How were Roman roads built?

Roads come in many shapes and sizes. Did you know they were first invented by the Romans? They were first built when the Roman Empire conquered the world. Ever wondered how they were built? Now's your chance!

Having the best roads meant that the army could march from one place to another. They built the roads as straight as possible, so that the army could take the shortest route.

First, the Roman builders would clear the ground of rocks and trees. Then they dug a trench where the road was to go and filled it with big stones. Next, they put in big stones, pebbles, cement and sand which they packed down in order to make a firm base. After that, they added cement mixed with broken tiles resulting in another strong layer.

On top of that rough construction, they put paving stones in order to make the flat surface. These stones were cut so that they fitted together tightly. Finally, kerb stones were put at each side of the road, this allowed the paving stones to stay in place. It was also used to make a channel for the water to run away and act as a draining ditch.

The roads in the Roman era were known as the best! Imagine a world without roads. That is how Roman roads were built!

