

1: Campaign history of the Roman military - Wikipedia

c. made Rome a natural crossroads and an area easy to defend d. made the conquering of the Mediterranean a difficult task e. created the same difficult environment as in Greece, thus making political unity difficult.

Early Republic[edit] The exact origins of the Roman fleet are obscure. A traditionally agricultural and land-based society, the Romans rarely ventured out to sea, unlike their Etruscan neighbours. Whenever larger tasks had to be undertaken, such as the naval blockade of a besieged city, the Romans called on the allied Greek cities of southern Italy, the *socii navales* , to provide ships and crews. This led to the outbreak of hostilities with Carthage , which would last until BC. At the time, the Punic city was the unchallenged master of the western Mediterranean, possessing a long maritime and naval experience and a large fleet. This practice was continued until well into the Empire, something also attested by the direct adoption of numerous Greek naval terms. The use of the *corvus* negated the superior Carthaginian naval expertise, and allowed the Romans to establish their naval superiority in the western Mediterranean. Despite the massive buildup, the Roman crews remained inferior in naval experience to the Carthaginians, and could not hope to match them in naval tactics , which required great maneuverability and experience. They therefore employed a novel weapon which transformed sea warfare to their advantage. They equipped their ships with the *corvus* , possibly developed earlier by the Syracusans against the Athenians. This was a long plank with a spike for hooking onto enemy ships. Using it as a boarding bridge, marines were able to board an enemy ship, transforming sea combat into a version of land combat, where the Roman legionaries had the upper hand. Through the use of the *corvus*, the fledgling Roman navy under Gaius Duilius won its first major engagement later that year at the Battle of Mylae. During the course of the war, Rome continued to be victorious at sea: This string of successes allowed Rome to push the war further across the sea to Africa and Carthage itself. Continued Roman success also meant that their navy gained significant experience, although it also suffered a number of catastrophic losses due to storms, while conversely, the Carthaginian navy suffered from attrition. In the last battle of the war, at Aegates Islands in BC, the Romans under Gaius Lutatius Catulus displayed superior seamanship to the Carthaginians, notably using their rams rather than the now-abandoned *corvus* to achieve victory. After the Roman victory, the balance of naval power in the Western Mediterranean had shifted from Carthage to Rome. Demetrius was supported by Philip V of Macedon , who had grown anxious at the expansion of Roman power in Illyria. Despite an overall numerical parity, for the remainder of the war the Carthaginians did not seriously challenge Roman supremacy. The siege is remembered for the ingenious inventions of Archimedes , such as mirrors that burned ships or the so-called " Claw of Archimedes " , which kept the besieging army at bay for two years. In the event, Scipio achieved a decisive victory at Zama , and the subsequent peace stripped Carthage of its fleet. Rome was now the undisputed master of the Western Mediterranean, and turned her gaze from defeated Carthage to the Hellenistic world. A naval battle off Chios ended in a costly victory for the Pergamene- Rhodian alliance, but the Macedonian fleet lost many warships, including its flagship, a *deceses*. In view of the massive Roman naval superiority, the war was fought on land, with the Macedonian fleet, already weakened at Chios, not daring to venture out of its anchorage at Demetrias. Almost immediately following the defeat of Macedon , Rome became embroiled in a war with the Seleucid Empire. This war too was decided mainly on land, although the combined Roman-Rhodian navy also achieved victories over the Seleucids at Myonessus and Eurymedon. These victories, which were invariably concluded with the imposition of peace treaties that prohibited the maintenance of anything but token naval forces, spelled the disappearance of the Hellenistic royal navies, leaving Rome and her allies unchallenged at sea. Subsequently, the Roman navy was drastically reduced, depending on its *Socii navales*. In the absence of a strong naval presence however, piracy flourished throughout the Mediterranean, especially in Cilicia , but also in Crete and other places, further reinforced by money and warships supplied by King Mithridates VI of Pontus , who hoped to enlist their aid in his wars against Rome. Although sufficient to guard against Mithridates, this force was totally inadequate against the pirates, whose power grew rapidly. In 74 BC, with the outbreak of the Third Mithridatic War , Marcus Antonius the father of Mark Antony was appointed praetor with extraordinary

imperium against the pirate threat, but signally failed in his task: Against the Veneti, the Romans were at a disadvantage, since they did not know the coast, and were inexperienced in fighting in the open sea with its tides and currents. They were built of oak and had no oars, being thus more resistant to ramming. In addition, their greater height gave them an advantage in both missile exchanges and boarding actions. Brutus, resorted to the use of hooks on long poles, which cut the halyards supporting the Veneti sails. The last major campaigns of the Roman navy in the Mediterranean until the late 3rd century AD would be in the civil wars that ended the Republic. In the East, the Republican faction quickly established its control, and Rhodes, the last independent maritime power in the Aegean, was subdued by Gaius Cassius Longinus in 43 BC, after its fleet was defeated off Kos. He took control of Sicily and made it his base, blockading Italy and stopping the politically crucial supply of grain from Africa to Rome. The Battle of Actium, by Laureys a Castro, painted the now fully professional navy had its main duties consist of protecting against piracy, escorting troops and patrolling the river frontiers of Europe. It remained however engaged in active warfare in the periphery of the Empire. Principate[edit] Operations under Augustus[edit] Under Augustus and after the conquest of Egypt there were increasing demands from the Roman economy to extend the trade lanes to India. The Arabian control of all sea routes to India was an obstacle. One of the first naval operations under princeps Augustus was therefore the preparation for a campaign on the Arabian Peninsula. Aelius Gallus, the prefect of Egypt ordered the construction of transports and subsequently carried 10,000 soldiers to Arabia. At the other end of the Empire, in Germania, the navy played an important role in the supply and transport of the legions. In 15 BC an independent fleet was installed at the Lake Constance. Later, the generals Drusus and Tiberius used the Navy extensively, when they tried to extend the Roman frontier to the Elbe. In 12 BC Drusus ordered the construction of a fleet of 1,000 ships and sailed them along the Rhine into the North Sea. When these entered the river mouths of Weser and Ems, the local tribes had to surrender. Plinius describes how Roman naval formations came past Heligoland and set sail to the north-eastern coast of Denmark, and Augustus himself boasts in his Res Gestae: Julio-Claudian dynasty[edit] In the years 15 and 16, Germanicus carried out several fleet operations along the rivers Rhine and Ems, without permanent results due to grim Germanic resistance and a disastrous storm. From 43 to 85, the Roman navy played an important role in the Roman conquest of Britain. The classis Germanica rendered outstanding services in multitudinous landing operations. In 46, a naval expedition made a push deep into the Black Sea region and even travelled on the Tanais. In 47 a revolt by the Chauci, who took to piratical activities along the Gallic coast, was subdued by Gnaeus Domitius Corbulo. It seems that under Nero, the navy obtained strategically important positions for trading with India; but there was no known fleet in the Red Sea. Possibly, parts of the Alexandrian fleet were operating as escorts for the Indian trade. In the meantime several flotilla engagements on the Sea of Galilee took place. In 68, as his reign became increasingly insecure, Nero raised legio I Adiutrix from sailors of the praetorian fleets. He burned the fleet, and sought refuge with the Iberian tribes, engaging in piracy. After a new fleet was built, this revolt was subdued. During the Batavian rebellion of Gaius Julius Civilis, the rebels got hold of a squadron of the Rhine fleet by treachery, [49] and the conflict featured frequent use of the Roman Rhine flotilla. In the last phase of the war, the British fleet and legio XIV were brought in from Britain to attack the Batavian coast, but the Cananefates, allies of the Batavians, were able to destroy or capture a large part of the fleet. Civilis attempted only a short encounter with his own fleet, but could not hinder the superior Roman force from landing and ravaging the island of the Batavians, leading to the negotiation of a peace soon after. In this context the Roman navy significantly escalated activities on the eastern Scottish coast. During these the Romans would capture the Orkney Islands Orcades for a short period of time and obtained information about the Shetland Islands. Also during the wars against the Marcomanni confederation under Marcus Aurelius several combats took place on the Danube and the Tisza. Under the aegis of the Severan dynasty, the only known military operations of the navy were carried out under Septimius Severus, using naval assistance on his campaigns along the Euphrates and Tigris, as well as in Scotland. In the Mediterranean, peace had reigned for over two centuries, as piracy had been wiped out and no outside naval threats occurred. As a result, complacency had set in: The so-called "Crisis of the Third Century" ushered a period of internal turmoil, and the same period saw a renewed series of seaborne assaults, which the imperial fleets proved unable to stem.

