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IV/1 Early Eastern Roman Empire 477 AD - 641 AD
All Reg Co; Arid; Hilly; Plains; Wooded; Sea

Guards regiments	CvM	0-2	0-4	0-6
convert the above to <i>klibanophoroi</i> / <i>kataphraktoi</i>	CvH		any	
convert the above to <i>hippotoxotai</i>	CvMA/CvHA		any	
Imperial <i>Excubitores</i> or <i>Comitatenses bucellarii</i> retinue	SpMe/EdMe	0-1	0-2	0-3
convert the <i>bucellarii</i> to mounted retinue	CvMe		any	
Roman and <i>foederati</i> cavalry	CvM	2-4	4-8	6-12
convert the above to <i>klibanophoroi</i> / <i>kataphraktoi</i>	CvH	0-1	0-2	0-3
convert the above to <i>hippotoxotai</i>	CvMA/CvHA		any	
upgrade any of the above to elite		0-1	0-2	0-3
<i>Koursatores</i>	CvL	2-4	4-8	6-12
<i>Foederati hippotoxotai</i>	CvLA	0-4	0-8	0-12
<i>Lanciararii</i> (later <i>scutatoii</i>)	SpM/PkM	0-8	0-16	0-24
upgrade the above to heavy infantry	SpH/PkH		any	
<i>Toxotai</i>	BwM	0-6	0-12	0-18
upgrade these to spear-equipped archers	BwH		any	
Light archers and slingers	BwL	0-4	0-8	0-12
<i>Monaulatoi</i> , <i>peltastoi</i> and other javelinmen	SpL	2-4	4-8	6-12
<i>Lithoboloi</i>	WE	0-1	0-2	0-3

a) In the Middle East until 636AD

Ghassanid cavalry	CvM	0-4	0-8	0-12
Ghassanid light cavalry	CvL	0-4	0-8	0-12
convert the above to mounted archers	CvMA/CvLA		any	
Ghassanid foot warriors	SpM/SpL	0-2	0-4	0-6
Ghassanid archers	BwM/BwL	0-2	0-4	0-6

b) In Italy (and in Hispania between 552 AD – 621 AD)

City, monastic and private militias	SpM/SpL	0-1	0-2	0-4
downgrade the above to hordes	Hd		any	
<i>Limitanei</i> cavalry	CvL	0-1	0-2	0-3

c) In Africa until 697AD

Berber and Sudanese cavalry	CvL	0-2	0-4	0-6
Sudanese foot warriors	SpL	0-1	0-2	0-4
Sudanese archers	BwL	0-1	0-2	0-4

d) In the Middle East between 632AD and 651AD
Sassanid Persian allies (Index IV)

This list covers the armies of the Eastern Roman¹ Empire from the fall o Rome to the Barbarians to the death of Herakleios (or Heraclius), after which a new military organization emerged.

Throughout this period the rapid succession of internal and external crisis created insecurity and volatility which kept the Romans constantly off balance. External foes like the Sassanians and their Lakhmid allies, the Ostrogoths and Lombards, the Visigoths, the Vandals, the Avars, Serbs and - after 630AD - the Arabs under a new ideology, the Islam, put the Romans under constant pressure.

Nevertheless, the Eastern surviving part of the defunct Roman Empire still was able to retake part of the West (most of the Italian peninsula, part of Lower Hispania and North Africa) while, at the same time, held the East against the Sassanid Persians. In the political sphere, the Emperors increased their role as Christian rulers although Christological and ecclesiastic problems contributed to internal strives and to the weakening of the Empire.

The Early Eastern Roman army evolved from the Late Roman army and so it kept most of its institutions and military nomenclatures though, as time went by, a progressive Hellenization occurred. The army's structure was based in the *Limitanei* frontier garrisons, posed to prevent or to delay enemy incursions, and in the mobile field armies, or *Comitatenses*, in which the soldiers, under a long-term contract, would swear an oath to their employer rather than to the Emperor. At the core of the *Comitatus* were the

bucellarii (or *oikos*, i.e. household), acting as a personal guard. Although effective, the *Comitatenses* were nonetheless regarded as a threat by the Emperor.

In Africa the army had more cavalry than infantry and both in Italy and in Hispania, local conscription, as well as urban, monastic and privately raised militias, reinforced the shrinking eastern contingents. As for the eastern provinces, the Romans relied on their Arab allies, notably the Ghassanids, who probably made the bulk of their forces there, to keep their enemies at bay.

If under Justinian the army was still characterised by the numerous mercenaries coming both from Roman citizens and from *foederati* (or *phoideratoi*) these, however, were by now employed singly and not as a group. From then on, although remaining essentially a mercenary force, the Roman army became less dependent upon barbarians since local recruitment increased, specially in Isauria, Illyria and Thrace. Cappadocia became a favourite ground for horse husbandry. Nevertheless, Germanic (Heruli, Lombards, Ostrogoths and Swabians) soldiers were kept in the payroll, providing Byzantium's best heavy cavalry and also infantry archers. Along with these, Arabs, Berbers, Huns and Sudanese were also employed.

Some of the Guards units of this period were the *Candidates*, the *Domestici*, the *Excubitores*, the *Scholae*, the *Optimates* (recruited from Germans) and the *Protectores*. Their quality and role seems to have varied from time to time but in general terms it seems to have been poorer than expected from such type of units. The basic infantry and cavalry unit was the *numerus*, or *arithmos* (the term *bandon* was later adopted for cavalry), with roughly 300 men. According to the Notitia Dignitatum, the majority of the *cataphractarii* and *clibanarii* were in the Eastern part of the late Roman Empire. Following this tradition, the best part of the Eastern Roman cavalry was made up of *klibanophoroi* and *kataphraktoi* (the name seems to vary from the type of armor they used, the *klibanophoroi* probably using the *klibanion* of Persian origin), armed with both the *kontos* and the bow.

