

Make your own Roman coin

Archaeologists working on the site of London's Roman Amphitheatre found lots of Roman coins. These are really useful because they help to date things.

Roman coins were made in gold, silver and copper. On one side they have a portrait (a picture of just the head) of the emperor or the empress, just like modern coins have a portrait of the Queen. The name of the emperor and empress was also written around the outside of the coin, although the names are often shortened.

You can make a coin of the emperor Septimius Severus or the empress Julia Domna. Septimius Severus was born in North Africa, in a country today called Libya. Julia Domna, his wife, was born in the Middle East, in Syria. Together, they travelled all over Roman world. They even visited Britain. Who knows they may even have attended the games in London's Roman Amphitheatre!



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To make your Roman coin you will need:

- A thin piece of card
- Child friendly scissors
- A stick of child friendly glue
- A pencil
- Kitchen foil
- A printout of the last two pages (black and white is fine).

Steps:

1. Roughly cut around the outside of the coin of the emperor or empress. Stick onto a thin piece of card. Carefully cut around the outside of the new coin.
2. Roughly cut around the portrait of the emperor Septimius Severus or the empress Julia Domna. Stick onto a thin piece of card. Carefully cut around the outside of the portrait.
3. Stick the portrait onto the middle of the coin.
4. Cut a piece of kitchen foil large enough to cover the front and back of the coin.
5. Apply some glue to the front of the coin and carefully cover with the kitchen foil. Glue the edges of the kitchen foil onto the back of the coin.
6. Very gently rub your finger across the front of the coin. The outline of the emperor and empress should start to appear.
7. Add the missing details. Using a pencil gently draw the eyes, the hair and the name of the emperor or empress around the outside of the coin.



Dr