Via two surprise attacks on Roman naval bases in the Caucasus and near the Danube , numerous ships fell into the hands of the Germans, whereupon the raids were extended as far as the Aegean Sea ; Byzantium , Athens , Sparta and other towns were plundered and the responsible provincial fleets were heavily debilitated. It was not until the attackers made a tactical error, that their onrush could be stopped. In 257 another, much fiercer series of attacks took place. A fleet composed of Heruli and other tribes raided the coasts of Thrace and the Pontus. Defeated off Byzantium by general Venerianus, [58] the barbarians fled into the Aegean, and ravaged many islands and coastal cities, including Athens and Corinth. As they retreated northwards over land, they were defeated by Emperor Gallienus at Nestos. Emperor Claudius II however was able to defeat them at the Battle of Naissus , ending the Gothic threat for the time being. Eutropius mentions that during the 3rd century, the sea along the coasts of the provinces of Belgica and Armorica was "infested with Franks and Saxons". To counter them, Maximian appointed Carausius as commander of the British Fleet. A new fleet was constructed in order to cross the Channel, [65] and in 286, with a concentric attack on Londinium the insurgent province was retaken. Although Emperor Diocletian is held to have strengthened the navy, and increased its manpower from 46,000 to 64,000 men, [67] the old standing fleets had all but vanished, and in the civil wars that ended the Tetrarchy , the opposing sides had to mobilize the resources and commandeered the ships of the Eastern Mediterranean port cities. Vegetius , writing at the end of the 4th century, testifies to the disappearance of the old praetorian fleets in Italy, but comments on the continued activity of the Danube fleet. Although the Notitia Dignitatum still mentions several naval units for the Western Empire , these were apparently too depleted to be able to carry out much more than patrol duties. For the West, there would be no recovery, as the last Western Emperor, Romulus Augustulus , was deposed in 476. In the East however, the classical naval tradition survived, and in the 6th century, a standing navy was reformed.

2: Roman Expansion

Rome versus Carthage: the war for mastery of the Mediterranean With the three Punic wars (264, 218, and 146 BC) Rome and Carthage became locked into a Hundred Years War. Control of the Mediterranean at once became the issue in a contest which would end only with the death of one of the adversaries.

Covered in multimedia lecture Just as Rome got caught up in a cycle of expansion that led to the conquest of Italy, it experienced another such cycle that led to their dominance of the Mediterranean. In this case, what triggered the pattern was the mere fact that each new conquest brought Rome into contact with a new set of neighbors. This would lead to new opportunities for conquest, but also mutual fears and suspicions on each side. Either way, Rome would get drawn into a new set of wars, which it would eventually win with new conquests. This, of course, would present Rome with some more new neighbors and the pattern would repeat itself until Rome had conquered the Mediterranean. Initially, this struggle was over Sicily, since it was rich, very close to Italy, and Rome had to protect the trade of its Greek subjects in Southern Italy against Carthaginian encroachment. Feeding back into the cycle of expansion, this also led to contact and conflict with new peoples in the Eastern and Western Mediterranean. In the West, Rome got involved in wars with Carthage and the Celts in Spain, both of whom Rome feared from previous wars. Therefore, Rome conquered and destroyed Carthage in 146 B.C. In the East, Rome was more reluctantly drawn into wars against Antigonid Macedon and Seleucid Asia by two main factors. While nothing much came of this First Macedonian War in 200 B.C. Feeding this suspicion was the second factor, various Greek states running to Rome for protection, at first against Macedon and the Seleucids, and later against each other. As Rome was drawn increasingly into affairs in the East, its frustrations grew until it annexed Macedon in 146 B.C. Unfortunately, having an empire would put stresses and strains on Roman society, including the creation of ambitious generals looking for new opportunities for conquest, plunder, and glory. Therefore, the Roman tide of conquest continued after 146 B.C. In the West, an ambitious general named Julius Caesar would push the barbarian threat even further north by conquering the Celts in Gaul. Eventually, the rest of North Africa would fall under Roman rule to round out control of the Western Mediterranean. Rome won both of these Mithridatic wars, and its generals, most notably Pompey, progressively annexed the rest of Asia Minor, Syria, Palestine, and Egypt. Thus by the early Christian era, the entire Mediterranean was firmly under Roman rule.

