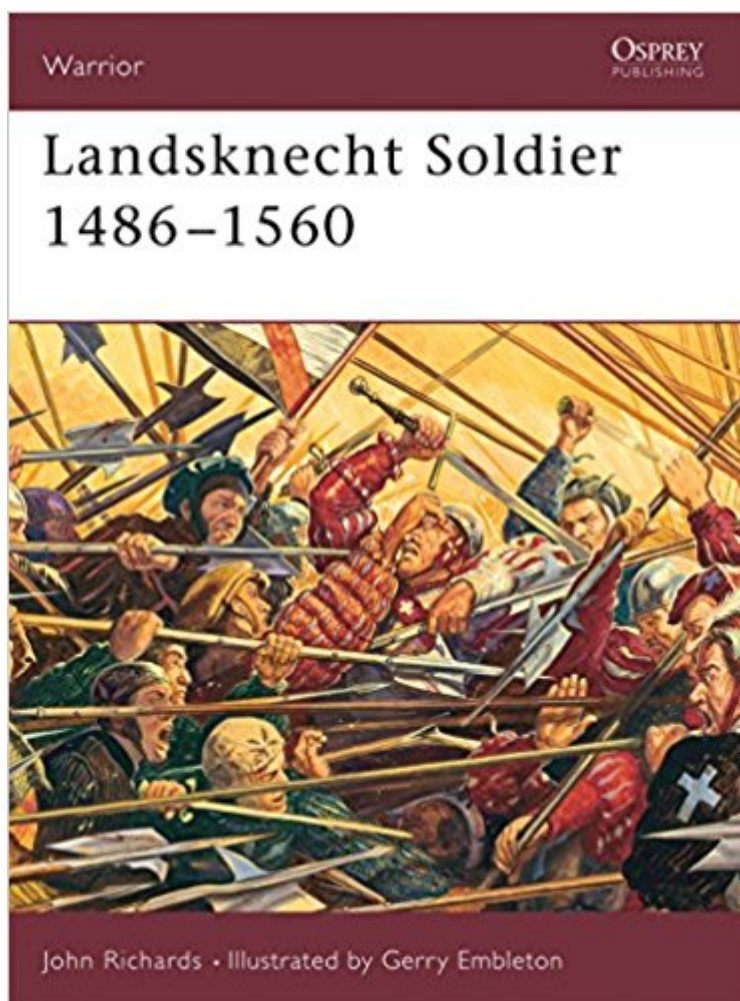




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# Landsknecht Soldier 1486–1560 (Warrior)



## Synopsis

The Landsknecht (meaning 'servant of the country') flourished during a key period for military organisation and practice. In the late 15th century, the Holy Roman Emperor, Maximilian I, recruited thousands of mercenaries from Central and Northern Europe, with the aim of creating a reliable source of men for his armies – and the Landsknecht were born. This book reveals the true-life experiences of the Landsknecht soldier during conflicts such as those of the Italian Wars (1494-1559), using numerous first-hand accounts. It takes a close look at the recruitment, training, daily life and careers of these formidable soldiers, and examines in detail their clothing, equipment and weaponry. Many fine, contemporary illustrations, some drawn by Landsknecht themselves, accompany the text.

## Book Information

Series: Warrior (Book 49)

Paperback: 64 pages

Publisher: Osprey Publishing (May 25, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1841762431

ISBN-13: 978-1841762432

Product Dimensions: 7.2 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #687,559 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #165 in [Books > History > Military > Life & Institutions](#) #2254 in [Books > History > Europe > Germany](#) #26370 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering](#)

## Customer Reviews

Insights into the real lives of history's fighting men, packed with full colour illustrations, highly detailed cutaways, exploded artwork of weaponry and armour, and action-packed battle scenes.

John Richards has had a long-standing interest in the history of Central European warfare. He has researched the Landsknecht soldier for a number of years. He lives and works in Basel, Switzerland.

Nice book as an overall of the history of the Landsknecht soldier. If you want more specific though

you might want to look elsewhere. The pictures were very helpful and the timeline was nice.

Lovely book, enjoyed it thoroughly as a general overview of the Landsknecht.

excellent

great book, informative, wish it was longer.

Essential for correct history .

Very helpful with my research

John Richards and Gerry Embleton make a nice team in this new title for the Osprey Warrior series **LANDSKNECHT SOLDIER 1486-1560**, if you ever wonder the origin of this Servant of the Country this is one of the best intro to the subject, the famous Landsknecht were one of the best infantry soldiers of the Renaissance, Mercenary Pikemen was one of the deadliest weapon on the field without forgetting their famous and colorful clothes. I think that the content of the book is pretty well done as all Osprey books in 64 pages they try to give the most important info from the Origins of the Landsknecht, organization, army life, religion, costume (one of the most important part) and the decline. In a nice weekend you can seat a relax a travel back in time to the days of the "BAD WAR". Nicely Illustrated by Gerry Embleton which famous illustration and knowledge on the subject make the book complete, he have some works on the subject his book **Medieval Military Costume** is also illustrated by him and with many colour photographs of real models. A Nice read if you looking for the everyday life of these formidable soldiers of the late 15th century you will find it fascinating. For more Renaissance warfare the book from Thomas Arnold "The Renaissance at War" explore in more detail the wars of this period with alot of maps and Illustration, Osprey have alot of titles on the subject **Armies of the German Peasants War 1524-26** by Douglas Miller and Angus McBride and **Pavia 1525** are some of the titles you would enjoy if you like to read about the German mercenaries. Lets hope for more titles like this specially on the Swiss, Spanish Tercios and Italian mercenaries.

Richards provides an excellent account of the Landsknecht mercenaries of the renaissance in this work. I particularly enjoyed his section on the structure of a Landsknecht regiment and the officers that led it- the roles of the nachrichter and hurenweibel were quite amusing. Richards certainly

proves in this work that the Landsknechts were the first to make use of a modern regimental structure. He also goes into vivid detail describing the Landsknecht costume. I have only one major complaint- Richards spends almost no time in detailing the weapons of the Landsknecht or their battle tactics. He does briefly mention (in the caption of an illustration), the significance of the katzbalger, a Landsknecht's favourite sword, and in his colour plates displays the tactics of a regiment during a battle, but he doesn't write much on either subject. Nonetheless the book was very enjoyable, and worth buying if you're keen on the subject.

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