Since their enemies relied mainly on the cavalry, the Romans resurrected the pikemen phalanx. These may as well have evolved from the old *lanciarum* of which the majority were placed in the East, according, once more, to the Notitia Dignitatum. Although based in the Macedonian phalanx, the Eastern Roman one was shallower in order to counter outflanking manoeuvres by its enemies. On uneven or wooded terrain the phalangites were advised to change their *sarissai* (or *dourai*) for short pikes or even javelins, therefore the option spearmen/pikemen.

Archers and light armed *monaulatoi* and *psiloi* were also employed, these being divided into *peltastoi*, light archers and slingers. As for the archers, some were issued with spears that would be raised in close combat against their mounted foes and so we have given them the option for BwH.

Like their predecessors, the Romans also had ballistic weapons such as the *petroboloi* and the *lithoboloi* capable of being used against personnel as field artillery.

The slain of Emperor Maurice in 602AD at the hands of Phocas and the subsequent civil war that lasted until Herakleios victory, in 610AD, prompted the Sassanian invasion and the destruction of the whole Middle East, thus paving the way for the victorious Islamic armies that swept the entire region. The fateful conquest of the Middle East and Africa by the Muslims was a severe blow on the Romans confidence and power. However, by combining deceit, skulduggery, double-game and twisted policies with an army restructured in new moulds, the Romans made it possible for their Empire to recover and live many centuries more.

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¹ The term "Byzantine" was a XVI century invention made popular with Diderot's Enciclopaedia and it was meant to distinguish between the Roman and the Eastern Roman Empires. As for the "Byzantines", they have always identified themselves as Ρωμαίοι (Rhomaioi - Romans), residents of Ρωμανία (Romania) as the "Byzantine" state and its world were called.

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IV/2 Sassanid Persians 499 AD – 631 AD
All Reg Co; Arid

<i>Puštigbān</i> retinue	CvHe	0-1	0-2	0-3
Upgrade the above to archer	CvHAe		any	
<i>Asavarān</i>	CvMA	2-4	4-6	6-8
Convert the above to armored <i>Asavarān</i>	CvHA	0-1	0-2	0-3
Upgrade the above to <i>gyanavspar</i> or <i>Immortals</i>	CvHAe	0-1	0-2	0-3
<i>Griwbān</i> armoured archers	CvHA	1-4	2-6	3-8
Parthian or other tribal light horse archers	CvLA	3-8	6-12	9-16
Upgrade the above to elite	CvLAe		up to ¼	
Parthian <i>cataphractarii</i>	CvH	0-2	0-4	0-6
Arab camel riders	CmM	0-1	0-2	0-3
Royal Archers	BwMe	0-0	0-1	0-2
<i>Paygān</i> spear bearers	SpM	0-4	0-8	0-12
Downgrade the above to javelinmen	SpL		any	
<i>Paygān</i> archers	BwM	0-6	0-12	0-18
Tribal and Arab slingers, javelinmen and archers	BwL/SpL	0-2	0-4	0-6
<i>Paygān</i> levies	Hd	0-4	0-8	0-12
<i>Gilani</i> , <i>Daylami</i> and <i>Tabaristani</i> warriors	SpM//BwM//SpL	0-3	0-6	0-9
Elephants	EIM	0-2	0-4	0-6
Scorpions, balistae or catapults	WE	0-1	0-2	0-3
Early Eastern Roman allies (between 632 and 651AD)				

This list comprises the last two centuries of the Sassanid Dynasty until being overthrown by the Muslim invaders in the 7th century AD.

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IV/12 Hephthalites 420 AD – 570 AD
All Irr Co; Hilly/Arid

King's Retinue	CvMAe	0-1	0-2	0-4
Convert the above to barded armor	CvHAe		any	
Cavalry	CvM	1-4	2-8	3-12
Convert cavalry to horse archers	CvMA		any	
Convert cavalry to barded armour		CvH	0-1	0-2
0-4				
Steppe horse archers	CvLA	5-12	10-24	15-36
Convert the above to elite			up to ¼	
Tokharistani or Sogdian militia warriors	SpM	0-4	0-8	0-12
Upgrade the above to elite (e)			up to ¼	
Tokharistani or Sogdian militia bowmen	BwM	0-4	0-8	0-12
Indian elephants	EIM	0-2	0-3	0-4
Indian bowmen	BwM	0-4	0-10	0-18
Indian warriors	Sp/SwM	0-2	0-4	0-6
Mountain tribesmen	Bw//SpL	0-2	0-4	0-8

"The Hephthalites are of the stock of the Huns in fact as well as in name; however they do not mingle with any of the Huns known to us... They are the only ones among the Huns who have white bodies and countenances which are not ugly." Procopius.

The Hephthalites (or Ephthalites) were nomads who repeatedly invaded India and Persia during the 5th and 6th centuries, lived in felt tents, did not build cities and left no written records. Nothing is known about their language. Their origin is controversial: some authors consider them part of the Juan-Juan and thus, of Turkish stock, while others suggest they may be a branch of the Visha, also known as Yüeh-chih, an Iranian people. The Chinese chroniclers called them Ye-ti-i-li-do or Yeda, even though they seem to realise that the people called themselves the people of Hua. According to the Japanese researcher Kazuo Enoki, the Hephthalites are an Iranian group and are thought to have originated at Hsi-mo-ta-lo (southwest of Badakhshan and near the Hindu Kush), which stands for Himtala "snow plain", which may be the Sanskritized form of Hephthal.

Adding to Procopius' and Hsuan Chwang's comments supporting an Iranian theory, cultural practices, like the deformation of skulls, polyandry, and the fact that the Hephthalites are said to have worshipped both fire and sun gods, are likely to indicate a Persian origin.

By the year 500AD the rocket like political career of the Hephthalites had enable them to control an area stretching south from Transoxiana to the Arabian Sea, and as far west as Khurasan - the eastern-most part of the Sassanian empire - and all of northern India to the east.

