

The Norman Dynasty (1066–1154)

William I (William the Conqueror) 1066–1087
1066: Wins the Battle of Hastings, defeating King Harold II, and becomes the first Norman King of England.

1069–1070: Harrying of the North, a brutal campaign to subdue Northern England.

1085–1086: Commissioning of the Domesday Book, a comprehensive survey of land and resources in England.

Death: 1087, succeeded by his son William II.

William II (William Rufus) 1087–1100
 Continued his father's efforts to consolidate Norman control over England.

Known for conflicts with the Church and his barons.

1100: Killed in a hunting accident in the New Forest under mysterious circumstances, succeeded by his brother Henry I.

Henry I 1100-1135
1106: Battle of Tinchebray, defeating his brother Robert Curthose and securing Normandy.

Issued the Charter of Liberties, a precursor to the Magna Carta.

His only legitimate son, William Adelin, died in the White Ship disaster (1120), leading to a succession crisis.

Death: 1135, succeeded by his nephew Stephen.

Stephen 1135-1154
 His reign was marked by a civil war known as The Anarchy, fought against his cousin Matilda, daughter of Henry I.

The Norman Dynasty (1066–1154) (cont)

1153: Treaty of Wallingford, where Stephen agrees to recognize Matilda's son, Henry, as his heir.

Death: 1154, succeeded by Henry II, the first of the Plantagenet kings.

The Plantagenet Dynasty (1154–1399)

Henry II 1154-1189
 Restored order after The Anarchy and expanded the Angevin Empire.

1170: Murder of Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, leading to a significant conflict with the Church.

Implemented judicial reforms that laid the foundation for English Common Law.

Death: 1189, succeeded by his son Richard I.

Richard I (Richard the Lionheart) 1189-1199
 Renowned for his role in the Third Crusade, spending most of his reign outside England.

1192: Captured and held for ransom by Duke Leopold of Austria.

His absence led to unrest and heavy taxation in England.

Death: 1199 from a wound sustained during a siege, succeeded by his brother John.

John (John Lackland) 1199-1216
 Lost most of the Angevin Empire's French territories, leading to the nickname "Lackland."

1215: Forced to sign the Magna Carta, a seminal document in limiting the power of the monarchy.

His reign saw the start of the First Barons' War.



By RainyMoons (RainyMoons)

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The Plantagenet Dynasty (1154–1399) (cont)

Death: 1216, succeeded by his son Henry III.

Henry III 1216-1272 Long reign marked by struggles with the barons, leading to the Second Barons' War.

1265: Simon de Montfort's parliament is the first to include commoners, a significant step towards representative government

Rebuilt Westminster Abbey in the Gothic style.

Death: 1272, succeeded by his son Edward I.

Edward I (Longshanks) 1272-1307 Conquered Wales and built numerous castles to secure control.

1296: Invaded Scotland, beginning a series of conflicts known as the Wars of Scottish Independence.

1297: Faced the rebellion of William Wallace, a Scottish national hero.

Death: 1307, succeeded by his son Edward II.

Edward II 1307-1327 Defeated by Robert the Bruce at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314, losing English control over Scotland.

His close relationships with male favorites, such as Piers Gaveston and Hugh Despenser, led to conflict with the nobility.

Deposed by his wife, Isabella of France, and her lover, Roger Mortimer.

Death: 1327, likely murdered; succeeded by his son Edward III.

The Plantagenet Dynasty (1154–1399) (cont)

Edward III 1327–1377 Restored royal authority and began the Hundred Years' War against France in 1337, asserting a claim to the French throne.

His reign saw the rise of the English Parliament and the Black Death (1348-1350).

The victories at Crécy (1346) and Poitiers (1356) were significant in the early stages of the Hundred Years' War.

Death: 1377, succeeded by his grandson Richard II.

Richard II 1377-1399 Became king at age 10, leading to a regency council dominated by his uncles.

1381: Faced the Peasants' Revolt, which was brutally suppressed.

His later years saw increasing autocracy and conflict with the nobility, leading to his deposition by his cousin Henry Bolingbroke.

Death: 1400, likely murdered in captivity; succeeded by Henry IV, beginning the Lancastrian branch of the Plantagenets.

The House of Lancaster (1399–1461, 1470–1471)

Henry IV 1399-1413 First king from the House of Lancaster, having deposed Richard II.

Faced multiple rebellions, including the Percy Rebellion and the revolt of Owain Glyndŵr in Wales.



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The House of Lancaster (1399–1461, 1470–1471) (cont)

Struggled with illness towards the end of his reign, leading to a transfer of power to his son.

Death: 1413, succeeded by his son Henry V.

Henry V 1413-1422 Renowned for his military leadership in the Hundred Years' War, most notably at the Battle of Agincourt in 1415.

