

# ASPROM

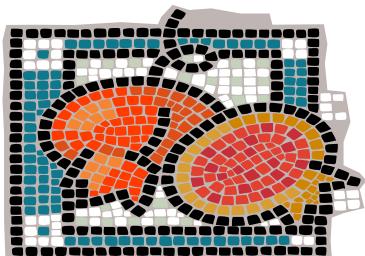
Association for the Study and Preservation of Roman Mosaics

[www.asprom.org](http://www.asprom.org)

free leaflet

Membership: 10 Gilkes Yard, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 9GF

## TEN THINGS you never knew about MOSAICS!!



### 1. What are ROMAN mosaics?

They are pictures and patterns made out of little coloured cubes. They were made into floors for rooms.  
*Colour in these squares if you like.*

### 2. How OLD are they?

Roman mosaics found in Britain are very old. They are over 1,600 years old. How old are YOU?

I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old.



### 3. Where do they COME FROM?

They come from very old buildings, so old that they fell down and covered up the mosaics with building stones and earth. We find them by digging with trowels. Mosaic floors are sometimes lifted out of the ground and cleaned.



### 4. WHO finds them?

People called archaeologists look for them and study their history.

### 5. Where do we SEE them?

We can visit museums and places with old Roman buildings to see them.

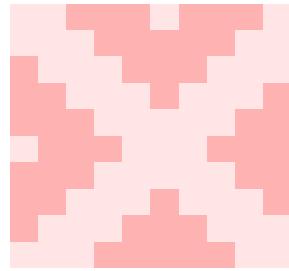
I have been to \_\_\_\_\_ Museum.



## 6. What are the little cubes MADE of?

They are made of hard materials like tile, brick, stone and glass. They were fitted together to make designs.

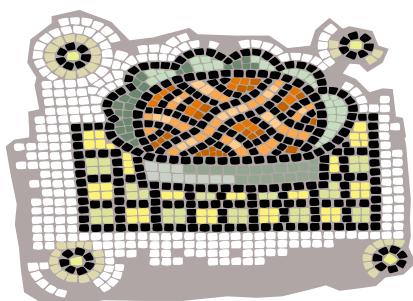
I have seen squares made of \_\_\_\_\_



The cubes are called tesserae.

## 7. Who BUILT all these Roman floors?

Rich owners of Roman houses and country estates paid workmen and craftspeople to lay them down.



## 8. How LONG did it take to make a mosaic floor?

No one really knows how long it took. Some workers made special parts like faces and animals in their workshops before coming to the house.



## 9. What are the PICTURES all about?

They show lots of straight lines and plaits round the edges of pictures of birds, animals, vases, flowers and trees, also people, gods and sometimes gladiators.

I have seen \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Who DESIGNED all these pictures?

The house owners chose what they liked best from pattern-books or asked for their favourite things. What would you choose for your room at home?

