

The women's room, called the *gynaecium*

This wall has been removed, so you can see inside the kitchen.

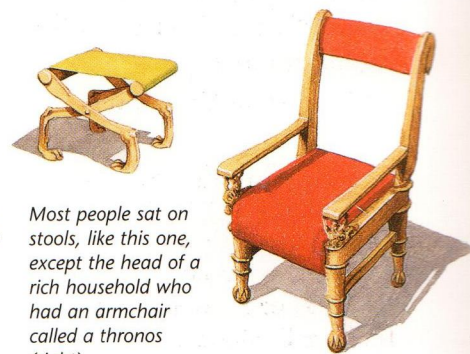
The walls of the house were made of mud bricks, sometimes reinforced with wooden beams.

In winter, portable metal stoves which burned charcoal were used to heat the rooms.

The dining room, or *andron*

## FURNITURE

Most houses were very simply furnished, with plain wooden tables, chairs and beds. In richer households, the furniture might be decorated with elaborate patterns, with ivory, gold or silver inlaid into the wood.



Most people sat on stools, like this one, except the head of a rich household who had an armchair called a *thronos* (right).

Tables were usually low, so that they could be pushed under couches when not in use. They were either round, oval or rectangular, with three legs or a single support.



Wooden couches and beds were strung with cords or leather thongs, with mattresses, pillows and covers on top.



Clothes and bedding were stored in wooden chests, while smaller items were kept in boxes and baskets.

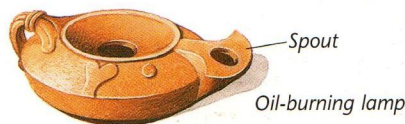


## UPSTAIRS ROOMS

In a house like the one here, the family bedrooms, the servants' quarters, and the women's rooms, known as the *gynaecium*, were all upstairs. Women from the richer families led very sheltered lives. They spent most of their time confined to their rooms, organizing the household, spinning, weaving, and talking to other women friends.

## LIGHTING

Greek houses were lit by small oil-burning lamps, made of pottery, bronze or even silver. Oil was poured into the round body of the lamp. Then you lit a wick (a piece of string coated with wax), which was sticking out of the spout.



Spout

Oil-burning lamp