



Cultural Heritage

Scarred trees and Stone tools



Stone tools

Stone tools are the most common evidence of Aboriginal peoples' activities.

Stone tools were made by hitting a piece of stone, called a core, with a 'hammerstone'. This would remove a sharp fragment of stone called a flake. Both cores and flakes could be used as stone tools.

The best types of stone for making tools are quartzite, silcrete, quartz and greenstone.

Aboriginal people quarried stone from bedrock outcrops or collected it. Stone was often carried long distances or traded.

Scarred trees

Scarred trees are found all over Victoria, wherever there are mature native trees.

Aboriginal people caused scars on trees by removing the bark. The scars, which vary in size, expose the sapwood on the trunk or branch of a tree.

To remove bark, Aboriginal people cut an outline of the shape they wanted using axes. The bark was then levered off. Sometimes the axe marks are still visible on the sapwood of the tree, but usually the marks will be hidden because the bark has grown back.

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