

Aa amber

Fossil resin (gum, from pine-trees that lived 30 million years before Viking times). The Vikings traded it, and used it to make jewellery.



Piece of amber

Aa antlers

Horns from deer. Used by Viking craft-workers to make arrow-heads, combs and needles. Vikings also used cows' horns and animal bones to make tools, weapons and jewels.



Thin strips of antler

Viking comb

Bb berserkers (bur-sur-kuurz)

Fierce warriors. The name comes from the 'bear-sarks' (bear-skin shirts) they wore. They worked themselves into a rage before battle, by singing, dancing, chanting and clashing their weapons together. Some also ate poisonous fungi, which made them mad for a while.

Have you heard the expression 'going berserk' before? Well, now you know where it comes from!

church

Building where Christian Vikings went to pray. Vikings worshipped many different gods and goddesses at first. After around AD 950, priests from England and Germany taught Viking people about the Christian faith and by 1200, most were Christians.



A Viking church, built of wood. It is decorated with old Viking symbols, from before Christian times.

clothes

Vikings dressed well. They also needed to keep warm in winter, or on long sea voyages. Clothes were made at home, by women. Natural materials, such as wool (from sheep), linen (from flax plants), leather (from cows and goats) and fur (from foxes, wolves, seals and bears) were used. Rich Vikings also wore silk clothes bought from traders.

