

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910156180403321
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Titolo	Greek and Roman oared warships // by J. S. Morrison ; with contributions by J.F. Coates
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford, [England] : , : Oxbow Books, , 2016 ©1996
ISBN	1-78570-434-6 1-78570-432-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (423 pages) : illustrations, maps
Disciplina	359.8320938
Soggetti	Ships, Ancient - Mediterranean Region Naval history, Ancient - Mediterranean Region Ships - Reconstruction Ships, Ancient - Greece Ships, Ancient - Rome Triremes Naval tactics - History - Mediterranean Region
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and indexes.
Sommario/riassunto	A study of the warships evolved in the navies of the Mediterranean in the fourth and third centuries B.C. and of their use by Greeks, Phoenicians, Egyptians, Italians, Carthaginians and Romans in the fleet and naval battles in the second and first centuries, culminating in the Battle of Aktion; there is a section on the reconstructions by John Coates, and a discussion of crews, ships and tactics illuminated by the recent experiments with the reconstructed trireme Olympias.