

# The Roman Empire

- I. Governing the empire
  - A. Boundaries and territory
    1. Roman Empire stretched from Britain to Egypt
    2. Rome controlled all the lands around the Mediterranean
  - B. Augustus
    1. Intelligent ruler who showed respect for the senate
    2. People gave Augustus as much power as he wanted
  - C. Governing conquered peoples
    1. Divided the empire into provinces, each with its own Roman governor supported by an army
    2. Romans did not force their way of life on conquered peoples; Rome wanted provinces that would supply raw materials; buy Roman goods, pay taxes, adopt Roman ways
  - D. The emperors
    1. Worst Roman emperors were Caligula and Nero
    2. Hadrian was the greatest of five “good emperors”—standardized laws throughout the empire, reorganized the army, and encouraged learning
    3. Last of the “good emperors” was Marcus Aurelius, who chose son Commodus to follow him
- II. Greek influence on Rome
  - A. Romans adopted Greek religion and heroes
  - B. Romans used Greek ideas to build things
- III. Architecture and technology
  - A. The Roman style
    1. Romans copied Greek sculpture and architecture
    2. Romans built larger structures using arches; also used concrete to build taller buildings
  - B. Roads and aqueducts
    1. Roman roads covered huge distances
    2. Some Roman aqueducts still used today
- IV. Roman law
  - A. Cicero, Justinian
    1. Believed in the indestructible nature of law
    2. Many Roman ideas of justice are basic to our system of laws today