

The grain must be separated from the straw after it has been threshed. This is called winnowing.

Men used a wooden fork. They lifted up the chopped mixture. They threw it into the wind. The wind blew away the straw. It landed a little way away. The heavier kernals of wheat or barley fell to the ground.



The farmers threw the mixture up into the air over and over again. Soon they had two piles. One pile was wheat or barley. The other pile was straw.



The grain was sifted once more to take out any pebbles or dirt.

TURN CARD OVER

Then the grain was stored in pits in the ground. These were made to keep the grain dry and safe. They were covered carefully so that strangers would not be able to find them. Archaeologists have found barley stored for 5000 years.

In the homes grain was stored in large pottery jars. The straw was used in a mixture burned in the stoves.