Although talented for war and diplomacy, the Hephthalites appear to have been harsh rulers and disliked by their subjects and so, when Persian Emperor Khusro had to choose between a war against the Turks or conquest of the Hephthalites, he hardly needed a moment to opt for the latter.

According to latter research, including the Orlat battle plaque which can be attributed to the Hunnish invasion of Sogdia and Tokharia (ancient Bactria), the Hephthalite army could consist of a core of spear and bow-armed cavalry, a heavy cavalry retinue and a strong contingent of steppe horse archers. It seems that scale armour was widespread, along with swords, pickaxes, spears and bows. It is possible that "dragon banners" (resembling those used by the Sarmatians) were used, along with shoulder-tassels. The main infantry body would be locally enlisted and could wear scale armour as well. It is quite possible that in their Gandharan "Tegin" (vice-royalty) the Hephthalites incorporated along their lines some Indian units like bowmen and warriors, as well as elephants, whose presence was recorded by the Chinese. The supporting tribesmen light troops would come mostly from today's Afghanistan.

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IV/14 Visigothic 479-718

Irr Co (use ACo only between 710-711); Plains, Hilly

Noblemen's or King's <i>Spatharius</i> retinue	CvMB o/e	0-1	0-2	0-3
Heavy cavalry	CvMB	3-6	6-12	9-18
Light cavalry	CvMi/CvL	0-2	0-4	0-6
Spearman	SpM o/i	0-6	0-12	0-18
convert the above to armoured spearman	SpH		up to ½	
convert the above to armoured swordsmen	EdH		up to ½	
Archers	BwL o/i	0-4	0-8	0-12
Javelineers	SpL	0-4	0-8	0-12
Levies and slaves	SpMi/Hd	0-4	0-8	0-12

Muslim (Al-Andalus) allies (710 – 718, Witiza supporters only)

Following the Vandal's' invasion of the Iberian Peninsula, Honorius, the emperor of the Western Roman Empire enlisted the aid of the Visigoths federates to regain control of the territory. In 418 they were rewarded with lands in Gallia Aquitania on which to settle, and this would form the nucleus of the future Visigothic kingdom that would eventually expand across the Pyrenees and onto the Iberian Peninsula. The Visigoths' second great king, Euric, unified the various quarreling factions among the Visigoths and, in 475, forced the Roman government to grant them full independence. At his death, the Visigoths were the most powerful of the successor states to the Western Roman Empire. The Visigoths also became the dominant power in the Iberian Peninsula, quickly crushing the Alans and forcing the vandals into North Africa. By 500, the Visigothic Kingdom, centered at Toulouse, controlled Aquitania and Gallia and most of Hispania with the exception of the Suevi kingdom in the northwest and small areas controlled by the Basques and the Cantabrians. Most of the northern regions were conquered in 574, the same happening to the Suevi kingdom in 585. In 589 king Reccared (Recaredo) converted his people to the Roman Church, thus abandoning Arianism that was in opposition with the main population.

In 507, the Franks under Clovis I defeated the Visigoths in the Vouillé and wrested control of Aquitaine. King Alaric II was killed in battle and the center of Visigothic rule shifted, first to Narbonne, which was the last Gothic outpost in Gaul, and then into Hispania, to Barcelona and then again to Toledo. In 554, Granada and the Baetica were lost to the Eastern Romans who had been invited in to help settle a Visigothic dynastic struggle but then decided to stay a little bit longer. It was only in 624, under Swinthila, that this region would be recovered by the Goths.

Because the Visigothic kings were elected among their peers Hispania was under systematic convulsions and civil wars. Without political unity every *Duce* or *Come* controlled his own army whose core consisted of noble heavy cavalry and their followers armed with spears and *francisca* axes, supplemented by spearman, light archers and, to an extend, levies and even slaves. The "Band" secondary type definition reflects the "knight" mentality that was slowly emerging in those days.

This Gothic disunity was later to prove fatal. Following another dynastic struggle that ended up in regicide, the followers of Witiza, the slain king,, with the help of Count Julian of Cepta (Ceuta) invited the Muslims under Tariq to help them in Hispania. They did so and, like the Romans more than a century before, decided to stay. In 711AD the Muslim troops again crossed the Strait of Gibraltar and defeat the Visigoth king Rodrigo at the battle of Guadalete. In less than a decade the only remains of an independent, Visigothic and Christian kingdom stood in the Asturian mountains under the leadership of the nobleman Pelayo, a noble in charge of Roderic's royal guard (*Comes Spatharius*). It would be from this small mountain kingdom that the *Reconquista* would start.

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IV/16 Eastern Slavs and Rus' 500-1096
Irr Co; Plains, Wooded; Sea

Slavic and Turkic heavy cavalry	CvM	0-3	0-6	0-9
convert the above to barded cavalry	CvH	0-1	0-2	0-3
convert any of the above to horse archers	CvHA/CvMA		up to ½	
Turkic and Slavic light cavalry	CvL/CvLA	0-3	0-6	0-9
<i>Kopejshchiki</i>	SpM i/o	2-10	4-20	6-30
convert the above to swordsmen or axemen	EdM	0-3	0-6	0-9
<i>Luchniki</i>	BwM i/o	4-10	8-20	12-30
Skirmishers	BwL/SpL o/e	2-10	4-20	6-30
<i>Druzhina</i> retinue (after 750)	EdHBe	0-2	0-4	0-6
convert to mounted retinue (after 900)	CvMe/CvHe/CvMAe/CvHAe		any	
<i>Varyazi</i> (after 750)	EdHB o/e	2-10	4-20	6-30
<i>Smerd</i>	Hd/SpMi/BwMi	0-5	0-10	0-15
Pecheneg allies (943; 965; 968 - 971)				
Magyar allies (968 - 971)				

This list covers the Slavic armies from their settlement in today's Russia and the establishment of the Scandinavian Rus' in those lands.