3: Rome versus Carthage: the war for mastery of the Mediterranean | Weapons and Warfare

Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa's innovative tactics gave Octavian's Roman fleet a victory over Marc Antony and Cleopatra at the Battle of Actium. Rome was the dominant naval power in the Mediterranean for four centuries.

On September 2 his fleet of more than ships carrying 20, marines and 2, archers put to sea to challenge the blockade. They faced a fleet of some ships carrying 16, marines and 3, archers under the command of Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa. But they were lighter and faster than those of his opponent. Antony intended to fight a typical Roman sea battle: Close with the enemy ship, board it with marines and slaughter the enemy. He had a different plan. For four hours the fleets skirmished and maneuvered in light winds without result. But Agrippa had anticipated this move, and his biremes raced toward the heavier and slower quinqueremes, passing them closely to break their oars and rudders. Agrippa then brought his numerical advantage to bear by having several biremes attack a single quinquereme. Whenever a bireme successfully rammed a quinquereme, it would disengage and maneuver away. The attack never came. Then they smothered the fires with their mantles and even with corpses. They hacked off burning parts of the ships and tried to grapple hostile ships to escape into them. Many were burned alive or jumped overboard or killed each other to avoid the flames. Yet there was no permanent navy. Until Actium, the empire had simply created one whenever the need arose. At the outset of the 3rd century bc, Carthage, with its fleet of ships, was the preeminent naval power in the western Mediterranean. At that time, Rome had no naval force or experience in naval warfare. But when the First Punic War broke out between the two powers in bc, Rome quickly realized that victory could only be achieved at sea. Italy had large forests of fir from which to build boats but no ship designers, crews or captains to take them to sea. The Romans hit upon the idea of copying a quinquereme that had fallen into their hands. Although commonly believed to have come from the Carthaginians, it was actually a vessel from the navy of Hannibal of Rhodes. Using the captured boat as a template, the Romans constructed a fleet of quinqueremes and 20 triremes in just two months. As historian Polybius described, production required woodcutters, carpenters and metalworkers working full-time on each of the ships, or a labor force of 20, men. Galley crews were not slaves but expensive skilled freemen. So, as it constructed a fleet, Rome instead turned to its army conscripts, teaching them rudimentary rowing and maneuvers on wooden ship mock-ups onshore. This was the navy that put to sea to fight the largest and most experienced naval force in the western Mediterranean. Naval tactics of the day relied on skilled captains and rowers to maneuver their vessel past an opposing ship and break its oars, leaving it crippled and vulnerable. The attacker could then pierce the hull of the helpless boat with a metal prow ram and leave it to sink. Lacking skilled captains and trained crews, the Romans played to their strongest military tactic: A Roman captain would use catapults to launch grappling irons at the enemy ship, holding it fast while marines boarded and engaged in close combat. To facilitate boarding, the Romans introduced the *corvus*, a wooden boarding ramp 36 feet long and 4 feet wide with railings on either side and a long metal spike extending from its bottom. The spike would drive into the deck, holding both ships together and steadying the ramp as Roman marines poured across. The new tactics caught the Carthaginians by surprise at the Battle of Mylae in bc, when the Romans boarded and destroyed their ships one by one. In bc the Romans launched an amphibious invasion of North Africa, sending a fleet of warships and 80 transports carrying 60, men. Two hundred Carthaginian warships met the Roman fleet off Mount Economus. This time, seamanship rather than manpower decided the outcome, as Roman commanders acted on their own initiative to thwart multiple attacks against the troop transports. While the Romans lost 24 ships, the Carthaginians suffered 30 sunk and 50 others captured. The Roman invasion force got through and landed in North Africa, only to be defeated in a land battle and forced to withdraw. Roman naval losses during the First Punic War were extremely high, due mostly to the Roman practice of sailing in rough weather, as the weight of the *corvus* and its position on the bow made ships especially unstable in rough seas. Rome lost as many as Roman warships, 1, transports and more than , men, a number approaching the total American dead in World War II. Probably no war in naval history has recorded as many casualties from drowning, losses representing some 15 percent of the able-bodied men of military age in Italy. Polybius called it the bloodiest war in history. Despite

the casualties, the Romans pressed on, replacing lost ships and training fresh crews. In 265 bc the Carthaginians sought to lift the Roman siege of Lilybaeum in Sicily by sending a naval force to break the Roman blockade. Certain of victory, the Carthaginians sent no marines with their ships, planning to acquire them in Lilybaeum following the battle. Despite foul weather, the Roman captains put to sea to intercept the Carthaginian fleet. In a clash near the Aegates Islands off Sicily, the Romans sank 50 ships and captured 70 of the Carthaginian combatants that took part. Its last fleet gone and lacking enough money and raw materials to build another, Carthage surrendered. Rome now commanded the western Mediterranean. Two decades later Rome and Carthage were again at war. Probably for financial reasons, Carthage had not rebuilt its combat fleet. When the Second Punic War 218–191 bc broke out, it had no more than 50 warships to counter the Roman fleet of Hannibal was forced to take his army overland through Spain rather than landing directly on the Italian mainland. Without a navy, Hannibal could not shift his forces from theater to theater as could the Romans, and his supply lines to Carthage were always under threat. As a result, there were no major sea engagements during that long war. In 218 bc a Roman invasion force of transports carrying 26,000 troops and 1,000 horses and protected by 40 warships crossed from Sicily and invaded North Africa. Two years later Scipio defeated Hannibal at Zama, and Carthage surrendered. Rome had learned that the proper role of a navy was to support ground operations and that naval combatants could not bring about a strategic decision by themselves. Thus it placed equal emphasis on its transport ships and combatants. War broke out with the Seleucid Empire in the eastern Mediterranean in 191 bc. As Antiochus maintained a large fleet, transporting the Roman army across the Aegean from Greece was a risky proposition. Lucius Scipio, the brother of Scipio Africanus, marched his army overland to cross the Hellespont and take the war to the Asian mainland present-day western Turkey. Transports ferried his troops across the strait while other naval units blockaded the Syrian fleet at Ephesus. For weeks both sides skirmished off the coast. In December 191 bc, as the Roman army marched down the coast to bring the fight to Antiochus, the Seleucid fleet tried to break the Roman blockade. In a battle off Myonnesus, the Romans carried the day. Rome now controlled the entire Mediterranean. Only Rhodes, a Roman ally, and Egypt, a broken reed, were left with significant naval assets. By 100 bc more than 1,000 pirate ships preyed on Mediterranean shipping, and more than 100 coastal settlements had been sacked, their populations sold at Roman slave markets. Rome finally reacted when the pirates threatened its grain imports. In 67 bc the Senate sent Pompey the Great to eradicate the outlaw scourge. The experience convinced Rome to rebuild its navy. Until then, Roman naval experience had been restricted to the tideless Mediterranean. It fell to Julius Caesar to fight the first Roman naval battle on the ocean. In 56 bc he launched a campaign against the Veneti in Gaul, who lived along the Bay of Biscay and were excellent sailors. While Caesar moved his armies overland, Decimus Brutus commanded the fleet that engaged the Veneti navy. The Gallic ships were superior to Roman quinqueremes in every respect. Constructed of oak, they were almost impervious to ramming, with flat bottoms better suited to the coastal shallows. They were higher at the deck line with high sterns and prows from which to fight off Roman marines. The Gallic ships also flew large leather sails that withstood high winds better than canvas and enabled them to run faster before the wind, easily eluding their foes. But their great strength also revealed a weakness, as the Gallic ships had no oars and relied on the mainsail for propulsion. Supportive halyards were tethered to the deck on either side of the mast. The Romans devised a new weapon to cripple the ship. When these contrivances had caught the halyards supporting the yards, the Roman ship was driven away by the oars, and the halyards were cut in consequence, so the yards fell to the deck. The Romans could now close with their grappling irons and deploy marines to deal with the crew. He started with two major fleet commands: *Classis Praetoria Misensis*, at Misenum on the Gulf of Naples, to protect Italy itself and its grain imports in the south; and *Classis Praetoria Ravennatis*, at Ravenna at the head of the Adriatic, to deal with trouble in Dalmatia and Illyria. The invasion and eventual conquest of Britain AD 43–60 also required strong naval logistical support. The main Roman naval base was at Gesoraicum present-day Boulogne and served as the headquarters for *Classis Britannica*. After the Armenian wars, Nero reign: The river splits at the Kazan Gorge, which prompted the Romans to create two fleets: *Classis Pannonica* in the west and *Classis Moesica* in the east. Later, smaller fleets such as the *Classis Nova Libyca* were created to patrol the western littoral, while a larger fleet, *Classis Syriaca*, supported Roman forces on the border with Parthia. Fleets were

