



# Roman Gods



The Romans believed in many different gods and goddesses. For most things they had a god or goddess in charge. There were hundreds of different gods altogether. This entire collection of all their gods was called the **Pantheon**.



# Mars

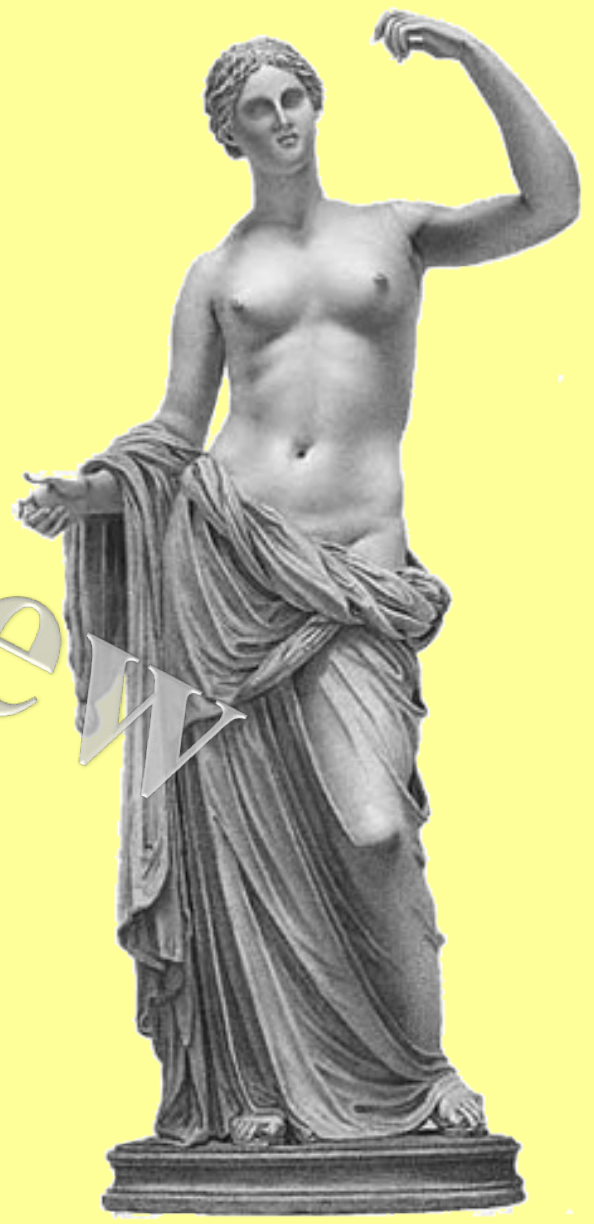
Mars was the God of War. His favorite animals, often found on his battlefields, were the vulture and the dog or wolf. Mars' emblem was a spear and a burning torch. He loved violence and bloodshed.





