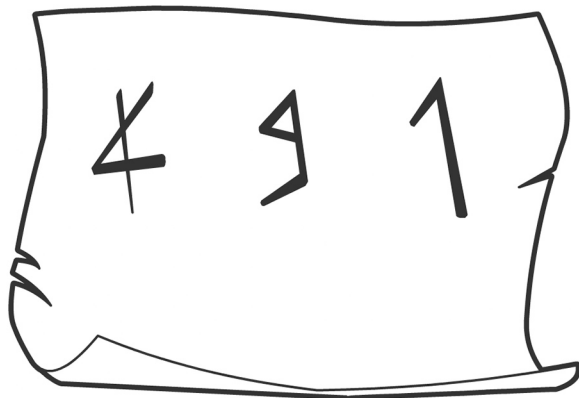


Paper

Evidence shows that the earliest form of paper was used by Ancient Egyptians in around 2400 BC.

They wrote on papyrus leaves which were lighter and easier to carry than clay tablets.

The papyrus leaves were pressed together to form a flat surface and left to dry in the sun.



Records show that the first real paper was made in 105 AD in China by an official of the Chinese Court called Ts'ai Lun.

He made paper from hemp and rags which were squashed together with water. It was then left to dry.

Papermaking then spread across into Korea and Vietnam and gradually into the West. The Europeans first started making paper in the 1300s.

Paper is now used around the world not only for writing on but also for making packing and cleaning products.

Paper is now widely recycled to reduce the amount of waste and environmental impact of paper manufacturing.