usually collocated with legion camps and provided logistical support to the army, transported troops and patrolled the rivers and coast with complements of marines. The navy remained subordinate to the army throughout the imperial period. Naval personnel did not think of themselves as sailors but as soldiers, even choosing to memorialize themselves as legionnaires on their tombstones. Naval crews were organized into centuries just like the army, and each ship had a centurion aboard with an assistant who fulfilled the role of first sergeant. The centurion was responsible for teaching infantry tactics, training his men to repel boarders or act as an assault party.

4: MA in Art History | John Cabot University | Rome

By the Romans controlled all of Italy, and in began the great wars that allowed Rome to become master of the Mediterranean. The most important of these wars were called the Punic wars, which came in three parts.

Introduction The year is BC. The Mediterranean seems to be divided by a stable order of five "Empires": This order was relatively new. In the late fourth and early third century, a Macedonian storm had raged over Hellas, Asia and Egypt. At the same time, after centuries of war and balanced policy, the city of Rome Roma had gained possession of all of Italy, except for the territories North of the river Arno Arnus. In a period of little more than a century this order was to be changed so radically that it seemed as if it had never existed at all. In the year , Carthage and Macedon had been destroyed and the Ptolemies and Seleucids were ruling puny kingdoms at the edge of the known world. The only remaining Mediterranean power was the Republic of Rome. The first step to this was put by Roman senators in response to Sicilian events in the year The Rise of Rome: Starting as a tiny village at the Tiber river, the Latin city of Rome founded in the year BC according to legend was ruled by kings, the last of them being Etruscans. The Etruscans were a mighty, non-Indo-European civilization in Tuscany. They have largely influenced the Romans, for example in their religious cults and technological skills. Around the year , the Romans banished their last king and founded a Republic. During the fifth and the first half the fourth century, most of their activities were focused at matters of war and peace in a relatively small area, Latium. In a war of two years they overthrew their former Latin allies and other tribes and thus started the conquest of Italy, facing many mighty opponents such as Gauls, Etruscans and Samnites. By means of war and smart policy they subjected Italy to their will. After a tough war the Romans finally defeated him at Beneventum This victory amazed the Hellenistic world, and Ptolemy Ptolemaios II of Egypt established diplomatic relations with this new power. The most important question is of course: The most important contributions to Roman success were the way the Romans treated the rest of Italy and their policy of founding colonies. Some conquered areas were given total citizenship, others received *civitas sine suffragio*, citizenship without the right to vote, which meant that the citizens shared the plights of all Roman citizens - military service, taxes etc. This policy strengthened the Roman army. Another policy was the policy of alliances. After an area had been conquered, Rome could offer the people inhabiting the area an alliance. This meant that the people had to aid Rome with troops when she asked for them. This meant the loss of independent foreign policy and the allied nations really became vassals, although they were allowed to manage their internal affairs themselves and did not have to pay tribute or taxes to Rome either. If they aided Rome in battle, they would get a share in the booty - be it land, slaves, whatever. Also, Rome supported local aristocracies if they were the victims of revolt. In return, Rome expected support for Roman policy from these aristocracies. Seeing all the positive aspects of allying themselves to Rome, many nations preferred to ally themselves to Rome even before they were defeated in battle by the Romans. In spite of this policy, we must not forget that Roman subjection of Italy could be very cruel from time to time, too. However, it was wise policy that united Italy. A second important factor was the founding of Roman or Latin colonies in other Italic areas and the construction of roads that connected other parts of the peninsula to Rome. Thus Roman language and way of life were spread. All this contributed to the unification of Italy. However, we cannot say this was a quick process. Even in the first century AD a few remote areas were still not Romanized. We will now take a look at the Roman Republic in the 5th BC. Although Rome was a Republic, it was more of an oligarchy than a democracy. The most important magistrates were aristocratic plebeians or patricians. The Roman nation was led by two consuls who had military powers and other magistrates who were elected annually, just like the consuls and by a Senate consisting of former magistrates. The elections of magistrates and the decisions on other important matters were the tasks of the *comitia*, the national assemblies. These were quite undemocratic, though, since they could only be convoked by magistrates, were dominated by the aristocracy and could only vote, not discuss. In the last 3. Wealthy big landowners became some of the most powerful people in the Republic; booty and tribute were used to construct marvellous new buildings, including temples. Roman economy was flourishing: The most important and most powerful Hellene one was Syracuse. For

