

How Did They Build the Temple?

1 Kings 5, 6

Building the temple required thousands of people, many different materials, and eleven years to complete. How did they build such a magnificent structure without machines, man-made materials like steel and plastic, or motorized vehicles? What tools did they use? How did they transport materials? How did they move everything to the site of the temple AFTER it had been hewn and carved? How did they attach things to each other?

Listed below are some of the activities involved in building the temple. After each one, give your idea of how it was achieved. Get creative, but try to keep your ideas realistic. You might find some ideas on the internet.

Activity	Possible Methods and Tools
Transport the cedar trees from the mountains to the rafts and from the rafts to Jerusalem.	
Quarry “large stones, costly stones and hewn stones.” (1 Kings 5:17)	
Pile the hewn stone to form the 30 cubit (45 feet) high walls.	
Panel all the walls of the temple with “beams and boards of cedar.” (1 Kings 6:9)	
Overlay the whole temple with pure gold.	
Carve every wall with figures of cherubim, palm trees and flowers.	