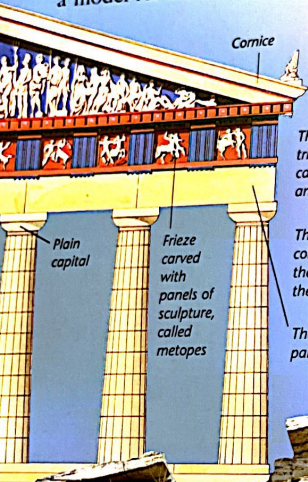


# ARCHITECTURE

The architects of Classical Greece built according to strict mathematical rules, carefully calculating proportions - such as the height and number of columns - to give their buildings a feeling of balance, simplicity and elegance. Their results were so successful that they have been seen as a model for architecture ever since.



Cornice

A reconstruction of the facade (front) of a Doric temple

The pediment (the triangular part) was carved with sculptures and painted.

The part above the columns, and below the pediment, is called the entablature.

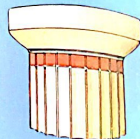
The architrave (lowest part of the entablature)

Plain capital

Frieze carved with panels of sculpture, called metopes

## THE BASIC DESIGN

The design of most temples and other public buildings in ancient Greece was based on a series of vertical columns, with a horizontal beam across them. This idea may have developed from much earlier times, when tree trunks would have been used to support a roof. There were two main styles, or orders, of ancient Greek architecture. They are known as Doric and Ionic.



Doric capital



Ionic capital

## THE DORIC STYLE

The Doric style was the most popular on the Greek mainland. The design was simple, with thick, powerful columns. The tops of the columns, or capitals, were undecorated.



### INTERNET LINK

For links to websites where you can find out more about Greek architecture and test yourself with an online game, go to [www.usborne-quicklinks.com](http://www.usborne-quicklinks.com)

This photograph shows what is left today of the Temple of Poseidon, in Paestum, Italy, which was built in the Doric style.