# Venus

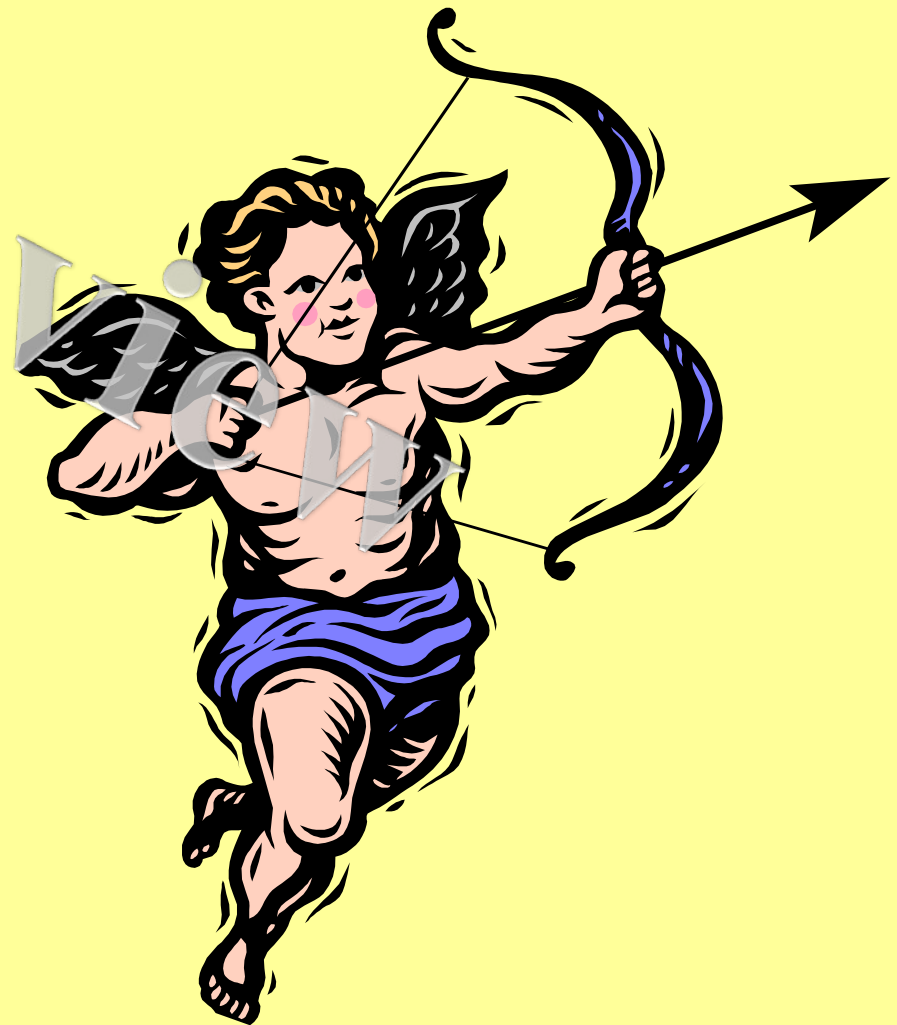
Venus was the Goddess of love and beauty, Venus conquered every heart she sought. Besides being the Goddess of Love, Venus was also the protector of gardens and flowers. She punished people who defied her power by turning them into a rock.





# Cupid

Cupid, the God of Love, inspired love by piercing hearts with gold-tipped arrows. To produce the opposite effect he used arrows tipped with lead. He always carried a bow and quiver of arrows, and was often presented in images and statues with his eyes covered to depict the blindness of his actions.





# Minerva

Minerva was gentle, fair and thoughtful. She was the Goddess of wisdom and skill. She was also the Goddess of storms and the thunderbolt, and the Goddess of War. The owl, cock, and crow were sacred to her, as was the olive tree which she created. Minerva invented the flute and loved music, which calmed her.





# Mercury

Mercury was the God of trade and thievery. He had winged shoes fastened to his ankles, and a winged cap on his head. Also the God of cunning and trickery, Mercury was the Messenger of the Gods. Mercury had a wand, twined by snakes and wings, that possessed magical powers.





# Diana

Diana is the Goddess of the Moon. She was a gentle god and a healer of ill people. She also protected animals from injury and carried a bow and a quiver full of arrows. She loved music, and dancing.





# Pluto

Pluto was the God of the underworld and was evil. He enjoyed taking people to hell. He looked like the Devil.

Pluto was originally the Roman god of metals. These metals and jewels and other riches lie under the Earth, hence the god of the underworld.





# Jupiter

Jupiter was king of the Gods. He was mighty and strong and overcame the titans by blinding them. His first act as King of the Gods was to condemn Atlas to bear the heavens on his shoulders. Jupiter used lightning to punish his enemies, and wore a breastplate. His special messenger was the eagle.





# Juno

Juno, was the God of the light and sky. Juno was quick to anger and let out storms and thunder. Apollo was the god of the sun and medicine. He used to fly across the sky in a golden chariot drawn by white horses.

