



CONTACT

Tom Koch, Vice President PBS International 10 Guest Street Boston, MA 02135 USA

TEL: 617-300-3893 FAX: 617-779-7900

jtkoch@pbs.org pbsinternational.org A knight in shining armor may sound like a character out of a storybook, but once upon a time, knighthood was serious business, and for countless medieval fighters, their armor was what stood between life and death. But what was it really like to live beneath the metal? How was that shining armor crafted and how strong was it? Could it withstand impacts from the most lethal weapons of the day, including crossbows, muskets and primitive hand guns?

NOVA challenged blacksmith Ric Furrer and master armorer Jeff Wasson to recreate parts of an elite suit of armor originally manufactured in King Henry VIII's royal arsenal. *Secrets of the Shining Knight* traces their successes and setbacks from start to finish as the experts rediscover centuries-old metalworking secrets and then put their new armor to the ultimate test against a period musket!

NOVA

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