



The Great Pyramids of Egypt®

By Jeff Lai, Ryan Wallace, and Mark Zong

Introduction



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✦ The Great Pyramids of Egypt have stood for thousands of years. They each have their own histories, stories, and appearances. Building a pyramid is hard work and takes many years.

Introduction

✦ There are three types of pyramids: true pyramid, bent pyramid, and the stepped pyramid. They are all different in many ways.



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Introduction

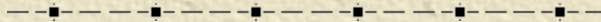
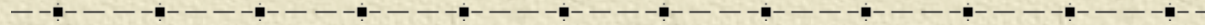
✦ There are many steps to building a pyramid.



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History of the Pyramids



History



✦ The Great Pyramids were built in Ancient Egypt thousands of years ago, in from the Old Kingdom through the New Kingdom.

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History

- ✦ Pyramids were constructed to house the dead pharaohs and queens. Imhotep built the first known pyramid for King Zoser about 2580 B.C. The pyramid that Imhotep built was a Stepped Pyramid. The transition from the Step Pyramid to a True Pyramid took place during the reign of King Snefru, around 2610 B.C.

History

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- ✦ The Great Pyramid was built in 30 years. 100,000 men worked on the pyramids for three or four months shifts.

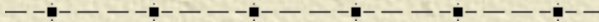
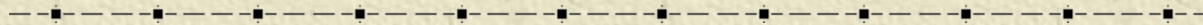
History

✦ Famous pyramids are built about 4,500 years ago. Smaller pyramids continued to be built for more than one thousand years. Several pharaohs died before their pyramids were built. Around 2465 B.C, halfway through the Old Kingdom, pyramids became less important.

History

- ✦ There are 10 pyramids at Giza that were built for Kings about 2500 to 2600 B.C. From about 1700 to 2700 B.C., the bodies of Egyptian Kings were buried inside or beneath a pyramid in a secret chamber that was filled with treasures of gold and precious objects.

Construction of a Pyramid



Construction

✦ There are three phases to building a pyramid. They are:

- ◆ Phase I- Preparing the Site
- ◆ Phase II- Building the Pyramid
- ◆ Phase III- The Finishing Touches

Construction

- ✦ The first step is to level and clear the ground. This is very important because it determines the stability of the pyramid.
- ✦ Peasants plow the ground to clear it out grass, plants, weeds, top soil, and other removable terrain. They keep digging until they hit solid bedrock.

Construction

- ✦ To accurately level the site, peasants cut grooves into the ground and fill them with water. Then, they mark the water's exact level and drain the water. Finally, they cut the ground down to the mark and fill the grooves with rubble.

Construction

- ✦ The final step of Phase I is cutting the tomb, which will ultimately house the dead. The tomb might also contain traps to prevent intruders from stealing things.

Construction

- ✦ Phase II requires three different kinds of people. Peasants are needed to move bricks and stone from a storage yard to the construction site. Bricklayers are also needed to lay the bricks and stone. Carpenters contribute their services by building ramps around the pyramid for peasants to transport things.

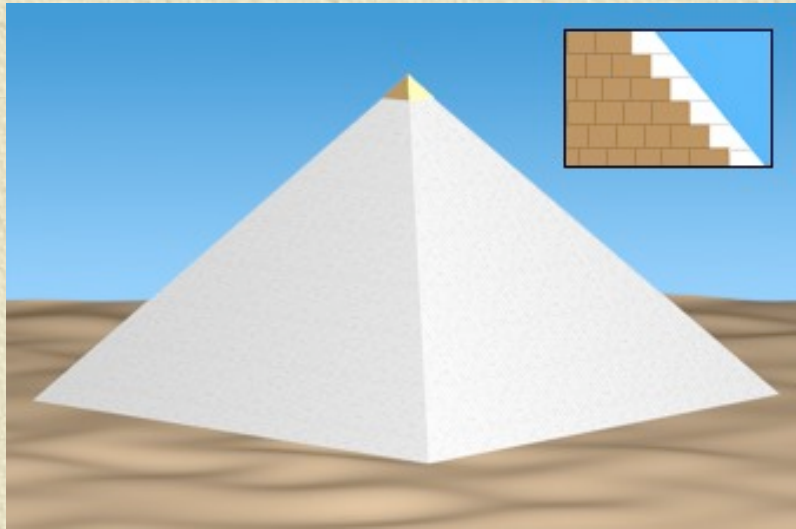
Construction

✦ After peasants deliver supplies one load at a time, bricklayers lay the stones. The pyramids are built layer by layer, so the construction may take many years.

