



The olive mill is used to get oil from the olives.

Almost half of the olive pulp is oil.

The big round basin is made of stone. A round mill stone is fastened to a long beam. Two people pushed on the long beam. They walked around and around the basin. The mill stone rolled on the olives. It crushed the olives. The oil ran out into the smaller basin.

The first oil was the best. This oil was used in the temple or for guests in the home. The oil that came last was brown from the skin and pit of the olive.

TURN CARD OVER

Sometimes the crushed olives were taken from the olive mill. They were put in an olive press. The crushed olives were put into heavy sacks. These sacks were put under heavy weights. This pressed out all the rest of the olive oil.

The olive oil was put into smaller basins. The oil stayed for days in these basins. This helped to clean the olive oil.

Any part of the skin or pulp of the olive sank to the bottom. The clean oil on the top was poured off. The olive oil was stored in pottery jars in the house.