

In this Minecraft build, you get to claim your land and build a castle. Research castles to find your inspiration.

■ GAME MODE

Creative

■ APPROXIMATE TIME TO COMPLETE

2–3 hours in Minecraft

■ PLATFORMS

PC/Mac, Consoles, PE

1. **Design your castle.** Some builders start by drawing out their build on paper, while others go directly into the game to start building.
2. **Build the first wall, which should be the front of the castle.** From there you can gauge how big the remaining walls should be. Plan for a large enough opening for your entrance portcullis. If you build the walls five blocks thick, then you'll have space on top of the wall for soldiers to scan the horizon for potential threats (fig. 1).
3. **Build the remaining walls.** Some castles have four walls, while others have five or more. Build the remaining castle walls to your design specifications.

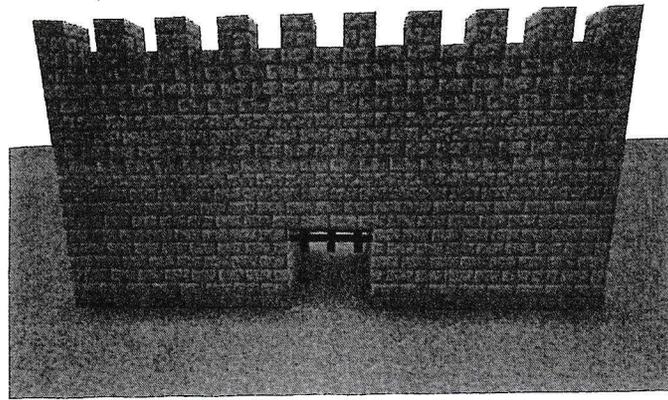


Fig. 1: The front wall is the best place to start your castle.

4. **Design and build the interior.** Build rooms inside the towers, and perhaps even a loft. Castles are like mini cities inside. All castles need a steady supply of food. When building your castle garden, be sure to make a water source nearby. **Tip:** Use bone meal to make the crops grow extra fast (see page 57). Use wooden fence blocks to protect your gardens and create animal pens, then spawn your favorite animals (figs. 2 and 3). Watch out—the chickens can fly.

5. **Create a portcullis.** Nether bricks look great as a portcullis. You can build one nether brick on top of another to fill the opening to your castle (fig. 4).



ONLINE RESOURCES

There are Minecraft blueprints online for all types of castles, including Hogwarts from J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter*. Here's a link to a video tour of an incredible Minecraft version of Hogwarts castle:

<https://youtu.be/1f3VC8vNWAY>

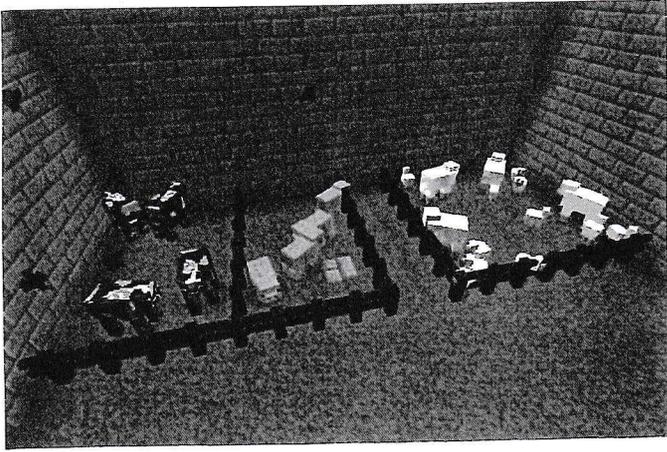


Fig. 2: Use fence blocks to create pens for the castle's animals.

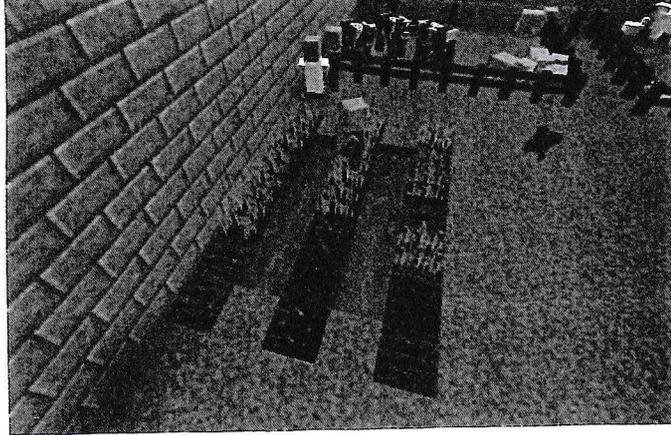


Fig. 3: Plant your castle's gardens near a water source.

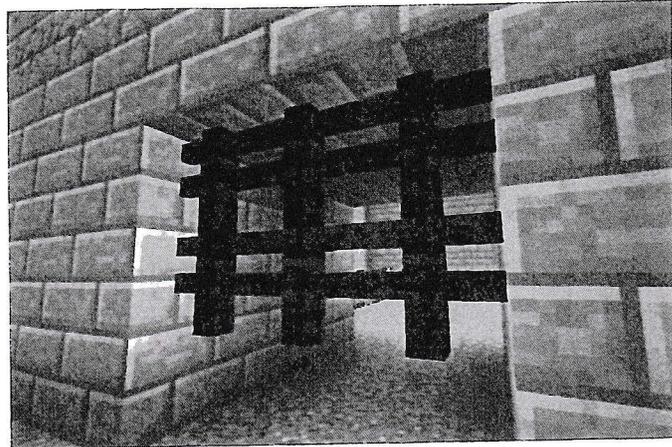


Fig. 4: Use nether brick fence to create a portcullis—the heavy gate that drops down to block intruders—with a dark look.

MORE TO EXPLORE

Work with redstone to design a working drawbridge. Keep in mind that your drawbridge may not work in the traditional manner.



SHARE YOUR WORK

Once your castle is complete, share it with other players by inviting them to play capture the flag. Play in survival mode and make sure the tools players have are agreed upon. We suggest wooden tools because the game will last longer. The winner grabs the flag from the opponent and returns it to his or her castle.