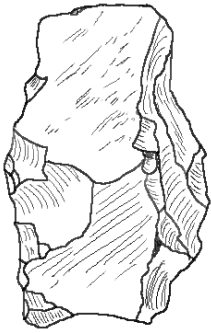


Acheulean Stone Toolkits

Ancient human ancestors have been making Acheulean stone tools since at least 1.76 million years ago! The earliest style of tools, called Oldowan, became more complex over time and changed into a new style called Acheulean. These tools differ because they include **biface tools**, meaning that both sides have been worked. Take a look at the Acheulean tools below to see how they changed over the course of a million years. What differences do you notice?



1.4 million years old

Cleaver



400,000 years old



1.4 million years old

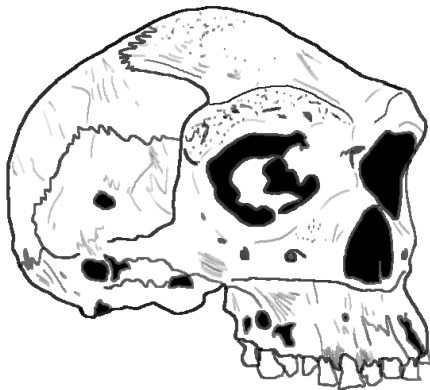
Handaxe



400,000 years old

Who Made Acheulean Tools?

Scientists believe that multiple species of ancient human ancestors, called hominins, made Acheulean tools, including *Homo ergaster* and *Homo heidelbergensis*, whose fossils you see below. Did you know that *Homo ergaster* is also referred to as early *Homo erectus*?



Homo heidelbergensis

Age: 700,000 - 200,000 years

Location: Zambia, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Spain, China, & more!



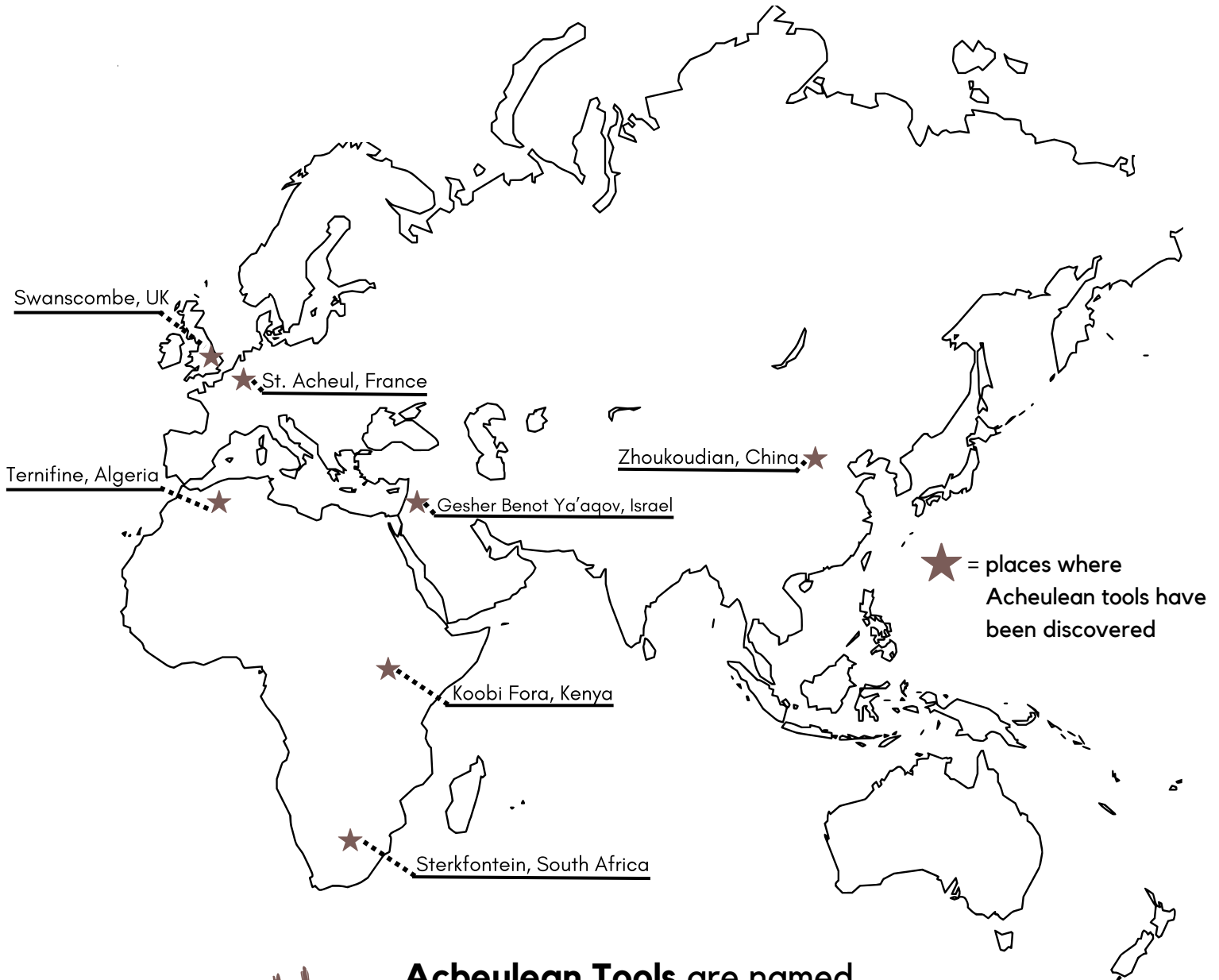
Homo ergaster

Age: 1.7 - 1.4 million years

Location: Kenya, South Africa, Ethiopia, & Georgia

Where Are Acheulean Tools Found?

Paleoanthropologists have found Acheulean tools in many sites throughout Africa, Asia, and Europe! Look at the map below to see some of the sites and countries where these tools have been discovered.



Did you know?

Acheulean Tools are named after their discovery at a site located in St. Acheul, France during the 1800's

Learn More At: humanorigins.si.edu/evidence/behavior/stone-tools