

This is a temple. It has columns. The top part of the column shows the order (style). The columns are built out of drums, and you can just make out the lines separating them from one another.



Agrigento, c450BC, hexastyle façade (6 columns).



The Greeks didn't have mortar (whereas the Romans did) so the temples depended on gravity to keep them up. Sideways movement due to wind and earthquake was prevented by making a hole in the top and bottom of each drum, in which were located square bronze pins. The vertical striations are called **flutes (fluting)**.

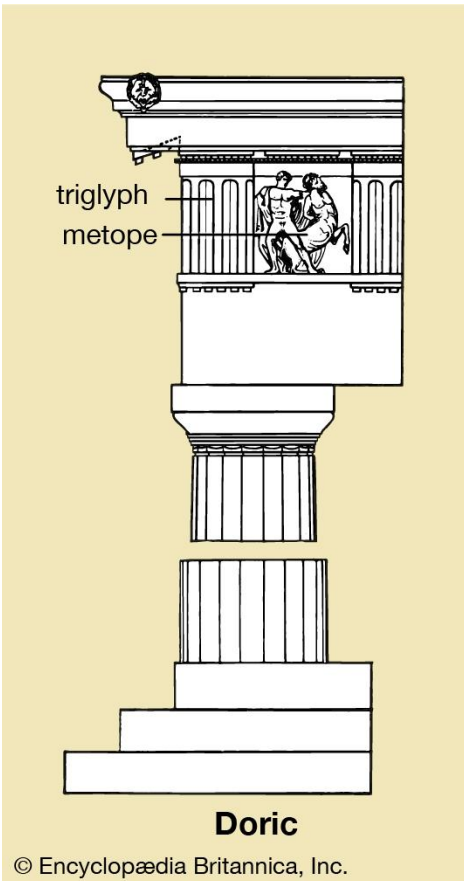


There are 5 main orders and we are studying the most common 3 at the moment. These are in date order of when they arrived on the scene.

On the left is the **Doric Order** (the oldest of the 3), in the Middle is the **Ionic Order**, and on the right is the **Corinthian Order** (the newest, which was also used by the Romans). Each order has a particular decoration which goes with the shape of the top of the column, called the capital. You could Google these terms.



A Doric column has a square stone block at the top, with a cushion-shaped block beneath it. The square one is called the **abacus**, and the cushion one is called the **echinus**. This column is fluted.



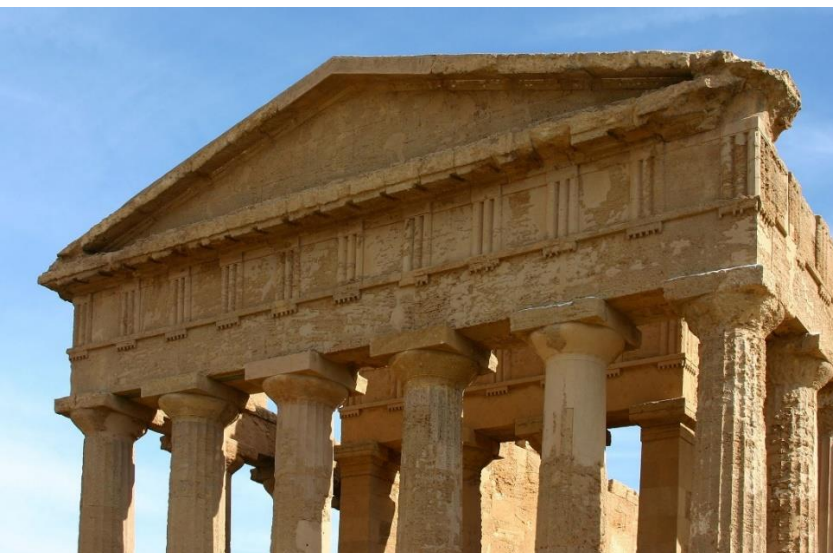
Above the capital is the lintel, called the **entablature**. The bottom plain bit is the architrave, the decorated bit in the middle is the frieze, and the top sticky out bit is the cornice.

With the Doric order, the frieze decoration is always (or should be if the rules are being followed) composed of alternating rectangles, one of 3 vertical lines called triglyphs, and one of either a plain block or a sculptural relief, called the metope.

Triglyphs were probably derived from the first Greek temples which were built out of wood, and would have had 3 vertical planks side by side as a joist, so that it didn't flex under the weight of the roof.

The metopes were sometimes left plain and sometimes carved with figures.

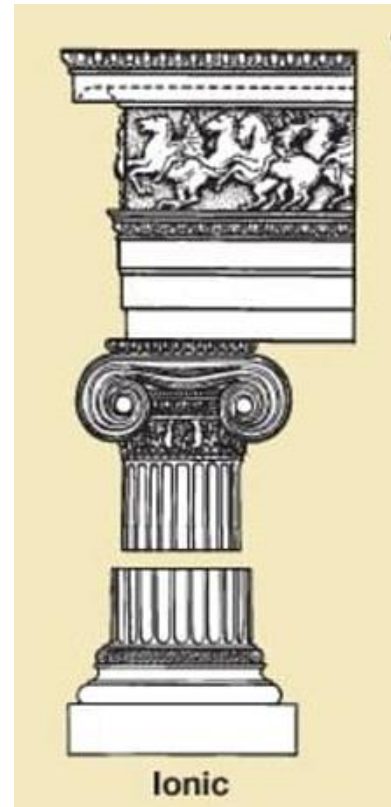
The bottom of the column rests directly on the top step up to the temple, called the stylobate.