centuries, Carthage and Hellas Greece had struggled for total control over the island, but so far neither side had succeeded. In just two decades, Rome would control the island. It all started with some trouble over the city of Messana. A bunch of Italic mercenaries had taken control of the town and were now under siege for Hiero II, tyrant of Syracuse. The mercenaries sought the aid of both Carthage and Rome. They eventually turned against the Carthaginians, who sided with Syracuse. Rome then intervened and sent an army to the city. The alliance between Hiero and Carthage was broken easily when Rome put Syracuse under siege some time later and Hiero changed sides. The war that followed was successful for Rome and the Romans decided to gain a stronger grip on Sicily by building their first real fleet. Fortuna, goddess of luck, fate and fortune, seemed to favour Rome, as the Romans won several naval battles. Sometimes, however, they did this by turning a naval battle into a land battle. For the Romans had added bridges to their ships, that would be let down when an enemy ship was close enough. The Romans could then cross the bridges and try to capture the ships with their good old infantry, still the core of their army. Encouraged by their good fortune, the Romans invaded Africa itself. This expedition eventually turned into an enormous disaster and was followed by several set backs at sea, culminating in the huge Carthaginian victory at Deprana. In spite of this the Romans were able to get a tighter grip on Sicily itself although there was strong resistance, led by the Carthaginian general Hamilcar Barca. After the battle of Deprana, however, the situation seemed to turn into a stalemate, in spite of some success by Barca. However, both sides were recovering and rebuilding their fleets. Eventually, the Romans won a decisive victory at the Aegatian Islands, west of Sicily. A treaty was signed: Carthage abandoned Sicily, returned Italic prisoners of war, was to refrain from attacks on Syracuse and had to pay talents as an indemnity. This turned into a civil war, of which Rome profited by taking over Sardinia a former Carthaginian possession and Corsica. They were each ruled by a praetor, who had to defend the province, maintain law and order and collect taxes. With the horrible First Punic War finally over, Rome and Carthage had the opportunity to turn their attention to other matters. Hamilcar Barca had overcome the rebellion and left for Spain to expand Carthaginian possessions. Rome strengthened her grip on the Po Valley, defeating an army of Gauls from that region who had invaded Etruria. After this victory, Rome conquered Milan Mediolanum and founded two large colonies: Piacenza Placentia and Cremona. Also, Rome turned Illyria, infamous for its piracy, into a Roman protectorate. He was succeeded by his son-in-law Hasdrubal, who continued the Carthaginian expansion in Spain. A treaty was signed with the worried Romans, stating that no Carthaginian army was to cross the river Ebro. In Hasdrubal was murdered. Hannibal continued to campaign in Spain and besieged the Roman ally Saguntum, a city south of the river Ebro. Rome demanded from Hannibal to give up the siege, but this "order" was ignored. Saguntum fell and the Romans sent ambassadors to Carthage, demanding that Hannibal was extradited; Carthage refused and war was declared. In the words of historian Andrew Lintott: It was not a war in which either side sought to destroy the other utterly. Moreover, they soon realised the importance of the resources of Spain, which they wanted for themselves. However, Hannibal took the initiative and marched for Italy itself. With some 20,000 infantry and 6,000 cavalry he managed to cross the Pyrenees, get through Gaul quite easily and finally cross the Alps. When he arrived in the Po-valley, he found that the Gauls were still hostile towards the Romans and used this to his advantage: Before the year had ended, he had won a cavalry battle at the river Ticinus and his first major battle at the river Trebia. He then crossed the Apennines and destroyed most of the Roman army at Lake Trasimene. The next year, however, Rome decided to wage open war again, with disastrous consequences: Hannibal crushed the Roman army completely at Cannae in Apulia. All seemed lost for Rome and Hannibal expected that the war could be ended in favor of Carthage. However, Rome refused to give up. Although many of her former allies in southern Italy had abandoned her, Syracuse, Capua and Macedon had sided with Hannibal and many Hellene cities had chosen his side too, the Romans had several advantages which they would exploit fully: Besides, a Roman expeditionary force in Spain under the command of Publius and Gnaeus Scipio cut off Carthaginian reinforcements from that area and was making progress conquering Spain. Scipio Africanus was the turning point: Capua and Syracuse were recaptured by the Romans.

5: Europa Universalis Rome Demo - Free Download

By B.C.E., Rome was the dominant power in the Mediterranean. Unfortunately, having an empire would put stresses and strains on Roman society, including the creation of ambitious generals looking for new opportunities for conquest, plunder, and glory.

What were the benefits of expansion? Romans, like other ancient peoples took spoils from their defeated enemies. Rome seldom had enough land to provide for all of her citizens. So, Roman settlements had to be in Italy, and that meant that they had to take land away from some other state to achieve that goal. Roman politicians knew that they could relieve population pressures at Rome by fighting to gain more land, so political leaders, who were also, you remember, military leaders actively sought wars. The causes of expansion were more complex than simply wars for land. Conditions in Italy in the Early Republic made it almost impossible for Rome or any other state to avoid war. There were literally hundreds of small, independent states in Italy, all competing with one another for limited resources. Most of these states needed land, and they could only get it by taking it from their neighbors. So, war became a regular feature of Roman life at a very early stage in its development. Roman virtues were warrior virtues that were appropriate to farmers and warriors. In order to acquire those virtues, men needed to fight wars. Thus, one major benefit of expansion was glory! If a consul won a great battle his prestige increased. He and his relatives would find it easier to win election to offices in the future and would be given greater military responsibilities. Even common soldiers earned great prestige when they had fought in an important Roman victory. They received land and a share in the spoils of war. Thus, the Romans were always ready and even eager to fight, if they were given any reason to do so by some other state. And conditions were such that reasons could usually be found. As Rome expanded in Italy, she bumped into yet another quarrelsome neighbor that wanted her land. We begin with central Italy. From Rome fought primarily against hill tribes and nearby cities in Central Italy. Basically they did so to protect themselves. And to make sure that they would not be threatened again, Rome would settle some of her own citizens among these people. In other words, the Roman citizens would receive land, settle down, and form communities of their own or intermarry with the locals. In the s another threat appeared, this time from the north. Tribes of Celts â€” called Gauls â€” began to raid into Central Italy, and the Romans organized resistance among the other Italian cities to these raids. By BC the Romans were able to defeat the Gauls and establish their authority over northern Italy. The Romans agreed to provide that assistance and fought against the king, named Pyrrhus, until when they not only defeated that king but essentially brought all of southern Italy under their influence. So, by BC the Romans controlled all of Italy. By the Romans controlled all of Italy, and in began the great wars that allowed Rome to become master of the Mediterranean. The most important of these wars were called the Punic wars, which came in three parts. The first lasted from to B. The third led to the destruction of Carthage in B. These wars were fought against the city of Carthage, an old Phoenician colony Punic is another word for Phoenician on the northern coast of Africa. In Carthage was a lot like Rome. It was powerful, controlled a lot of territory, including Spain by the way, and wanted more. The reason for the war was actually quite simple. Rome and Carthage were the two big powers in the central Mediterranean. It just seemed inevitable that these two big powers would come to blows. Pyrrus of Epirus In the first war, most of the fighting took place on the sea around Sicily. The Romans were at a disadvantage because they had no navy. But they created several large fleets when they saw it was necessary. They borrowed ship designs from their Italian Greek allies, and probably employed them as rowers as well. They then modified their ships to turn sea battles into land battles. Roman loses were tremendous, but they finally won through sheer perseverance. The chief feature of this Second Punic War was that the Carthaginian army was commanded by another one of those military geniuses of the ancient world, Hannibal. Hannibal decided to take the war to the Romans. Hannibal led his forces into Italy in BC and proceeded to beat the Romans in battle after battle. But Hannibal could never accomplish two feats that were essential to defeat Rome. He could never take the city itself, and he could never get the other Italian cities to abandon their Roman allies. Those policies we talked about of giving lots of rights and independence to the Italian cities

