

# Broad Phases & Dates for Irish History

Archaeologists conventionally subdivide the prehistoric period in Ireland using the first introductions of farming and metalworking as indicators of social/cultural change.

PHASES IN IRISH HISTORY	APPROXIMATE DATES
<i>(The Stone Age)</i>	
Early Mesolithic	7000 – 5500 BCE
Late Mesolithic	5500 – 4000 BCE
Neolithic	4000 – 2400 BCE
<i>(Introduction of Metalworking)</i>	
Early Bronze Age	2400 – 1500 BCE
Middle Bronze Age	1500 – 1000 BCE
Late Bronze Age	1000 – 600 BCE
<i>(Introduction of Iron - 'Celtic' Influence)</i>	
Iron Age	600 BCE – 500 CE
<i>(The Ascendance of Christianity)</i>	
Early Medieval Ireland	400/500 - 800 CE

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