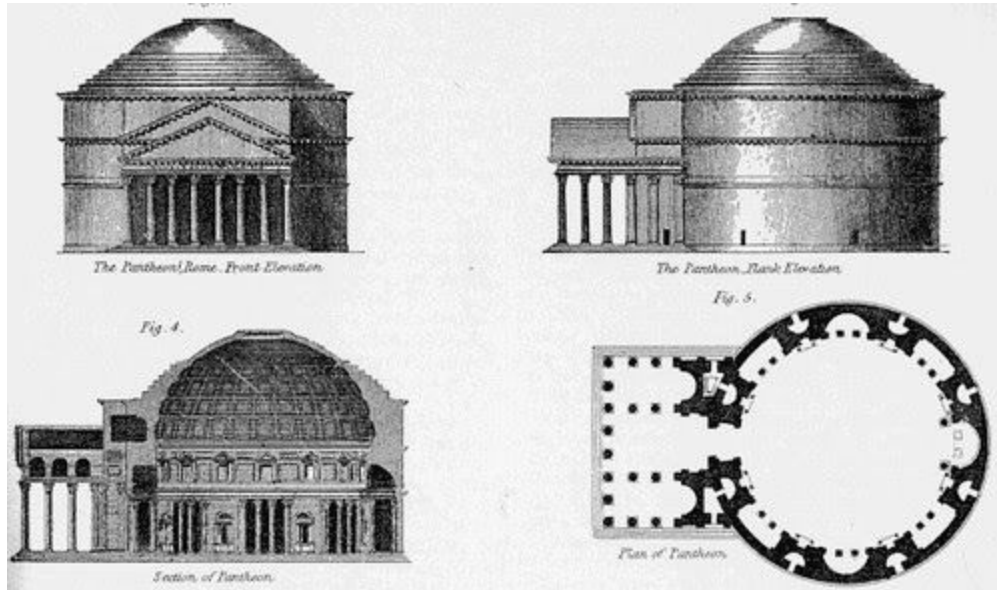


Name: _____

Pantheon Article
From *Encyclopedia Britannica*



Pantheon, [building](#) in [Rome](#) that was begun in 27 BC by the statesman [Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa](#), probably as a building of the ordinary Classical [temple](#) type—rectangular with a **gabled** roof supported by a colonnade on all sides. It was completely rebuilt by the emperor [Hadrian](#) sometime between 118 CE and 128 CE, and some alterations were made in the early 3rd century by the emperors [Septimius Severus](#) and [Caracalla](#).

It is a circular building of [concrete](#) faced with brick, with a great concrete [dome](#) rising from the walls and with a front porch of Corinthian columns supporting a gabled roof with triangular [pediment](#). Beneath the porch are huge bronze double doors, 24 feet (7 metres) high, the earliest known large examples of this type.

Questions

When did they first start working on the Pantheon?

Gable = triangular space of a wall between edges of a raised roof

Who had the Pantheon rebuilt?

When was the Pantheon rebuilt?

What is the Pantheon made out of?

Describe what the Pantheon looks like (according to the last paragraph).

The Pantheon is remarkable for its size, its construction, and its design. Until modern times, the dome was the largest built, measuring about



142 feet (43 metres) in diameter and rising to a height of 71 feet (22 metres) above its base. There is no external evidence of brick arch support inside the dome, except in the lowest part, and the exact method of construction has never been determined.

The careful selection of mortar used in the concrete has helped the dome survive. Ancient Romans were also smart in their choice of

How large is the dome inside the Pantheon?

What is one factor that has helped the Pantheon dome survive?

What materials were used in the dome?

materials: heavy basalt, brick, tufa (a stone formed from volcanic dust), and pumice.

The facade porch (front of the building) is classic in design like a Greek building, but the inside is entirely Roman. The body of the building is an immense circular space lit solely by a giant oculus (eye) that is 27 ft across.



The inside of the building is one of the first truly colorful and thoughtful - made up of colored marble. Rectangular coffers, or indentations, were cut in the ceiling and decorated with bronze rosettes to look like stars (they have disappeared over time however).

What lit up the inside of the Pantheon?

What is a coffer?

