

Pre-historic Patterns

For thousands of years pre-historic people decorated pottery, jewellery, clothing and their houses with different patterns and shapes.

During the Stone Age, shapes such as dashes, chevrons (like triangles) and zigzags were used to decorate pottery. Bronze Age people made beautiful brooches with spring like swirls, circles and loops.

Iron Age and Celtic people used complicated designs of woven patterns and animal-like faces. They also used colour and gem stones.

Search online for more Stone, Bronze and Iron age patterns and then design your own brooch or decorate a pot using the templates attached.



Stone Age



Bronze Age

Iron Age



Pottery Vessel

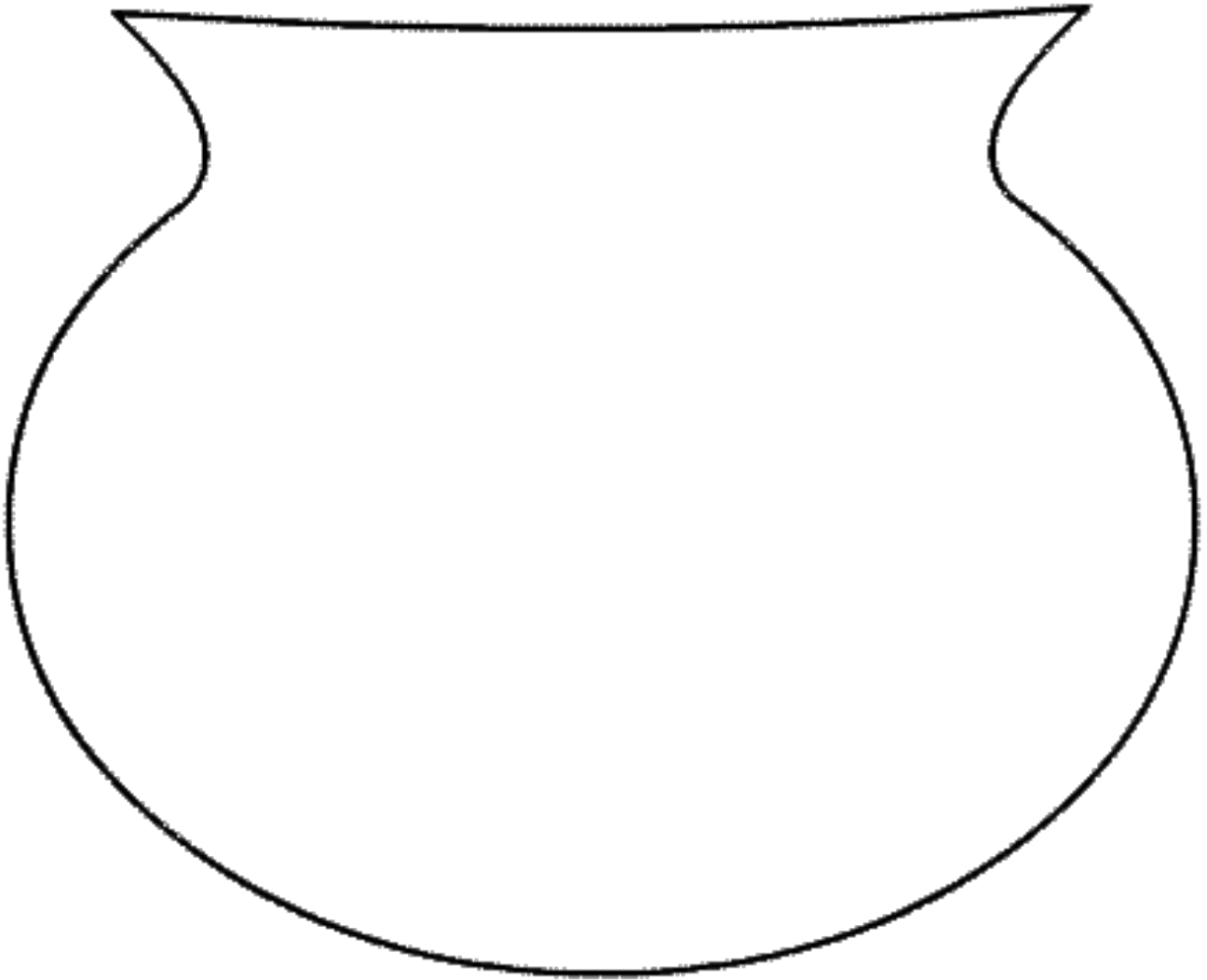
The earliest pots were made by Neolithic Stone Age people from clay coils built up on top of each other. The pots had very little decoration and were fired in open pits.

Pots were used for food preparation, cooking and in later times as urns for the ashes of the dead.

The earliest pottery was unglazed and had very simple marks as decoration.

Wheel-thrown pots were not made until the end of the Iron Age. By then glazing, decoration and firing techniques had all improved.

Decorate your own pot using some pre-historic patterns.



Brooch

This style of brooch was used throughout the Iron Age and well into the Roman and Viking times. They were made from bronze and sometimes silver.

It is known as a penannular brooch. They could be very large and were used for fastening cloaks.

This type of brooch is most often associated with Iron Age people such as the Celts.

Design your own brooch using some pre-historic patterns.