Around the 6th century a Slavic people called Antae, or Antes, settled the wooded and marshy areas of this area before being overrun by the Avars. These, in turn, disappeared and were substituted by the Magyars, the powerful and developed Khazars, the Pecheneg in the South and the Bulgars in the East, all these of Turkic stock. The Slavs, either under Turkic rule or independently, prospered, created cities and settled new areas. The Turkic peoples, on the other hand, preferred the steppes where they could make the best out of their riding prowess.

In the patriarchal Slavic society every able man was expected to go to war when mustered. They were mainly foot warriors armed with spears, javelins and bows. The northern Slavs, however, had cavalry.

The Scandinavians who entered the Eastern Slavic lands were a mix of merchants, raiders and adventurers who used large rivers such as the Volga or the Don to trade and loot. Around the 9th century a Swedish group called Rus' or Ros submitted and were in part absorbed by the Slavic and Turkic inhabitants of the country, created new centres of power such as Staraya (Old) Ladoga, Novgorod and Kiev and established relations with the Turkic peoples living in the area from whom they took inspiration both in the titles – those of Khan and Kaghan, for instance - and manners (Sviatoslav had his head shaven and wore a hair lock like a Turkish ruler). Later in this period the Scandinavians established strong commercial ties with the Muslims and the Roman Empire in Constantinople which they at first attacked and then learned from. One very important aspect of this "Byzantine"- Rus relation was the latter's conversion to Orthodox Christianity that was to have a profound impact in Russian society and History.

The Rus' armies were built around a core of retinue *Druzhina* (after *drug*, or friend), supplemented by the *Varyazi*, or *Variag*, from which the name *Varangian* derives from. Most of the cavalry was made of nomad Turkic tribes and Slavic nobility and even the Rus' learned riding techniques from their neighbours. The date above specified for that event is arbitrary but it shouldn't be much farther than 950 AD. It is thought that the *Druzhina* horse-archers used static "shower shooting" tactics like other non-nomadic mounted archers. As always, Slavic militias and peasant levies supplied the bulk of the infantry.

In the densely wooded northern Russia, rivers were the best routes between North and South. The Rus', owing to their own and Slavic's naval technology, quickly dominated these waterways thus managing to control a huge territory. Moreover, as their armies consisted mainly of infantry, rivers were both a fast and safe way to transport large quantities of men through hostile territories.

The Rus' Rurikid dynasty, named so after Rurik who became ruler of Holmgarthr (Novgorod), established a loose federation of principalities that, although theoretically united under a *Veliki Knyaz* ("Grand Prince") who acted as a *primus inter pares*, where in fact divided by competition for the grand princely throne. Therefore, a way to settle this question was needed and so a conference of Rus' princes was held in order to determine the succession to the *Veliki Knyaz* throne.

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IV/17 Volga Bulgars 559 - 1016
Irr Co; Hilly

Khan's retinue	CvHe/CvHAe	0-1	0-2	0-3
Heavy barded cavalry	CvH/CvHA	0-2	0-4	0-6
Heavy cavalry	CvM/CvMA	3-10	6-20	9-30
Light cavalry	CvLA	5-10	10-20	15-30
convert the above to elite archers	CvLAe		up to ¼	
Fino-Ugrian and Slavic subject warriors	SpM/SpL o/i	0-2	0-4	0-6
Fino-Ugrian and Slavic subject archers	BwM/BwL	0-2	0-4	0-6

This list covers the Turkic tribe of the Bulgars from their first settlement in today's Tartarstan to the extinction of their Khazar overlords.

Around 670 the Bulgars became subjects of the Khazars whom they supplied with armed contingents.

After the Mongol conquest the Bulgars became part of the Golden Horde. They merged with other Turkic population and became known, at least to their Russian foes, as Tartars.

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IV/18 Khazars 583-1016
Irr Co; Hilly

Arsiyah or Khazar retinue	CvHe/CvHAe	0-1	0-2	0-3
Heavy barded cavalry	CvH/CvHA	0-2	0-4	0-6
Heavy cavalry	CvM/CvMA	3-10	6-20	9-30
Light cavalry	CvLA	5-10	10-20	15-30
convert the above to elite archers	CvLAe		up to ¼	
Slavic subject warriors	SpM/SpL o/i	0-4	0-8	0-12
Slavic subject archers	BwM/BwL	0-4	0-8	0-12
Crimean Goths and Caucasian subject warriors	SpM/SpL	0-4	0-8	0-12
Light bolt throwers	WE	0-1	0-2	0-3
Alan allies (800- 920; 830 - 970)				
Magyar subjects (until 830)				
Volga Bulgar subjects (670 -950)				
Pecheneg allies (630 -830)				
Armenian subjects or allies (630 -730)				

The origins of the Khazars are unclear. Scholars in the former USSR considered the Khazars to be North Caucasians while some others considered the Khazars to be Uyghurs or Oghuric, therefore a Hunnish origin has also been postulated. Early Khazar history, however, is tied with collapse of the Gokturks in the seventh century, the western half of the empire splitting into a number of tribal confederations among whom were the Khazars.

The first significant appearance of the Khazars in history is when they overrun Georgia while aiding the Roman emperor Heraclius against the Sassanid Persians. By 670, the Khazars had also broken the Bulgar confederation.

During the 7th and 8th centuries the Khazar fought a series of wars against the Umayyad Caliphate, which was attempting simultaneously to expand its influence into Transoxiana and the Caucasus. The first war was fought in the early 650 and ended with the defeat of an Arab force led by Abd al-Rahman ibn Rabiha outside the Khazar town of Balanjar, after a battle in which both sides used siege engines on the others' troops. Hostilities broke out again with the Caliphate in the 710s, with raids back and forth across the Caucasus. After defeating the Umayyad forces at Ardebil in 730 the Khazars were defeated the next year at Mosul and then again in 737. The Arabs briefly occupied Atil and possibly forced the Khagan to convert to Islam.

