

How Did They Do It?

Building the temple took thousands of people, many materials, and ingenuity. The temple was 90 feet (27 meters) long, 30 feet (9 meters) wide and 45 feet (13.5 meters) high. Solomon had a huge labor force. 30,000 men felled cedar and cypress trees in Lebanon. 70,000 others ‘carried burdens’, and 80,000 more quarried stone in the mountains. Stones were cut to size at the quarry so no tools would be heard where the temple was built. 3,300 supervisors managed the work.

Solomon’s temple was built long before modern technology. There were no large machines to cut, lift, or transport heavy logs and stones. Brainstorm ways in which people might have transported stones from the quarry and lifted them into place in the temple on the chart below.

Method	Advantages	Disadvantages
Rollers		
Sleds		
Waterways		
Lever		
Ramps		

Which method is the most plausible?