

Before the civil war they didn't really know what a germ was. They thought that there were 4 important fluids in the body that they had to get rid of. They had to amputate legs to save the soldier's lives. The bullets were huge and cracked the bones and there wasn't that much to do with that. They had anesthesia at the time. Chloroform was the anesthesia that they used. They also used opioids and morphine. They used whiskey and other alcohols as pain killers. They used mercury that we now know is poisonous. They did not have antibiotics at the time. They did not have hospitals before the civil war. The hospitals came out of the civil war. Most soldiers died from disease more than on the battlefield. The common diseases were malaria, measles, dysentery, and pneumonia.





Nurse Kit during Civil War



