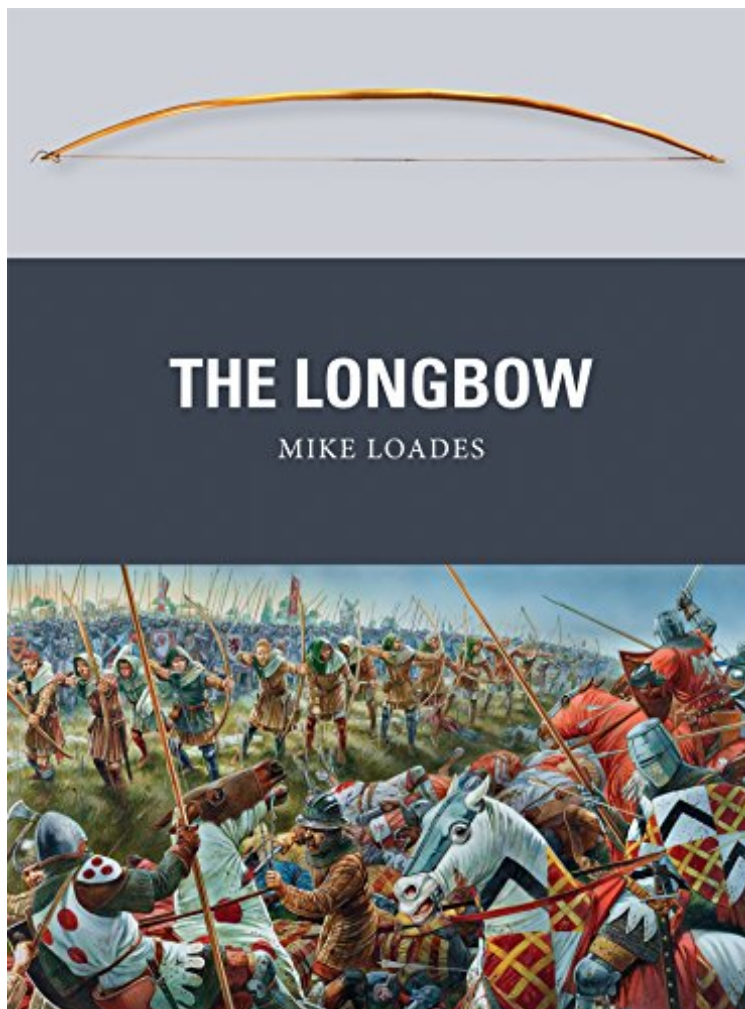


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Mike Loades

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(Read download) The Longbow (Weapon)

The Longbow (Weapon)

Mike Loades : The Longbow (Weapon) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Longbow (Weapon):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. If you are an enthusiast of the English Longbow or its place in history, then you need this book. By Josh Wilson This is an incredible book. I highly recommend it to anyone who is interested in the history of medieval archery. Even though this book is only around 80 pages, it is packed full of excellent information with wonderful photographs and illustrations. The author draws from both period and modern resources as well as his own scientific testing data and presents the information in a clear, succinct way that is never dry. The book features detailed photographs of re-enactors shooting their bows; reproductions of bows, arrows and other archery tackle by skilled craftsmen; photographs and illustrations of "how-to"-s and techniques; and fantastic artwork depicting medieval archers at war. In short, if you are an enthusiast of the English Longbow or its place in

history, then you need this book on your shelf. I can not recommend this book enough. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If you care about history - add this book to your list
By Customer
The surest way to keep the peace is to make sure everybody knows what war is like. The cover speaks volumes. The attacking French hosts at the battle of Crecy are in a state of shock and confusion. You'd guess they meant to fight it out man to man. Instead they met a storm of English arrows. They were so helpless that the English "special forces" of the day could walk right up to them and annihilate them hand to hand. At various times the English feared another French invasion. Edward III dealt with it by decreeing every man who could afford weapons must buy them and train regularly. The long bow was the AR-15 of their time. After lunch on Sundays every man fit to fight turned out to shoot complicated courses in timed trials. They were so good that Parliament forbade young men shooting at targets nearer than 225 yds away. They were so strong that a 100 lb draw weight was considered a light bow only suitable for rapid fire at close range. The book is filled with interesting sometimes shocking details that you never learned in the cotton candy history classes in school. I strongly recommend it.
5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. a very welcome experimental, experiential approach to medieval archery
By Baby-sensei
The author's experimental commonsense make this an important contribution to anyone trying to delve into the details of warfare during the Hundred Years War. This work went a long way toward de-mythologizing the romantic Robin Hood ideal of the medieval archer, and it has become perhaps the most valuable of the twenty odds books I've purchased on this subject.

Boasting a rate of shooting not seen again in English hands until the late 19th century, the longbow was the weapon at the heart of the English military ascendancy in the century after 1340. Capable of subjecting the enemy to a hail of deadly projectiles, the longbow in the hands of massed archers made possible the extraordinary victories enjoyed by English forces over superior numbers at Crcy and Poitiers, and remained an important battlefield weapon throughout the Wars of the Roses and beyond; it also played a leading role in raiding, siege and naval warfare. Its influence and use spread to the armies of Burgundy, Scotland and other powers, and its reputation as a cost-effective and easily produced weapon led to calls for its widespread adoption in the nascent armies of the American Republic as late as the 1770s. Wielded by Englishmen, Welshmen and others, the longbow fulfilled the requirements of all infantry missile weapons throughout history - it was a well-made weapon suitable for production in quantity that projected a man-stopping missile over a suitable distance at a sustainable, relatively rapid rate of shooting. The longbow was a "self-bow" - that is to say, it was made from one piece of wood, normally yew, with the "belly" of the bow being "heartwood" and a thinner layer of "sapwood" being the "back" of the bow. Its arrows were normally made of aspen, a light and strong wood - although ash and other woods were also used - with a variety of metal heads available, depending on the intended use. A sophisticated piece of ammunition requiring many resources and skill to manufacture, the longbow arrow could penetrate plate armour if the conditions were right; this study argues, however, that the "blunt trauma" inflicted on the target, however well armoured, resulted in debilitating injuries and was far more significant on the field of battle. Featuring specially commissioned full-colour artwork and informed by the latest research into this intriguing weapon, this lively study debunks lingering myths and casts new light on the battle-winning longbow, the lethal missile weapon that enabled English victories against the odds in a series of famous battles of the 14th and 15th centuries.

About the Author
Mike Loades is a respected author, broadcaster, director and action arranger who has made numerous television appearances as a historical weapons expert and military historian. His book *Swords and Swordsmen*, published by Pen Sword in 2010, attracted positive reviews for its knowledgeable but engaging approach.