

# Inspector Rex's History Snippet #12

## The Catalhoyuk community

Three 'Ages' that are commonly used to give a chronology of human evolution are stated as: Stone Age (10,000 BC -3,000BC), Bronze Age (3,000 BC -1,300BC), Iron Age (1,300BC-900BC). <https://www.history.com/news/prehistoric-ages-timeline>

### Very interesting is the Catalhoyuk community.

Çatalhöyük was a very large **Neolithic and Chalcolithic** proto-city settlement in southern **Anatolia**, which existed from approximately **7100 BC to 5700 BC, and flourished around 7000 BC**.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%87atalh%C3%B6y%C3%BCk>

Çatalhöyük is in central Turkey and existed as a community with a Stone Age culture.

Çatalhöyük was composed entirely of domestic buildings, with no obvious public buildings. While some of the larger ones have rather ornate **murals**, the purpose of some rooms remains unclear.

The population of the eastern mound has been estimated to be, at maximum, 10,000 people, but the population likely varied over the community's history. An average population of between 5,000 and 7,000 is a reasonable estimate. The sites were set up as large numbers of buildings clustered together. Households looked to their neighbors for help, trade, and possible marriage for their children. The inhabitants lived in **mudbrick** houses that were crammed together in an aggregate structure. No footpaths or streets were used between the dwellings, which were clustered in a honeycomb-like maze. Most were accessed by holes in the ceiling and doors on the side of the houses, with doors reached by ladders and stairs. The rooftops were effectively streets. The ceiling openings also served as the only source of ventilation, allowing smoke from the houses' open hearths and ovens to escape. Houses had **plaster** interiors characterized by squared-off timber ladders or steep stairs. These were usually on the south wall of the room, as were **cooking hearths** and **ovens**. The main rooms contained raised platforms that may have been used for a range of domestic activities. Typical houses contained two rooms for everyday activity, such as cooking and crafting. All interior walls and platforms were plastered to a smooth finish. Ancillary rooms were used as storage, and were accessed through low openings from main rooms.



On-site restoration of a typical interior