

How you became a Knight

In the Middle Ages, a knight had to be a gentleman as well as a warrior. The job was thought to be romantic. However, every knight had to follow a strict Code of Conduct and becoming a knight was no easy task.

Approximate Ages	Job Description
7 to 13	You were a <u>PAGE</u> You were a boy-servant to a knight You had to help him dress, arrange his armor, and serve him his meals.
14	You became a <u>SQUIRE</u> or <u>APPRENTICE</u> You were now taught horsemanship, archery, and wrestling. You were trained to use a sword, shield, a lance, and how to joust.
15 to 20	If successful, you were promoted to a <u>NOVICE</u> You were now taught "hawking," how to use this bird to catch prey. It was a sport. You were taught how to play chess and write poetry. Religious education and the respect of women were important parts of your training. Protection of your lord and showing compassion for the helpless and the poor were mandatory.
21	If you passed all of the above subject tests, you were then "dubbed" as a <u>KNIGHT</u> in a formal ceremony. Being knighted was a very unique and respected ritual by all of society.

