

Anatolia

7,000-3,000 BC



Early Anatolian villages thrived on farming, trade, and skilled craftsmanship. Shepherds tended sheep for meat, milk, and wool, gradually selecting for woollier breeds. As spinning technology developed, Anatolia became a key player in early wool production and the rise of the Bronze Age.

OBJECTIVE:

Collect 7 “Wool Tool” cards in your marketplace

Mesopotamia

6,000-3,000 BC



In Mesopotamia, the fertile lands between the Tigris and Euphrates, shepherds refined sheep husbandry, breeding for better wool and larger flocks. Sheep became central to trade, textiles, and temple economies, shaping the region’s early cities and civilizations.

OBJECTIVE:

Have the “Targeted Grazing” card in your marketplace

Imperial Roman Empire

27 BC—476 AD



Across the vast Roman Empire, sheep were vital to trade, providing wool, meat, and milk for bustling cities. They also played a sacred role, offered as sacrifices to the gods in grand temples. Roman roads and markets ensured sheep products reached every corner of the empire, fueling both economy and tradition.

OBJECTIVE:

Have the “Biotechnology” card in your marketplace

Medieval Flanders

1000-1500 AD



The heart of the medieval wool trade, Flanders’ skilled weavers turned fine wool into the most sought-after textiles in Europe. Bustling markets and powerful guilds made this region a center of world commerce, where sheep and wool fueled prosperity.

OBJECTIVE:

Accumulate 20 “Wool” points in your marketplace

13 Colonies

1607-1776 AD



In the 13 Colonies, sheep symbolized independence. Wool production was essential to resisting reliance on British textiles, as colonists spun their own wool to support the cause of freedom. Sheep became a vital part of the economy and revolutionary spirit.

OBJECTIVE:

Have all 3 “Home Good” cards in your marketplace

Australia

1800s-Present



Sheep arrived with the English penal colony, laying the foundation for Australia’s wool industry. Over time, vast sheep stations produced fine Merino wool, making Australia the world’s largest exporter and a leader in the global wool trade.

OBJECTIVE:

Accumulate 25 “Sheep” points in your marketplace

civilization

BARTER
— IN THE
BARNYARD

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