

# Summarizing

The Terracotta Army is the name given to over 8,000 life-size terra cotta soldiers that were buried along with the first emperor of China, Emperor Qin Shi Huang. Terra cotta is a type of clay-based, porous earthenware that is orangish in color.

Emperor Qin devoted much of his time to looking for immortality. He oversaw the construction of the greatest tomb that had ever been built for any leader, and he stocked it with all of the resources he believed he would need in the afterlife. When he died and was buried in the tomb in 210 BC, the 8,000 terra cotta soldiers were buried with him. Other statues buried in the tomb included cavalry horses, horses and chariots, and figures of government officials and entertainers.

The soldiers range in height from 5'11" to 6'7" and look like real human beings. No two terra cotta soldiers are exactly alike. They represent all ages, ranks, facial types, and hair styles. Their faces also exhibit a range of emotions, from serenity to anger and aggression. Even their clothing and armor differ from soldier to soldier. Today they are all the orangish-red color of terra cotta, but 2,000 years ago each soldier was painted, lacquered, and equipped with a weapon (crossbows, daggers, maces, spears, and swords).

Archeologists speculate that it took over 700,000 craftsmen several years to complete all of the life-size statues, and that they were likely assembled in assembly-line fashion. Between eight and ten different head shape molds have been identified, which were then customized before being attached to the bodies.