Khazar armies were led by the Khagan Bek (the political and military ruler) and commanded by subordinate officers known as tarkhans. In the 700's the Khazar army included Muslim auxiliaries known as Arsiyah, of Khwarezmian or Alan extraction. In a multi-religious army, Muslims were exempt from campaigning against their fellow Muslims, the same happening to Christians towards other Christians. In addition to the standing army, the Khazars could call upon tribal levies and auxiliaries from subject nations.

From the beginning of the tenth century, the Khazars found themselves fighting on multiple fronts as Pecheneg incursions were exacerbated by uprisings by former clients and invasions from former allies, often at Byzantine instigation. Sviatoslav, the Rus' ruler, finally succeeded in destroying Khazar imperial power in the 960s. The Khazar fortresses of Sarkel and Tamatarkha fell to the Rus in 965, with the capital city of Atil following circa 967 or 969. A Khazarian kingdom survived in Kerch until 1016 AD and a few references to the Khazars appear as late as the 12th Century but are probably anachronisms rather than factual accounts.

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IV/19 Nubian, Blemmye and Abyssinian 477 BC - 1071 AD
 All Irr Co; Arid; Sea (Abyssinia only until 580 AD)

Spearmen	SpM/SpL	4-8	8-16	12-24
convert the above to javelineers (Abyssinians in Yemen)	SpL		all	
Bowmen	BwL/BwM	2-8	8-16	12-24

a) Abyssinia

Elephants	EIM	0-1	0-2	0-3
Cavalry (except in Yemen)	CvL/CvM	0-4	0-8	0-12
Axemen (except in Yemen)	EdM o/i	0-2	0-4	0-6
Bowmen	BwL/BwM	2-4	8-8	6-12
Camel riders (except in Yemen)	CmM/CmL	0-1	0-2	0-3

Christian Yemeni allies in Arabia (Abyssinians only, until 580 AD) Irr ACo

Archers	BwM	0-2	0-4	0-9
Arab warriors (javelinmen)	CmM/SpL	0-7	0-12	0-20
Upgrade warriors to close order spearmen or axemen	Sp/EdMi		0 or 1 for each 2 above	
Upgrade warriors to armored 'Indian' swords	EdHi		0 or 1 for each 3 above	
Slingers or nomad archers	BwL	0-3	0-6	0-10

b) Nubians and Blemmye

Cavalry	CvM	2-4	4-8	6-12
convert the above to barded cavalry (Nubians only)	CvHi	0-2	0-4	0-6
convert barded cavalry to cavalry retinue	CvHi	0-1	0-2	0-3
Light cavalry	CvL	2-4	4-8	6-12
Bowmen	BwL/BwM	2-8	8-16	12-24
Camel riders	CmM	0-2	0-4	0-6
Camel riders (Blemmye only)	CmL	4-8	8-16	12-24
Camel riders scouts	CmL	0-2	0-4	0-6

This list covers the Christian Nubian kingdoms of Makuria, Nobatia and Alwah, in the Upper Nile, and Christian Abyssinia or kingdom of Axum. It also covers the nomad Blemmyes, partly Pagan, partly Christians until converted to Islam in the late Middle Ages.

The Arab conquerors of Egypt soon came into conflict with the Nubians, and their first raid was made in A.D. 641. These early attacks were only predatory raids and there was no intention of occupying the country. Nevertheless, the Nubians fought stoutly and gained a reputation amongst the Arabs as skilful archers, who specialized in blinding their opponents by shooting at their eyes; they were known to the Arabs as *rumat al-hadaq* ("pupil-smitters"). Like the Nubians, the Blemmye were proficient archers who used poisonous arrows against their foes.

The other part of the infantry was equipped with broad bladed spears and javelins and round or rectangular shields. It's also probable that, at least in the Abyssinian army, a certain amount of axemen and swordsmen was used. On the other hand, the Axumites in Yemen seem to have used javelins only and no cavalry, the officers being the only ones who had mounts.

Cavalry played an important part in military operations of the Nubians, who were famous for their husbandry. Despite that, a 10th century Arab chronicler described Nubian horses as being "mares of small size". The Nubians also fielded barded cavalry and the only piece of barding ever founded in Black Africa was from the Christian Kingdom of Alwah.

At some date between 650 and 710 A.D. the two countries of Nobatia and Makuria became one. This united Kingdom was powerful enough to invade Egypt in 745AD in defence of the Patriarch of Alexandria, who had been imprisoned, the Nubian army reaching Cairo and the Patriarch being released. The Nubians used Hellenic titles such as *Eparch* and *Domestikos*, this later suggesting the existence of a Governor's or King's retinue.

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IV/22 Middle Eastern Roman Empire 642 AD - 1080 AD
All Reg Co; Hilly; Plains; Wooded; Sea

Tagmata forces

<i>Kabalarioi</i> retinue of the <i>Arithmos</i> regiment	CvMe/He	0-1	0-2	0-3
<i>Kabalarioi</i> of the <i>Scholae</i> , <i>Excubiti</i> and <i>Ikanatoi</i> regiments	CvMe	0-4	0-8	0-12
convert the above to the <i>Athanatoi</i> regiment	CvHe	0-1	0-2	0-3
convert the above to <i>hippotoxotai</i>	CvMAe	0-1	0-2	0-3
<i>Kabalarioi</i> retinue of the <i>Hetaerei</i> regiments	CvLAe	0-1	0-2	0-3
Foot of the <i>Optimates</i> and <i>Numeri</i> regiments	SpMe//EdMe	0-2	0-4	0-6
convert the <i>Tagmata</i> foot to heavy infantry	SpHe//EdHe		any	

