THE PUNIC WARS

Carthage

settled by Phoenician colonists from Tyre – circa 800 BC punic = punicus, a, um = Phoenician

The First Punic War – Sicily – 264-241 BC

had been contested between Greece and Carthage Rome defeats Pyrrhus to take control of southern Italy Carthage besieges Messana

Rome moves to defend

war expands

Rome builds navy and adopts land tactics
major victory for Rome at Mylae – 260 BC
Rome invades Africa – defeated by Xanthippus
further battles in and around Sicily
Carthage led by Hamilcar Barca

Rome wins

terms: lose Sicily, pay tribute

[Interim]

Rome seizes Corsica and Sardinia

Hamilcar expands control of Spain (silver + copper; soldiers)

continues after his death by son-in-law Hasdrubal up to Ebro River founds New Carthage

230 – Rome agrees to protect Saguntum

226 – Hasdrubal agrees not to advance beyond Ebro River

221 – Hasdrubal dies; Hannibal takes over @ 25

219 (Fall) – Hannibal takes Saguntum

218 (March) – Rome declares war

The Second Punic War – Spain and Italy – 218-201 BC

Hannibal marches over Pyrenees and Alps in five months – 218 BC victories in Italy:

skirmish at Ticinus River

battle at Trebia River (v. P. Cornelius Scipio)

annihilation at Lake Trasimenus - 217 BC

Roman defense led by Quintus Fabius ("Cunctator")

Battle of Cannae - 216 BC

Hannibal (50K) v. Paulus and Varro (80K)

Hannibal chooses not to attack Rome and Rome returns to Fabius defense meanwhile back in Spain...

brother Hasdrubal defeats and kills P. Cornelius Scipio – 210 BC son P. Cornelius Scipio is sent to replace father @ 25 crosses Alps into Italy to meet and join forces with Hannibal Hasdrubal defeated and killed at Metaurus River – 207

P. Cornelius Scipio invades Africa

Carthage recalls Hannibal to defend city defeats Hannibal at Battle of Zama – 202 BC (Hannibal escapes) thereafter: P. Cornelius Scipio Africanus

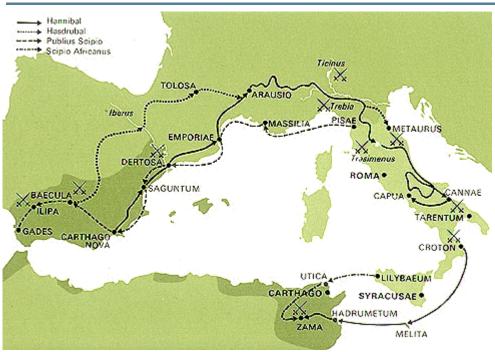
Rome wins

terms: lose Spain, all but 10 ships, pay tribute, no war without consent

[Interim]

Carthage recovers and thrives as commercial center M. Porcius Cato ("the censor"): "Censeo ceterum Karthaginem esse delendam!"

Map of the Second Punic War



Map: John Sloan



The Third Punic War – Carthage – 149-146 BC

Numidia, ally of Rome, attacks Carthaginian territory

Carthage defends itself

Rome declares breach of peace

demands refused

three-year siege

Carthage is captured by P. Cornelius Scipio Aemilianus

son of Aemilius Paullus and grandson by adoption of Africanus

Rome wins

terms: Karthago delenda est↓

