1066.



**4. Curved, arched doorways** – arches were in fashion back then.



**5. Small, narrow windows** – great for shooting arrows out at the enemy.



**6. The 'Bailey'** – this is the area at the bottom of the 'motte'. In Norman times workers would have lived here in small huts.

### Can't find everything at your castle?

The Normans invaded in 1066, nearly one thousand years ago, so most castles have had parts replaced by now and some are just ruins.

You'll need to use your imagination to find out what it would have been like in Norman times; there are some pointers in this guide to help you get started.



**7. A moat and drawbridge** – that's to keep people out!

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# You're living in a Norman castle

## – what's it like inside?

### It's dark

*That's because of the small windows.*

### It's cramped

*Because you've got your Lord, his family, his steward, his servants, his soldiers, dogs, hawks, horses and probably some chickens too, all cooped up behind those large, thick walls.*

### It's noisy

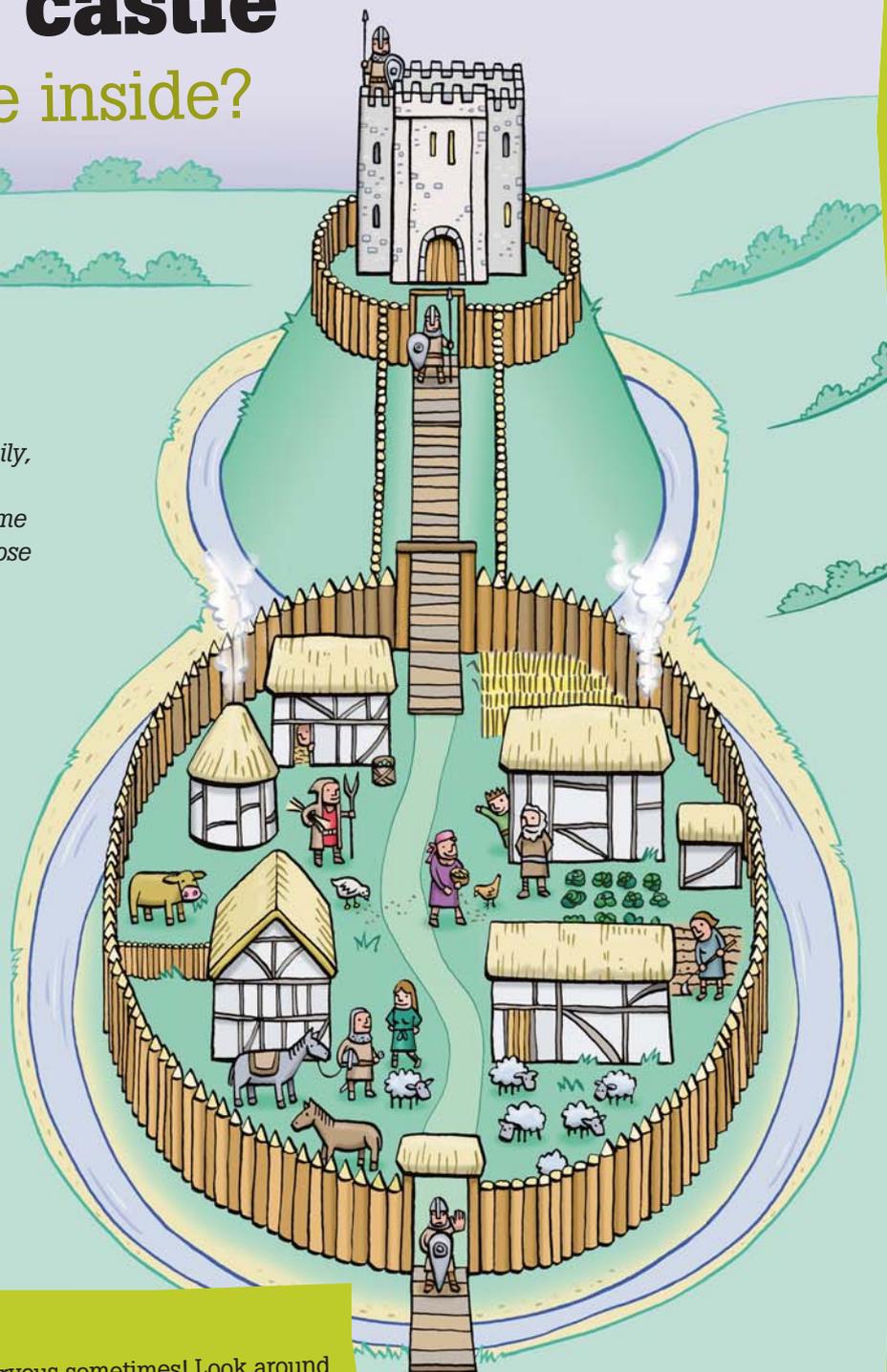
*Well it would be with all those people and animals inside!*

### It's smelly

*The floors are covered with straw, which has soaked up spilt wine, food, dog-wee and worse... sometimes the straw isn't changed for months, or even years – yeuch!*

### It's smoky

*Have you been asked to look out for chimneys? No, that's because there aren't many – so lots of the smoke from fires keeping the castle warm has stayed inside the castle.*



### How do you feel?

Safe, most of the time... but quite nervous sometimes! Look around you, imagine looking out at the approaching enemy forces – the Anglo-Saxons. You've invaded their land and they aren't happy about it!

As a Norman, you're living in a time when people want to come and take what you've got by fire and sword, and here they are now, about to besiege you. Put your chain mail on and get to your post!

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