Themes forces

<i>Strategos</i> ' <i>spatharioi</i> retinue	EdMe	0-1	0-1	0-1
<i>Kabalarioi</i>	CvM	2-4	4-8	6-12
convert the above to <i>klibanophoroi</i> / <i>kataphraktoi</i>	CvH	0-1	0-2	0-3
convert the above to <i>hippotoxotai</i>	CvMA/HA	0-1	0-2	0-3
downgrade the above to <i>prokoursatores</i>	CvL		any	
downgrade the above to <i>hippotoxotai defensores</i>	CvLAI	0-1	0-2	0-3
Khazar, Patzinak and Cuman <i>hippotoxotai</i>	CvLA	1-2	2-4	3-6
<i>Scutato</i> i (or <i>kontaratoi</i>)	PkM/SpM	4-8	8-16	12-24
upgrade the above to heavy infantry	PkH/SpH		any	
convert the above to <i>akritai</i> border troops	SpMi/Li/EdMi/Li		any	
<i>Toxotai</i>	BwM	2-6	4-12	6-18
Light archers and slingers	BwL	2-4	4-8	6-12
<i>Monaulatoi</i> , <i>peltastoi</i> and other javelinmen	SpL	2-4	4-8	6-12
<i>Lithoboloi</i>	WE	0-1	0-2	0-3
Russ mercenaries (from 911AD)	EdHB/SpLB	0-2	0-4	0-6
convert the above to Varangian Guard retinue	EdHBe		any	
Norman ally foot (between 1038 – 1042 in Sicily*)	EdH/SpH	0-2	0-4	0-6
Norman ally knights (between 1038 – 1042 in Sicily*)	KnM	0-1	0-2	0-4

* Norman troops in Sicily can only be used under their own FCo and the Army may not include Tagmata and other allies

Khazar allies (Index IV)

Seljuk allies (Index IV) (after 1071 AD)

This list covers the armies of the Eastern Roman¹ Empire from the loss of the Middle East to the Moslem to the disaster of Manzikert and the loss of Anatolia to the Seljuk Turks.

The Romans, who used to be wiser than their western neighbours, dealt with threats in a sophisticated way, rather than just going straight to war. Every sort of skulduggery, double-game, bribe and twisted policy was an accepted strategy and often put into practice.

This was an era of great social, political and military change. Heresies such as the Paulicians and then the Bogomils created dissent among the population. The iconoclastic crisis not only left the Empire at the brink of a civil war, but it also contributed to the Schism between the Eastern and Western Churches. Meanwhile, the Empire was under constant attack by Arabs, Avars, Russ, Slavs, Turks and - after 1060AD - by the Normans who, not long ago, had helped the Empire retaking Sicily. At the same time, the numerous *strategoi* were always plotting one against each other, and all against the Emperor.

The Roman army of this period was characterised by the numerous mercenaries who served both the Emperor and the several thematic *strategoi*. The Turkic peoples from the Eurasian steppe, like the Khazars, the Patzinak (Pechenegs) and the Cumans (Kipchak), were included in the army under the status of *foederati* and employed mainly as mounted archers. Russ (Scandinavians), Slavs, Normans, Italians, Germans and even Arabs and Seljuk Turks, among many others, were employed either singly or in ready-to-hire units.

The *Themes* system was developed under Constans II and Constantine IV (although some attribute it to Herakleios) in order to face the constant threat of the Muslim Arabs who had taken Syria, Egypt and Mesopotamia in the 7th century. Thus, the first *themes* appeared in the Eastern provinces, which were both the richest and most imperiled of all.

Each *Theme*, or provincial army, was commanded by a *strategos* (except for the Opsikion *Theme*, who had a *komes*, and the Optimaton, who had a *domestikos*), each of whom had his own full time retinue of *spatharioi* (sword bearers).

The *Tagmata* was the army nucleus, placed in Constantinople. It had six elite regiments, the most senior of which was the *Scholae* (the *Notitia Dignitatum*, chapter XI, already attested to the existence of seven *scholae*, or schools, in the East). The *Numeri* and the *Optimates* were infantry regiments only while the remaining were cavalry which might have included foot servants as well. Their numbers are still controversial but, according to Treadgold, it seems that they had 4000 men each.

The *Hetaeria* (“Companions”) regiments, although including Greeks, were mainly composed of Khazars and Pharganos (from the Fergana Valley, in Central Asia), all of them of Turkic stock, and also Maghavitae, which were probably Muslims from the Maghrib.

The famous Varangian Guard, at first solely composed of Russ mercenaries, but including also Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Danish men from 1066, is probably more famous than it deserves, since its members were often described as “wine-bags”. However, they were hard-fighting men that seem to have been more loyal to the Emperor than his own Roman subjects.

The basic cavalry unit was the *bandon* (also called *tagma* or *arithmos*), with roughly 300 men. Some 3/5 of each cavalry *bandon* was made of lancers (although swords and maces were also used), the rest being mounted archers. However, even as early as in Leo VI’s times, mounted archery was in steady decline so Asiatic mercenaries became paramount. Part of the cavalry was made up of *klibanophoroi* and *kataphraktoi* (the name seems to vary from the type of armor they used, the *klibanophoroi* probably using the *klibanion* of Persian origin), armed with both the *kontos* and the bow. During John Tzimiskes’ reign they were called *Athanatoi* (Immortals).

The infantry was mainly composed by pikemen *scutato*i (or *kontaratoi*), bowmen and light armed *monaulatoi* and *psiloi*, these being divided into *peltastoi*, light archers and slingers. The Eastern Roman phalanx, although based on the Macedonian one, was shallower in order to counter outflanking manoeuvres by its enemies. On uneven or wooded terrain the *scutato*i were advised to change their *sarissai* (or *dourai*) for short pikes or even javelins, therefore the option for spearmen.

The Romans were also experts in siege warfare and used various kinds of ballistic weapons such as the *helepoleis*, *petroboloi* and *lithoboloi*. While the first one was a powerful trebuchet, adequate only for sieges, the other two, specially the smaller *lithobolos*, were capable of being used against personnel as field artillery.

The “Greek fire”, a napalm-like chemical compound, was introduced by Callinicus of Heliopolis right before the first attack on Constantinople by the Arabs. It was a fearsome weapon both in land and at sea. Its main effect was psychological.