really paid off in the Punic Wars. So they decided to harass his army as it marched up and down Italy. In other words, they wore him out. Hannibal was forced to leave Italy and defend his home. At the Battle of Zama, near Carthage, the Romans defeated him for the first time. Hannibal fled to the Hellenistic kingdoms of the East and Carthage surrendered. Rome was now the chief power of the central Mediterranean. Hannibal assured Philip that the Romans had expended so many men and resources defeating Carthage that Philip could pick up some territory. The Romans put Scipio in charge. Scipio raised an army, and, in what is called the Second Macedonian War, B. The Punic Wars had not in fact weakened Rome but given it a large, experienced fighting force led by truly able commanders. Philip V of Macedonia Below: Rome was not the great empire that she would become, but, Rome had changed as a result of all of these wars, and not necessarily for the better.

6: Cog and Galley: Rome versus Carthage: the war for mastery of the Mediterranean

With the three Punic wars (, and BC) Rome and Carthage became locked into a Hundred Years War. Control of the Mediterranean at once became the issue in a contest which would end only with the death of one of the adversaries. When Rome took Rhegium in , the Carthaginians.

Although the early Romans were literate to some degree, [9] this void may be due to the lack of will to record their history at that time, or such histories as they did record were lost. A number of points of view have been proposed. Grant and others argue that prior to the establishment of the Etruscan kingdom of Rome under the traditional fifth king, Tarquinius Priscus , [17] Rome would have been led by a religious leader of some sort. Traditionally, Romulus, after founding the city, fortified the Palatine Hill , and shortly thereafter, Rome was "equal to any of the surrounding cities in her prowess in war". To antiquity we grant the indulgence of making the origins of cities more impressive by comingling the human with the divine, and if any people should be permitted to sanctify its inception and reckon the gods as its founders, surely the glory of the Roman people in war is such that, when it boasts Mars in particular as its parent According to Livy, the Latin village of Caenina responded to the event of the abduction of the Sabine women by invading Roman territory, but were routed and their village captured. The Latins of Antemnae and those of Crustumerium were defeated next in a similar fashion. The remaining main body of the Sabines attacked Rome and briefly captured the citadel, but were then convinced to conclude a treaty with the Romans under which the Sabines became Roman citizens. Tarquinius took the Latin town of Apiolae by storm and took great booty from there back to Rome. His military ability was tested by an attack from the Sabines. Tarquinius doubled the numbers of equites to help the war effort, [23] and defeat the Sabines. In the peace negotiations that followed, Tarquinius received the town of Collatia and appointed his nephew, Arruns Tarquinius , also known as Egerius, as commander of the garrison which he stationed in that city. Tarquinius returned to Rome and celebrated a triumph for his victories that, according to the Fasti Triumphales, occurred on 13 September BC. He is said to have shown valour in the campaign, and to have routed a great army of the enemy. The war helped him to cement his position at Rome. This was done, and Tarquin formed combined units of Roman and Latin troops. He took the wealthy town of Suessa Pometia , with the spoils of which he commenced the erection of the Temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus which his father had vowed. He also celebrated a triumph for his victory. Unable to take the city by force of arms, Tarquin had his son, Sextus Tarquinius , infiltrate the city, gain the trust of its people and command of its army. Tarquinius later went to war with the Rutuli. According to Livy, the Rutuli were, at that time, a very wealthy nation. Tarquinius was desirous of obtaining the booty which would come with victory over the Rutuli. The war was interrupted by the revolution which overthrew the Roman monarchy. It is unclear what was the outcome of the siege, or indeed the war.

7: WESTERN CIVILIZATION HELP! PLEASE!!!!? | Yahoo Answers

At the conclusion of the Third Punic War, to BC, Carthage is defeated, its citizens sold into slavery, Carthage is eliminated as a future threat to Rome and Rome achieves hegemony over.

