

LOANS BOX: PREHISTORY

Item	Brief Description
	Paleolithic
Hand axe	One of the most common tools of the Paleolithic, primarily a butchery tool.
Burin	A tool from the later Paleolithic, used in the manufacture of bone and antler objects
Bone needle	Used for sewing fabric and leather items. The thread is made from red deer intestines.
Flint blade	Struck from a flint core, this is the raw material used to make tools such as burins, scrapers and projectile points.
Antler hammer	A tool used in the manufacture of flint implements.
Flint end scraper	Mainly used in the preparation of animal skins to remove fatty layers from the underside of the hide
Chert projectile point	A stone tip for a light spear or javelin used for hunting around the time of the last Ice Age.

	Mesolithic
Flint disc knife	A hand held cutting tool, primarily for butchery use.
Flint piercer	Used to make small holes in wood, bone or antler items, as well as leather goods prior to sewing.
Bone harpoon head	Bone and antler harpoons have been found in Britain dating back at least as far as the Mesolithic.
Antler needle	Used for sewing fabric and leather items. The thread is made from stinging nettle fibres.
Flint scraper	Mainly used in the preparation of animal skins, to remove fatty layers from the underside of the hide.
Microlith	Small flint tools that could be glued into handles to make a variety of composite tools such as arrows or saws.

	Neolithic
Bone needle	Used for sewing fabric and leather items. The thread is made from stinging nettle fibre.
Awl	Used to make small holes in wood, bone or antler items as well as leather goods prior to sewing.
Flint Leaf Arrowhead	A common style of arrow used for hunting.
Flint petit tranchet arrowhead	A design used in the late Mesolithic and Neolithic probably for hunting birds. It is a design unique to NW Europe and Britain.
Chert sickle	Used to harvest crops, particularly grains such as wheat and barley
Chert knife (hafted)	An essential tool used for many everyday tasks. The handle design is based on that found with Otzi the Iceman from the Italian Alps.

	Bronze Age
Chert knife (hafted)	A design commonly used by the Beaker Culture of the Early Bronze Age
Flint barbed and tanged arrowhead	A more complicated design of arrow used for hunting during the Bronze Age.
Amber bead	Amber was a popular material for making beads throughout the Bronze Age as it was soft and quite easy to drill and carve.
Bronze pin	A ring headed swan neck pin used to fasten clothing during the later Bronze and early Iron Age.
Gold ring	Based on an original found in Cambridgeshire. It dates to about 1200-1000 BC. These rings were probably threaded on a gold torc and worn round the neck.
Copper knife	Based on finds from the "Amesbury Archer" Beaker Culture burial. The blade would have been attached to the handle using glue made from boiled animal hooves or tree resin and beeswax.

	Iron Age
Iron reaping hook	Small reaping hook or sickle on an ash shaft used to harvest crops and maintain trees and hedgerows.
Iron snips	An early form of scissors dating from the Iron Age. A larger version was used to shear sheep.
Iron knife	A basic tool dating from the Iron Age. One piece blades are more common in Scandinavia but examples have been found in Britain e.g. the Danebury Ring site.
Iron pin	A round section iron pin with tapered shaft and a drilled terminal with an iron ring, used to fasten clothing during the later Iron Age.
Iron currency bar	Hand forged 12" long Iron Age currency bar made from low carbon steel based on the find from Meon Hill Iron Age fort
Iron adze	Based on an iron adze found at the Danebury Ring Iron Age site. A tool used in wood-working, multi-purpose with a hammer back.