The destruction of the Byzantine army at Manzikert was due to the poor quality and unreliability of the troops, both domestic and mercenary. Part of the army didn’t show up in battle, and the one who did soon started to retreat in such a disorganised fashion that the Turkish leader Alp Arslan had to do little more than to pursue a confused and then fleeing enemy. After Manzikert, the Byzantine Empire started an irreversible decline, just as much as the Öghüz Turks started to rise in world affairs. But Manzikert also triggered another great event in World History: the Crusades.

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Special rules:

Up to 1 BwL and 1 WE can be converted to Incendiary.

¹ The “Byzantines” have always identified themselves as Ρωμαίοι (Rhomaioi - Romans), residents of Ρομανία (Romania) as the “Byzantine” state and its world were called.

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IV/29 Al-Andalus 711 AD – 1118 AD
All Reg Co; Plains, Hilly, Sea

a) **The Conquest** (711 to 721 AD)

Arab and Andalusian cavalry	CvM	1-3	2-6	3-9
convert the above to horse archers	CvMA	0-1	0-2	0-3
Berber and Andalusian light cavalry	CvL	3-9	6-18	9-27
Andalusian and Berber spearmen	SpM	2-8	4-12	6-16
Berber javelinmen	SpL	4-8	8-16	12-24
Andalusian and Berber archers	BwM/ BwL	2-10	4-20	6-30
Andalusian and Berber slingers and light archers	BwL	0-2	0-4	0-6

Visigothic allies (Index IV)

b) **The Emirate, Caliphate and 1st Taifa Period** (722 to 1118 AD)

<i>Hasham</i> cavalry retinue	CvMe	0-1	0-2	0-3
convert the above to heavy cavalry	CvHe		any	
Cavalry	CvM	2-6	4-12	6-18
convert the above to horse archers (until 976 AD)	CvMA		up to 1/5	
Christian mercenaries (after 1010AD)	KnM	0-1	0-2	0-3
Andalusian and Berber light cavalry	CvL	3-9	6-18	9-27
<i>Hasham</i> spearmen retinue	SpMe/He	0-1	0-2	0-3
Andalusian and Berber spearmen	SpM	2-8	4-12	6-16
convert the above to heavy spearmen	SpH	0-2	0-4	0-6
convert any of the above to <i>ribat</i> volunteers	SpMe/SpLe		any	
Andalusian and Berber archers	BwM	2-10	4-20	6-30
downgrade the above to light archers	BwL		any	
Andalusian crossbowmen	CbM	0-4	0-6	0-8
downgrade the above to light crossbowmen	CbL		any	
Andalusian and Berber slingers and light archers	BwL	0-2	0-4	0-6
Berber javelinmen	SpL	2-4	4-6	6-8
Urban spearmen	SpMi	0-4	0-8	0-12
downgrade the above to javelinmen	SpLi		any	
Urban levies	Hd	0-4	0-8	0-12

Iberian Christian allies (Index IV)

Almoravid (Moroccan Berber) allies (Index V) (after 1085AD)

c) **Zirid Taifa of Granada** (1013 to 1090 AD)

Cavalry	CvM	1-6	2-12	3-18
Berber light cavalry	CvL	3-10	6-20	9-30
Berber spearmen	SpM	2-8	4-12	6-16
Berber javelinmen	SpL	4-8	8-16	12-24
Berber slingers and light archers	BwL	2-10	4-20	6-30

This list covers the Muslim armies in the Iberian Peninsula, or Hispania, from the invasions led by Musa ibn Nusair and Tariq ibn Ziyad to the Almoravid invasion in the late 11th century. Immediately after the overthrow of the Visigothic authority, an Emirate (Amirate) was established based in the city of Cordoba. In 755 AD the Umayyad prince Abd-al-Rahman I rose to power and set the Emirate independent from the Abbasid Caliphate. In 929 AD Abd-al-Rahman III raised the Emirate to Caliphate status, therefore improving its religious and political authority.

From 711 to the ruling of the *hajib* (Prime-Minister) Muhammad Ibn Âbi Âmir - Al-Mansur - the army was organised along tribal armies (or *yund*). Al-Mansur centralised the army, organising it under state-created regular units, effectively undermining the power of the military aristocracy. Not long after his death, the effects of the changes imposed on the political-military class prompted a civil war, which would end in the Caliphate dismembering.

Although its numbers varied from time to time, the Berbers made the bulk of the army's infantry and light cavalry. They fought mainly unarmoured, using leather shields as their sole defence. Spears, javelins and long knives were their main offensive weapons. The Berber cavalry was of such a good quality that the Zanata Berber tribe lend its name to a particular fashion of horse riding, the *jineta* style. The small Syrian and Yemeni Arab elite, although a minority, held the most important political and military offices and was mainly employed in the cavalry branch of the army. The Visigothic military tradition and equipment must have been kept to some extent by the Andalusian *muladin* (from *muwaladi*, or adapted, half-bred, referring to the Iberian converts to Islam) and the Christians mozarabs (from *musta'rab* or "Arabized"). On time, however, both the *muladin* and the mozarabs became more and more de-militarised, being replaced by slaves and Berber/Christian mercenaries. Slaves (*mamluks*) were an important

part of the army, being either of Slavic (*saqaliba*) or black African (*sudan*) origin. Berber and Christian mercenaries were employed for active duty in the frontier provinces (*thughur*) or as the ruler's bodyguard (*hasham*).

The heavy cavalry was recruited among the Arabs, the Andalusian, the *mamluk* and the Christian mercenaries. Archers and crossbowmen were widely used, along with spearmen, javelinmen and slingers, of which the Berbers had large contingents.

Perhaps due to their *muladin* and mozarabic population, the Andalusian weaponry was barely distinguishable from their Christian neighbours' but for some minor details. Pictures depicting Moorish troops show long coats, round or small comet-shaped shields, "egg" helmets, mail hauberks, quilted or leather soft armour, spears, bows and swords, these invariably of the European type. Although armoured cavalry wasn't an Iberian tradition, it is known that felt, quilted and mail horse armour were used and so we have included an option for armoured cavalry.

