

ROME INSCRIPTION

— • CHEAT SHEET • —

Read dates, popes, and builders on Rome's monuments

1 THE 7 NUMERALS

I	V	X	L	C	D	M
= 1	= 5	= 10	= 50	= 100	= 500	= 1,000

2 HOW THE NUMBERS WORK

Read from left to right.

Same or smaller after a numeral: add.

Smaller before a larger numeral:

usually subtract.

IV = 4

IX = 9

XL = 40

XC = 90

CD = 400

CM = 900



ON OLD STONE

IIII can mean 4.

VIII can mean 9.

3 PAVLVS = PAULUS | SENATVS = SENATUS

4 WHO CLAIMS CREDIT?

SPQR

Senatus Populusque Romanus
The Senate and People of Rome

PONT MAX

Pontifex Maximus
Supreme Pontiff

5 WHAT HAPPENED?

FECIT = made or built

RESTITVIT = restored

POSVIT = placed

ORNAVIT = adorned

DEDICAVIT = dedicated

ANNO DOMINI or AD
= in the year of the Lord

6 FIND THE DATE

PAVLVS V PONTIFEX MAXIMVS ANNO DOMINI MDCXII PONT VII

PAVLVS V
= Paul V

PONTIFEX MAXIMVS
= Supreme Pontiff

ANNO DOMINI
= AD, year of the Lord

MDCXII
= 1000 + 500 + 100 + 10 + 2 = 1612

PONT VII
= PONT(IFICATVS):
seventh year of reign



SAVE IT. LOOK IT UP. DECODE ROME.

ROME.US

