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Crossbows in the Crusades



The crossbow was a pivotal weapon during the _____, changing the face of medieval warfare. It was first introduced to the English by the _____, who recognized its potential after their conquest in 1066. This _____ was particularly favored for its ability to pierce the armor of _____, making it a game-changer on the battlefield. The crossbow's mechanism allowed soldiers with less training than _____ to use it effectively, broadening the pool of potential warriors. Its impact was so significant that the _____ attempted to ban its use against Christians, though with limited success. During the _____ of fortified cities, the crossbow proved invaluable, offering a means to attack defenders from a _____. Its bolts could be fired with such force that they penetrated wooden shields and the _____ of temporary fortifications. The English used the crossbow not just in the Crusades but also in _____ such as the Hundred Years' War, where it faced off against the longbow, another revolutionary weapon of the time. Despite its _____, the crossbow required a long reloading time, a drawback that was exploited by _____. Nonetheless, it remained a key component of medieval armies until the advent of more powerful _____ weapons. The crossbow's legacy is evident in the tactics and technologies that evolved from its use, influencing the _____ of military strategies for centuries to come.

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advantages Church Normans gunpowder sieges development