Despite a lack of material evidence, the editions of the Beatus of Liébana's *Commentary on the Apocalypse* show horse archers along more common military subjects. These manuscripts, based on earlier originals, may reflect Eastern Roman or Middle Eastern influences in Early Medieval Iberia and points to the existence of horse archers among early Iberian armies. By the end of the period covered by this list, however, the existence of such troops is very doubtful, due to Berber influence and the fragmentation of the Arab *yund*.

The *ribats* were fortresses manned by religiously motivated volunteers. These may have influenced the Christian Military Orders who appeared in Hispania a few years after the period covered by this list.

The Andalusians knew how to perform "combined arms" operations and in the famous offensive which culminated with the sack of Santiago de Compostela, in Galicia, the *hajib* Al-Mansur used his navy to disembark troops near Qasr Abu-Danis (today's Alcácer do Sal, Portugal), headed North, joined his Christian allies and then ravaged Galicia.

When Al-Muzaffar - Al-Mansur's son - died in 1008 the power in Al-Andalus was split between three factions or parties (*Tawa'if* - Taifas): the old nobility of either Arab or Berber origin; recent Berber mercenaries; and the "Slavs" (slaves, often European, with military or civilian duties). This social and political conflict evolved into a *fitna*, or civil war, with the factions taking over the territory. In 1031, with the demise of the last of the Umayyad Caliphs, Hisham III, Al-Andalus was already shattered into numerous *Tawa'if* kingdoms of various sizes. The smallest were located in Al-Gharb Al-Andalus (today's Portuguese Algarve) and the most powerful were those of Badajoz, Sevilla, Toledo and Zaragoza. The Taifa period created the opportunity for local elites to access power: Berbers, *saqaliba* and *muladin*, all had the chance to control several cities and Taifas, and even the mozarab Count D. Sesnando Davides controlled his own fief around Coimbra, befriending both Al-Mu'tadid of Sevilla and D. Fernando I of León.

The Taifa armies were very small if compared to the Caliphate's, with some of them amounting to just a few hundred men. They were mostly composed by professional soldiers and by now even entire "Frankish" units were employed. The Berber Zirids of Granada distrusted their Andalusian subjects so much that they solely employed Moroccans in their forces.

Eventually, pressure from the Christian North prompted the Taifa kings to ask for help from the Moroccan religious fanatics al-*Murabitun* (or Almoravids), thus giving birth to a new social and political era.

Victor Hugo Amorim ; Filipe Santos Martins

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IV/30 Iberian Christian 719 - 1095
Irr Co; Plains, Hilly

Royal or Noblemen's retinue	CvMB o/e	0-1	0-2	0-3
<i>Ricos homes, Infanzones and bellatores</i>	CvMB	2-5	4-10	6-15
convert the above to horse archers (until 850)	CvMA		1/5	
convert the above to knights (after 950)	KnM		any	
<i>Cavalleros vilanos</i> (after 940)	CvM o/i	0-3	0-6	0-9
Frankish volunteer knights (after 1064)	KnM	0-1	0-2	0-3
<i>Adalides</i> and Berber mercenaries	CvMi/CvL	3-6	6-12	9-18
<i>Lanceros</i>	SpM o/i	2-8	4-16	6-24
<i>Arqueros and fundibulários</i>	BwM/BwL/Sg o/i	0-4	0-8	0-12
<i>Balestreros</i>	CbM/CbL	0-2	0-4	0-6
Javelineers or <i>almugavars</i>	SpL	4-8	8-16	12-24
Urban <i>mesnadas</i> and levies	SpMi/Hd	0-4	0-8	0-12
Iberian Christian allies				
Muslim (Al-Andalus) allies				
Western Franks allies (in 1064, Aragon only)				

Following the Muslim conquest of the Iberian Peninsula, the Christians started the *Reconquista* in order to regain their lost land. The main actor of this reconquest was the Asturian kingdom who gave birth to the kingdom of León in 913 and this to the kingdom of Castile in 930. At the same time the "Spanish Marches" established by Charlemagne gave birth to Navarre, Aragon and the semi-autonomous Catalan counties. This period ends with the conquest of Toledo under Alfonso VI, who adopted the title of *Imperator totius Hispaniae*, and the Almoravid (al-Murabitun) invasion of the Andalus.

Iberian warfare consisted mainly of light cavalry raids inside enemy territory with the objectives of collecting booty or seizing cattle. Sometimes more ambitious operations were undertaken under royal auspices in order to conquer cities, the pattern being repeated raids in the vicinities of the targeted city in order to weaken it before starting a siege.

The core of the Iberian armies was composed of *Ricos homes* ("Rich men" - high nobility), *infanzones* (lesser nobility) and professional *bellatores* (warriors). In the late 10th century social evolution along with new riding and fighting techniques coming from France rendered old cavalry tactics obsolete. The date for this transformation is, of course, speculative but an Andalusian carved relief of the early 11th century already shows two cavalymen jousting with couched lances. The light cavalry was copied from the highly effective Andalusian *adalides* (or *ginetes*). According to the pictorial sources, the cavalry used spears (probably javelins for the light cavalry), round shields, but had no visible mail armour. According to the several editions of the Beatus of Liébana "Commentary on the Apocalypse", and despite a lack of material evidence, horse archery may have been used to some extent in the Christian Iberian armies, at least in the early period. In the Asturian kingdom higher proportions of javelineers and *fundibulários* (slingers) were used, the same being applicable to Navarre's forces throughout the whole period. The *lanzeiros* (spearmen), like the cavalry, had round shields and no visible armour.

Mercenaries were also employed as many kings did not have enough soldiers available. Frankish knights, Moorish mounted archers and Berber light cavalry were the main types of troops available. At the same time, Moors and Christians often cooperated against common enemies of either religion as for example, when in 1063 Ramiro I of Aragon was defeated by a Zaragozaan army under Al-Muqtadir which included Castilian troops under king Sancho II and Rodrigo Diaz de Vivar, later to be known as "El Cid".

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