

Aim: How were the Romans able to build and maintain the largest empire in the ancient world?



- **Gaining power:** the process of getting it and expanding it
- **Consolidating power:** the process of taking control from other people who also have power.
- **Maintaining power:** the process of keeping ones power

- The Roman Empire began in the year 330 BC and died out in 1453 AD. Its start was only 7 years before the fall and death of Alexander the Great.

Geography of Italy

• Italian Peninsula

- Reaches our into the Mediterranean
- Encouraged trade
- Helped create an empire
- Encouraged cultural diffusion

• Mountains

- Alps- protection from invasion
- Protection from harsh climate
- Apennine divided east & west Italy
 - protection from invasion

• Location

- Easy access to Africa, Greece, Spain, Gaul

• Rivers

- Rome is situated on the Tiber River



Rome Conquers the Western Mediterranean(264-146 B.C.E)

- The First Punic War (264-241 B.C.E)
- The Second Punic War (218-201 B.C.E.)
- The Third Punic War (149-146 B.C.E.)



- **Twelve Tables**: codified laws

- *Codification: arranging and writing down

Rome gains control of Italy (340-270 B.C.E.)

- Powerful armies
- Ability to move troops
- Wise treatment of conquered people



Aim: How does Rome go from Republic to Dictatorship?

- Roman Republic Becomes More Democratic (5th-3rd Centuries B.C.E.)
- Rome gains control of Italy (340-270 B.C.E.)
- Rome Conquers the Western Mediterranean(264-146 B.C.E)
- Rome Conquers the Eastern Mediterranean (By the 1st Century B.C.E.)
- Julius Caesar becomes the first dictator of Rome. Caesar makes his famous Crossing of the Rubicon and defeats Pompey in a civil war to become the supreme ruler of Rome. This signals the end of the Roman Republic. (45 B.C.E)
- The Roman Empire begins as Caesar Augustus becomes the first Roman Emperor. (27 B.C.E)

- **Tyrant**

- a cruel and oppressive absolute ruler

- **Demagogues**

- a person who gains power and popularity by arousing the emotions, passions, and prejudices of the people.

What America can learn from the fall of the Roman republic

The Roman republic destroyed itself. Are we on a similar path?

By Sean Illing

- <https://www.vox.com/2019/1/1/18139787/rome-decline-america-edward-watts-mortal-republic>

According to Edward Watts:

What parallels are there between the Roman Republic and the U.S.?