All roads lead to Rome

- First paved road called via Appia (Appian Way)
- over 310,000 km of road built
Expansion & Trade

Goal to expand land, resources and trade:

- **LAND**: Republic needed land to reward its armies. Romans believed that land was the only important form of wealth, and farming and soldiering were the honourable occupations.

- **RESOURCES**: Sicily (grain); Spain (cooking oil); other cities in east (wine, produce, leather and woolen goods).

- **CONFLICTS**: Expansion in south led to clashes with the trading peoples called the Carthaginians (North Africa).

- **TRADE**: Increase in military activity meant an increase in the trade in weapons.

- **COLONIES**: Settled and run by full Roman citizens who remained loyal (i.e., discharged soldiers) and colonies were linked by roads and a unified currency.

- **WEALTH**: Accumulative wealth gained from collecting taxes and importing goods which paid for massive building projects and paid soldiers.
Rome Conquers Greece

- After Alexander the Great dies in 323 BCE, there is a fight over his empire – causes instability
- While visiting Corinth some important Roman delegates were insulted
- Rome attacked and destroyed Corinth, stealing its treasure and riches
- Marks the beginning of decadence and a love of luxury for the Romans
Punic Wars: Three Punic Wars (Rome vs. Carthage)

1st Punic War

- 264 BCE - 241 BCE
- Rome vs. Sicily, Syracuse and Carthage
- Rome wins and adds Sicily and Syracuse to its empire and destroys Carthage
2nd Punic War

218 BCE – 202 BCE

Hannibal takes ambitious journey from Spain with 36,000 troops and 37 elephants over Alps; conquers most of Italian Peninsula with remaining 26,000 troops and 1 elephant.

Four great battles with heavy Roman losses (ie. at Cannae, over 50,000 out of 86,000 Roman soldiers were annihilated in one day.

14 years later, the final Battle at Zama (202 BCE), Roman general Scipio pushes Hannibal out of Italy and Carthagians were forced to pay reparations to Rome, dismantle navy and forfeit commercial empire.

“Oh, no! We knew Hannibal had elephants. We just didn’t realise he was capable of launching them!”
Punic Wars

Rome's Territory 264 BC
Carthage Territory 264 BC

Roman Victories
Hannibal's Victories
Hannibal's Route
Carthage Territory Lost to Rome 264-201 BC
3rd Punic War

- 149 BCE – 146 BCE
- 50 years after Hannibal’s defeat, Carthage was ready for more and insulted a Roman delegation
- Rome invades Carthage and burns it to the ground, steals its many wealthy and luxurious objects

The Punic Wars. Rome's three wars against Carthage resulted in both its dominance of the western Mediterranean and the start of an empire outside of Italy.
Roman Victories

During 400 years between expulsion of Etruscans to end of Roman Republic:

• Complete unification of entire Italian Peninsula by 27- BCE
• Rome defeats Carthage, giving Rome control of North Africa and Carthage’s provinces in Spain
• Macedonia and Greece are conquered and become Roman provinces
• Pergamum (present day eastern Turkey) became province of Asia Minor, the first Roman possession in Asia
• Southern Gaul (south France) conquered by Romans