

## What Factors Led To Improvement In The Renaissance?

After the Black Death People began to challenge ideas, people began experimenting and questioning; this was the start of the renaissance a time of rebirth. Art, music, architecture and science where all to benefit from this new age.

After the Black Death people had more money to spend. This meant more people where being educated, people where using there knowledge to look around at things and ask, how can we make this better? People also used their wealth to buy luxuries like paintings and sculptures. Artists had to improve to meet the demands of the patrons. Scientists like Vesalius used the improvements in art to make accurate records of their experiments and dissections.

As detailed books where being written, lavishly illustrated and universities where using them to teach students, people began to look for a way to mass-produce books. The printing press was invented. With this colossal improvement copies of new books could be distributed all over Eu rope, as well as the new books old books such as the works of Galen could be viewed by everyone. People where really starting to think about things.

With all this wealth around it is only human nature to want more, as a result several wars broke out during the 13<sup>th</sup> century. However, the renaissance managed to bring good from these wars. Surgeons like Pare were put under immense pressure; this forced them to find better ways of doing things.

Away from the battlefield people set their creative minds to inventing. Watches clocks and pumps were all created. People looked at the machines and the human body and saw that there isn't much difference. William Harvey realised that the water pump performs a similar job to the heart, even though this went against the theories of ancient doctors, he still experimented with his ides by cutting open live reptiles to watch how the blood flowed trough the body.

A combination of great minds, technological advances, a decline in the Roman Catholic Church and experimenting and testing enabled the improvements to be made.

During the renaissance the painful and often lethal process of cauterising was replaced with ligatures. The process of boiling oil to heal wounds was replaced with ointments and bandaging. The human body was opened up for the entire world to see. And the circulatory system was uncovered.

But now people new where the heart was and how it worked, they still didn't now how to cure fevers or prevent plagues so what good did the renaissance really do.