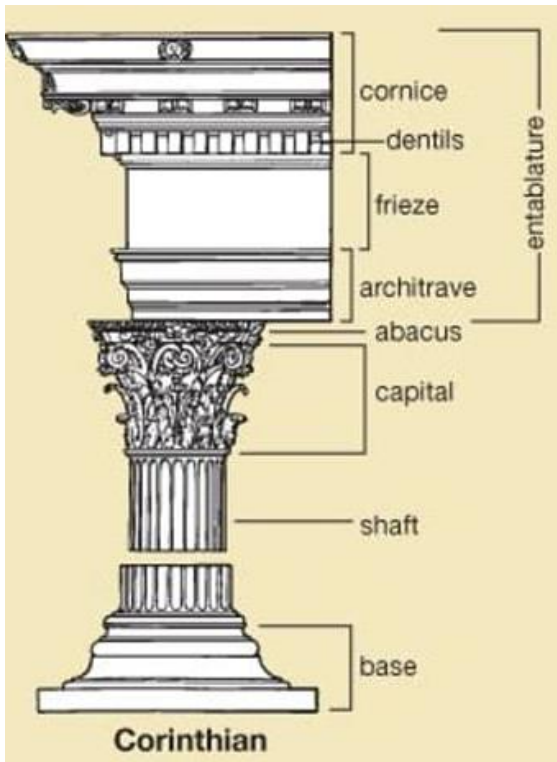




An Ionic column has a thin stone block at the top, beneath which is a carving of two rams-horn shapes, called volutes. Between them is a particular decoration called egg and dart motif (see below), and occasionally foliate decoration.



The entablature (lintels) are positioned over each bay (the space in between the columns).



This is a column in the Corinthian style. It has a capital composed of stylised acanthus leaves, with fine tendrils coming out of the top, just below a very slim abacus. Above it is the entablature with an architrave with horizontal bands, a plain frieze, and a cornice beneath which is a dentil decoration (teeth). It has a base, and the column shaft is fluted. These came into being in the later Greek period, called the Hellenistic, and were also used in the Roman Empire. They are usually very large. The bottom picture is a view of the interior of the Pantheon in Rome.







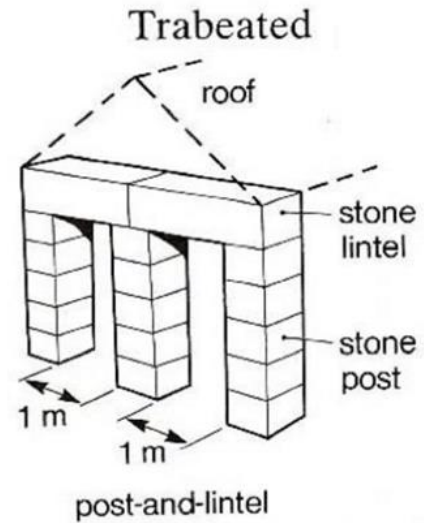
So back to the temple:-

The triangle at the top is the pediment. It is surrounded by the cornice. The entablature has the cornice at the top, then the frieze beneath with its triglyphs and metopes, then the architrave. Then there are the columns with their Doric capitals consisting of abacus and echinus, and the shafts are cigar-shaped, which is called entasis. They are fluted, and rest on the stylobate. This kind of building method with columns and lintel, is called 'post and lintel', or trabeated architecture, and is the same as Stonehenge.



This is the Pantheon in Rome. You could Google some other pictures of it for a clearer look. A description would be:

This circular building has a Classical portico (front bit) which is trabeated. It has no stylobate with steps but the columns rest on small pedestals, and are not fluted, although they do have subtle entasis. The order is Corinthian, and the entablature has an architrave with a horizontal moulding, a frieze with an inscription, and a cornice with dentils. The pediment has no sculptural decoration.



This building is the  
Winnipeg Law  
Courts.

1912 to 1916.

Try and write a  
description of it.  
Twin columns are  
called 'paired  
columns'. Don't  
worry about the  
windows as we'll  
look at those later.





The Queens Hotel, Cheltenham, c. 1837.

The splendour of this neo-classical building is striking outside and in. Even the wallpaper is special: the covering which decorates the magnificent central staircase is 175 years old, designed by A. W. Pugin, and also graces the Houses of Parliament. George III came to Cheltenham back in the 18th century. At the time it was little more than a muddy Gloucestershire village, but the king decided to head there to take the recently-discovered spa waters for a few weeks, and that chance decision catapulted Cheltenham to fashionable status and wealth at a time when English architecture was arguably at its apogee. Sir Charles Napier, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and Edward Elgar stayed here when visiting, while Glenn Miller and Bob Hope propped up the hotel bar during the Second World War.

Have a go at describing it, but ignore windows and the lower floor arches, as we'll look at those another time.



Have a go at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington. 1914 – 1922.

How does it break the rules of the Classical language of architecture?

Get a clearer image on Google if you can.