Control of the Mediterranean at once became the issue in a contest which would end only with the death of one of the adversaries. When Rome took Rhegium in 281, the Carthaginians placed a garrison across the water in Messina. The two political monsters – on one hand Italy, united from the Po valley to the Gulf of Tarentum; on the other North Africa, from northern Cyrenaica to present-day Morocco, backed up by southern Spain – eyed each other across the narrow straits. They were well-matched adversaries, capable in fact of coming to terms, as earlier treaties had demonstrated. It would, moreover, be inaccurate to describe their confrontation as one between a sort of gadfly Carthage, the maritime power and the heavy-footed soldier the Roman legions. Carthage was no less expert than Rome at building roads and bridges, and its agriculture was well developed, while Rome had been interested in the Mediterranean since well before b.c. It had had dealings with the cities of Greater Greece, and merchant shipping was active along Italian coasts. In 260, at the outset of the wars, Rome launched a fleet of quinqueremes and thirty triremes, plus some other ships, all in the space of sixty days; in 256, the Romans launched vessels in six months. We need not take these figures quite literally perhaps, but the ships were certainly assembled very rapidly, probably too quickly for their quality not to suffer, as had already been the case in Greece. As a result, these navies did not last long, sometimes only the space of a single campaign. Early in the war, some sources report, the Italian shipyards had copied a Carthaginian quinquereme which had fallen into Roman hands. That is not impossible. Of the western Greek cities, only Syracuse had built quinqueremes. Supplies of timber were no problem for Rome: The Greeks in the Gulf of Tarentum had timber for boatbuilding delivered from the Sila massif in Bruttium. The Romans had it floated down the Tiber to Ostia. In this respect, Carthage was at a disadvantage, since it had to look to Sardinia for timber supplies. These longships might be easy to build but they were costly to operate, particularly since they could be used only on calm summer seas and over short distances, such as between Italy, Sicily, Malta, the Lipari Islands, the Egadi Islands and the nearest points on the North African coast. What was more, they required huge numbers of men: Overall, this was an extraordinarily expensive war: In 265 BC, Rome had effortlessly occupied Messina, having been called upon by the then rulers of the city, the Mamertines, a rather remarkable band of adventurers who had betrayed the Carthaginian garrison. After imposing a peace settlement on Hieron of Syracuse, the Romans began the siege of the western cities: Agrigentum fell during the winter of 263, and 25, captives were sold into slavery. In 257, almost ten years later, it was the turn of Panormus Palermo, another Carthaginian stronghold: At sea, in 256, one Roman fleet was defeated off the Lipari Islands, but a second one, under the command of the consul C. Duilius Nepos, was victorious off Mylae Milazzo, thanks to the grappling irons and boarding planks which the Roman sailors used against the enemy. The Carthaginian vessels, which were easier to manoeuvre, were thus cheated of their advantage and boarded by force: From now on, Rome felt sufficiently confident to confront Carthaginian vessels along the African coast. In 255, an expeditionary force was landed on Cape Bon. It wintered in Tunis, but was crushed the following year: However, the city had found in Hamilcar Barca a commander of genius, who had dug himself in on two fortified and impregnable mountain tops in Sicily: His troops launched raid after raid, and the Punic ships also engaged in some fruitful piracy. The Republic lost ships to storms, pirates and the enemy navy. Carthage now launched a massive fleet, but Romans and Greeks combined in a stupendous effort and crushed it in off the Aegates Insulae Egadi, off the western tip of Sicily. The disaster brought Hanno and the peace party to power in Carthage. Rome was able to impose draconian peace terms. Thus began the conquest of Spain, effected by the powerful and proud Barca dynasty. But the occupation of the Iberian peninsula along its two major axes, the Guadalquivir and the eastern seaboard, gave Carthage direct access to the precious Spanish silver mines and the possibility of cornering their production. A few years later the mint in Cartagena was turning out silver pounds a day. In Carthage itself, beautiful coins stamped with fine images of animals – horses and elephants – testify to this age of prosperity. Hamilcar had, however, been killed in 246, in an encounter with local forces.

Ten years later Hasdrubal was assassinated. His nephew Hannibal, son of Hamilcar, was acclaimed commander of the army: Neither Rome nor Carthage had in fact abandoned the struggle. Each side spied on the other, fearing its might. Rome had to deal with severe unrest in Sardinia and Corsica, where the local tribes were as recalcitrant as the Samnites. There was an even graver threat in northern Italy, where, after some inconclusive campaigning, Rome had struck at the Gauls in . Six years later, the Latin colonies of Piacenza and Cremona were founded, but these were fragile outposts. The colonies themselves provoked the uprising of the Boii. And all the while, war was once more brewing between Rome and Carthage. Which would strike first? Hannibal, who had taken Saguntum and crossed the Ebro in April ? Or the Roman fleet stationed at Lilybaeum, which, after a preemptive occupation of Malta, was preparing to sail to Africa? In September , Hannibal crossed the Alps – his exact route is still unknown – and descended with fewer than 30,000 men into the Po Valley. In December that year, he was victorious in the battle of the Ticino. Then, although delayed by the tactics of the dictator Fabius Cunctator, he had the good fortune to win his greatest victory yet, at the battle of Cannae on 2 August . But for reasons that remain obscure not enough men, not enough siege equipment? The following years brought him some successes he held Tarentum from to , but once hemmed in in southern Italy, he was not well supported by Carthage. The defeat on the banks of the Metaurus in of his brother Hasdrubal, who was bringing substantial reinforcements from Spain, sealed his fate. Taking refuge in Bruttium Upper Calabria he remained there for years, his escape route cut off by Roman legions, just as his father had been cornered on the slopes of Mount Eryx. Rome meanwhile struck a series of telling blows: Cartagena was taken in and Scipio landed in Africa. Hannibal was recalled and the battle of Zama finally marked the end of the second Punic war.

8: FC The Roman conquest of the Mediterranean (BCE) - The Flow of History

What is the sequence of events that led Rome to become master of the Mediterranean Sea? Definition Â· Beginning in BC Rome fought three wars with rival Carthage.