Construction


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- ✦ After the rest of the pyramid is built, a gold capstone is placed on top. That is the end of Phase II.

Construction

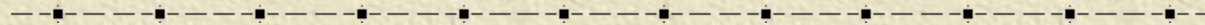


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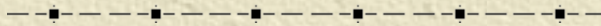
✦ The final phase is to smooth the sides of the pyramid. Stonemasons do this by chipping away the limestone until the sides are smooth. This makes the sides of the pyramid reflect the light of the sun.



Appearance



By Ryan Wallace



Appearance- The True Pyramid



- ✦ The picture to the left is a picture of a true pyramid. A true pyramid has 5 size: small, large, pyramid complex, and grand pyramid complex. The true pyramid looks like, “a path to the sun.”

Appearance- True Pyramid

- ✦ The true pyramid's sides are polished and smoothed. The inside is made out of plain stone, and the outside is limestone.



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Appearance- The Stepped Pyramid

- ✦ The stepped pyramid has gigantic steps that go up to the top.
- ✦ The size most used for the pyramid is small.
- ✦ The stepped pyramid is made entirely out of stone.



Appearance- The Bent Pyramid

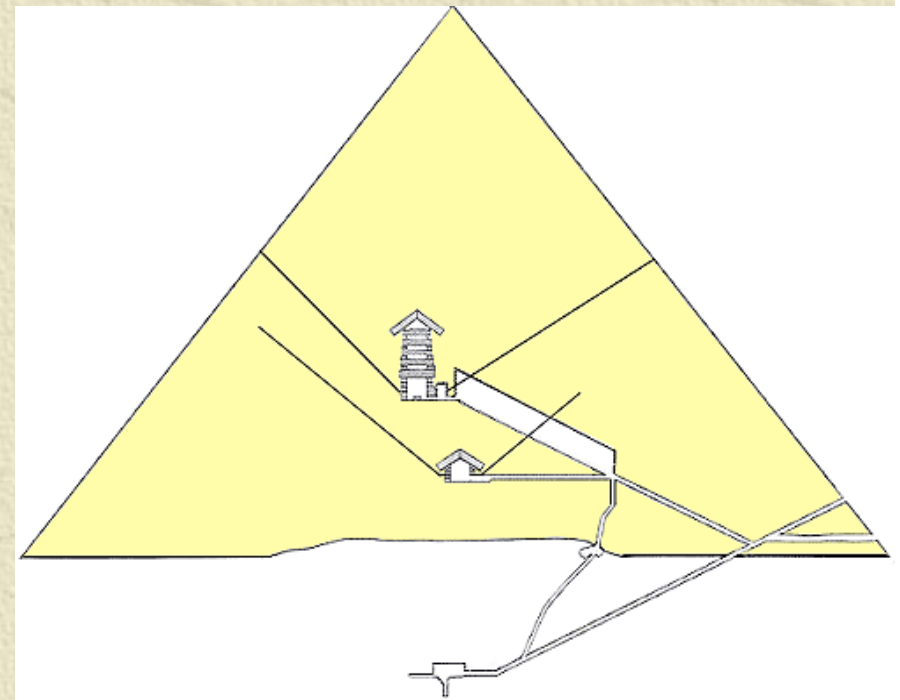


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- ✦ The bent pyramid is very smooth and has curved sides.
- ✦ The sides shine as brightly as the sun when the sun reflects against.
- ✦ The bent pyramid is made of plain stone and limestone.

Appearance- The Inside Of A Pyramid

- ✦ The inside of a pyramid looks like the diagram to the right.
- ✦ Inside the pyramid, there are many tall, long passages covered with beautiful tomb paintings.



Appearance- The Inside Of A Pyramid

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- ✦ Many treasures lay next to the bodies in the coffins. The king, queen or whoever was buried there would be in the lower chamber under the pyramid.

Conclusion

✦ The Great Pyramids continue to stand above all Egypt after being built thousands of years ago. They symbolize Egypt's past and are still very important to Egypt's citizens. They come in many shapes and sizes and take many years to complete. They have a long and fascinating history. The Great Pyramids of Egypt are a reminder of Egyptian heritage.

The End



✦ We hope you enjoyed our slide show. We also hope to get a good grade. We look forward to seeing all of the other slide shows. The End.

www.personal.umich.edu

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