Year 7 Homework project

How much did castles change in the middle ages?

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| Castle name | What did it look like | What was it designed to do | Strengths and weaknesses |
| Motte and Bailey |  |  |  |
| Stone or square keep castle |  |  |  |
| Concentric Castle |  |  |  |

Task 1

**Motte and Bailey castles:**

The motte and Bailey Castle has 2 parts. The motte, which is the manmade hill with a fort or keep on top of it and the bailey is the village at the bottom of the hill with a big fence, called a palisade, around it. Then there was a ditch all around it.

They were built to prove to the English that the Normans were strong and powerful. They were built by roads, on hills or by rivers to control the local area. Lords and Knights that looked after the area lived in them. Bailey contained kitchens, chapels, barracks, stables, workshops and storage.

Wood was used to build the palisade and usually the keep.

They were protected by the ditch and palisade (fence).

There was a drawbridge and one entrance and exit.

They were quick to build.

**Stone or Square keep castles:**

They replaced the wooden castles that had been built. They were stronger and more secure. They were built near roads, on hills or by rivers to control the local area.

At first they were rectangular, then later designs were circular.

Larger and more luxurious rooms. With fireplaces.

Better defence. Thick, strong walls, a drawbridge and were often defended with a moat or a ditch surrounding it.

Spiral staircases which made it difficult for attackers. Arrow slits to fire out of.

Were very expensive to build.

**Concentric castles:**

Concentric castles had two or more surrounding walls, with the inner one usually higher than the outer. They were sometimes circular, but also square or other shapes. These were the largest of the castles.

Easy to defend. If attackers got past the outer wall and into the courtyard, they still had higher walls and towers to face

They had battlements, moats, a drawbridge and a strongly defended entrance called a barbican.

They had arrow slits, murder holes, hoardings and towers that allowed archers to fire along the base of the walls.

Very strong but very expensive to build.