Thursday, August 13, Rome versus Carthage: Control of the Mediterranean at once became the issue in a contest which would end only with the death of one of the adversaries. When Rome took Rhegium in , the Carthaginians placed a garrison across the water in Messina. The two political monsters “ on one hand Italy, united from the Po valley to the Gulf of Tarentum; on the other North Africa, from northern Cyrenaica to present-day Morocco, backed up by southern Spain “ eyed each other across the narrow straits. They were well-matched adversaries, capable in fact of coming to terms, as earlier treaties had demonstrated. It would, moreover, be inaccurate to describe their confrontation as one between a sort of gadfly Carthage, the maritime power and the heavy-footed soldier the Roman legions. Carthage was no less expert than Rome at building roads and bridges, and its agriculture was well developed, while Rome had been interested in the Mediterranean since well before b c. It had had dealings with the cities of Greater Greece, and merchant shipping was active along Italian coasts. In , at the outset of the wars, Rome launched a fleet of quinqueremes and thirty triremes, plus some other ships, all in the space of sixty days; in , the Romans launched vessels in six months. We need not take these figures quite literally perhaps, but the ships were certainly assembled very rapidly, probably too quickly for their quality not to suffer, as had already been the case in Greece. As a result, these navies did not last long, sometimes only the space of a single campaign. Early in the war, some sources report, the Italian shipyards had copied a Carthaginian quinquereme which had fallen into Roman hands. That is not impossible. Of the western Greek cities, only Syracuse had built quinqueremes. Supplies of timber were no problem for Rome: The Greeks in the Gulf of Tarentum had timber for boatbuilding delivered from the Sila massif in Bruttium. The Romans had it floated down the Tiber to Ostia. In this respect, Carthage was at a disadvantage, since it had to look to Sardinia for timber supplies. These longships might be easy to build but they were costly to operate, particularly since they could be used only on calm summer seas and over short distances, such as between Italy, Sicily, Malta, the Lipari Islands, the Egadi Islands and the nearest points on the North African coast. What was more, they required huge numbers of men: Overall, this was an extraordinarily expensive war: In BC, Rome had effortlessly occupied Messina, having been called upon by the then rulers of the city, the Mamertines, a rather remarkable band of adventurers who had betrayed the Carthaginian garrison. After imposing a peace settlement on Hieron of Syracuse, the Romans began the siege of the western cities: Agrigentum fell during the winter of , and 25, captives were sold into slavery. In , almost ten years later, it was the turn of Panormus Palermo , another Carthaginian stronghold: At sea, in , one Roman fleet was defeated off the Lipari Islands, but a second one, under the command of the consul C. Duilius Nepos, was victorious off Mylae Milazzo , thanks to the grappling irons and boarding planks which the Roman sailors used against the enemy. The Carthaginian vessels, which were easier to manoeuvre, were thus cheated of their advantage and boarded by force: From now on, Rome felt sufficiently confident to confront Carthaginian vessels along the African coast. In , an expeditionary force was landed on Cape Bon. It wintered in Tunis, but was crushed the following year: However, the city had found in Hamilcar Barca a commander of genius, who had dug himself in on two fortified and impregnable mountain tops in Sicily: His troops launched raid after raid, and the Punic ships also engaged in some fruitful piracy. The Republic lost ships to storms, pirates and the enemy navy. Carthage now launched a massive fleet, but Romans and Greeks combined in a stupendous effort and crushed it in off the Aegates Insulae Egadi , off the western tip of Sicily. The disaster brought Hanno and the peace party to power in Carthage. Rome was able to impose draconian peace terms. Thus began the conquest of Spain, effected by the powerful and proud Barca dynasty. But the occupation of the Iberian peninsula along its two major axes, the Guadalquivir and the eastern seaboard, gave Carthage direct access to the precious Spanish silver mines and the possibility of cornering their production. A few years later the mint in Cartagena was turning out silver pounds a day. In Carthage itself, beautiful coins stamped with fine images of animals “ horses and elephants “ testify to this age of prosperity. Hamilcar had, however, been

killed in , in an encounter with local forces. Ten years later Hasdrubal was assassinated. His nephew Hannibal, son of Hamilcar, was acclaimed commander of the army: Neither Rome nor Carthage had in fact abandoned the struggle. Each side spied on the other, fearing its might. Rome had to deal with severe unrest in Sardinia and Corsica, where the local tribes were as recalcitrant as the Samnites. There was an even graver threat in northern Italy, where, after some inconclusive campaigning, Rome had struck at the Gauls in . Six years later, the Latin colonies of Piacenza and Cremona were founded, but these were fragile outposts. The colonies themselves provoked the uprising of the Boii. And all the while, war was once more brewing between Rome and Carthage. Which would strike first? Hannibal, who had taken Saguntum and crossed the Ebro in April ? Or the Roman fleet stationed at Lilybaeum, which, after a preemptive occupation of Malta, was preparing to sail to Africa? In September , Hannibal crossed the Alps – his exact route is still unknown – and descended with fewer than 30,000 men into the Po Valley. In December that year, he was victorious in the battle of the Ticino. Then, although delayed by the tactics of the dictator Fabius Cunctator, he had the good fortune to win his greatest victory yet, at the battle of Cannae on 2 August . But for reasons that remain obscure – not enough men, not enough siege equipment? The following years brought him some successes: he held Tarentum from 212 to 209 , but once hemmed in in southern Italy, he was not well supported by Carthage. The defeat on the banks of the Metaurus in 212 of his brother Hasdrubal, who was bringing substantial reinforcements from Spain, sealed his fate. Taking refuge in Bruttium (Upper Calabria) he remained there for years, his escape route cut off by Roman legions, just as his father had been cornered on the slopes of Mount Eryx. Rome meanwhile struck a series of telling blows: Cartagena was taken in 209 and Scipio landed in Africa. Hannibal was recalled and the battle of Zama finally marked the end of the second Punic war.

9: The Roman Navy: Masters of the Mediterranean | HistoryNet

Greece and Rome: An Integrated History of the Ancient Mediterranean is an impressive and rare opportunity to understand the two dominant cultures of the ancient Mediterranean world in relation to one another. Over the course of 36 lectures, Professor Garland explores the many ways in which these two very different cultures intersected.

Ancient Rome Product Info Aggressors: Ancient Rome is a turn-based 4X strategy game that brings you back to the ancient world. A mix of deep gameplay and rich historical flavor, Aggressors lets you relive history as the ruler of one of the mighty civilizations of the Mediterranean world. Will you bring glory to Rome and conquer the Mare Nostrum? Will you build an immortal trading empire with Carthage? Will you bring the light of Athens to the world? Or maybe you will restore the rule of the Pharaoh? Choose one of twenty available factions and conquer the world. You can manage all aspects of your empire: Play on your strengths, beware of your weaknesses. The ancient world is brutal, for no mercy shall be given to the defeated. Rich historical flavor A lot of time and many sleepless nights were put into historical research in an attempt to give a real historical feeling to the game. A world which feels alive Twenty factions, from migrating barbarian tribes to advanced empires which interact with each other through an extremely detailed diplomatic system. Make use of more than ten available diplomatic agreements, including the possibility of forming Federations and Confederations as well as affecting nations and provinces in your Sphere of Influence. Real strategic decisions Experience the incredibly deep combat system, with each unit having its abilities and traits, and terrain truly affecting the war outcome in a meaningful way. Army morale and the supply system are crucial and need to be taken into account. You will need all your guile and strategic mastery to triumph on the battlefield. Establish trade routes to reap wealth, ensure the loyalty of your citizens, manage demography, technological research, internal reforms, laws – the tools at your disposal are endless and seamlessly integrated with each other. Citizens react to the current situation and they can move to other places when they are not happy. Customize your own world You have complete freedom: The choice is yours! Easy to learn Aggressors is very easy to learn thanks to the extremely clear tutorial and tool tips. Dive in the game gradually and explore all the options available to you.

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