Secured the Treaty of Troyes (1420), recognizing him as heir to the French throne and regent of France.

Died unexpectedly of dysentery during a campaign in France.

Death: 1422, succeeded by his infant son Henry VI.

Henry VI 1422–1461 (first reign), 1470–1471 (second reign) Ascended to the throne as a child, with his minority marked by regency councils.

His reign saw the continuation of the Hundred Years' War, culminating in the loss of all English territories in France except Calais.

His mental illness and weak leadership led to the Wars of the Roses, a dynastic conflict between the Houses of Lancaster and York.

Deposed twice, first by Edward IV in 1461 and briefly restored in 1470 before his final defeat and death.

Death: 1471, likely murdered in the Tower of London, succeeded by Edward IV.

The House of York (1461–1470, 1471–1485)

Edward IV 1461–1470 (first reign), 1471–1483 (second reign) First Yorkist king, taking the throne from Henry VI during the Wars of the Roses.

Successfully defeated the Lancastrian forces at battles such as Towton (1461) and Tewkesbury (1471).

Restored stability and strengthened the monarchy after re-establishing his rule.

Death: 1483, succeeded by his son Edward V.

Edward V April–June 1483 One of the "Princes in the Tower," he was never crowned and disappeared along with his brother Richard, Duke of York.

His uncle, Richard, Duke of Gloucester, took the throne as Richard III.

Disappearance: 1483, presumed murdered; succeeded by Richard III.

Richard III 1483–1485 Became king after declaring his nephews illegitimate, but his rule was marred by suspicion over the fate of the Princes in the Tower.

Faced rebellion from supporters of Henry Tudor, the Lancastrian claimant.

1485: Killed at the Battle of Bosworth Field, marking the end of the Wars of the Roses and the Plantagenet dynasty.

Death: 1485, succeeded by Henry VII, the first Tudor monarch.



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The Tudor Dynasty (1485–1603)

Henry VII 1485-1509 Founded the Tudor dynasty by defeating Richard III at Bosworth Field and marrying Elizabeth of York to unite the warring houses of Lancaster and York.

Established a strong central government, improved the economy, and reduced the power of the nobility.

Death: 1509, succeeded by his son Henry VIII.

Henry VIII 1509-1547 Famous for his six marriages and the English Reformation, which saw the break from the Roman Catholic Church and the establishment of the Church of England.

1534: Act of Supremacy, declaring him Supreme Head of the Church of England.

Dissolution of the Monasteries (1536-1541) and significant religious and political upheaval.

Death: 1547, succeeded by his son Edward VI.

Edward VI 1547-1553 A devout Protestant, his reign saw the further establishment of Protestantism in England through the Book of Common Prayer and other reforms.

His health was poor, and he died young, leading to a succession crisis.

Death: 1553, succeeded by his cousin Lady Jane Grey (disputed), followed by Mary I.

Mary I (Bloody Mary) 1553-1558 The first queen regnant of England, she sought to restore Roman Catholicism after the Protestant reforms of her father and brother.

1553-1558

The Tudor Dynasty (1485–1603) (cont)

Known for her persecution of Protestants, earning her the nickname "Bloody Mary."

Married Philip II of Spain, a deeply unpopular move among her subjects.

Death: 1558, succeeded by her half-sister Elizabeth I.

Elizabeth I 1558-1603 The Elizabethan Era is noted for the flourishing of English culture, including the works of William Shakespeare, and the expansion of English power overseas.

1588: Defeat of the Spanish Armada, establishing England as a major naval power.

Her reign also saw religious tensions but established a relatively stable Protestant Church of England.

Death: 1603, ending the Tudor dynasty, succeeded by James I, uniting the crowns of England and Scotland.

The Stuart Dynasty (1603–1714)

James I (James VI of Scotland) 1603-1625 First monarch to rule both England and Scotland, starting the Stuart dynasty.

1605: Gunpowder Plot, a failed Catholic conspiracy to blow up Parliament and kill the king.

Commissioned the King James Bible, an enduring legacy in English-speaking Protestantism.

Death: 1625, succeeded by his son Charles I.



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The Stuart Dynasty (1603–1714) (cont)

Charles I 1625-1649 His reign was marked by conflicts with Parliament, leading to the English Civil War (1642–1651).
1649: Tried and executed for treason, leading to the temporary abolition of the monarchy and the establishment of the Commonwealth under Oliver Cromwell.

Interregnum (Commonwealth and Protectorate) 1649-1660 England was declared a republic, and Oliver Cromwell ruled as Lord Protector from 1653 until his death in 1658.

After Cromwell's death, the Protectorate collapsed, leading to the restoration of the monarchy.

Charles II 1660-1685 Restored to the throne in 1660, his reign is known as the Restoration period.

Faced challenges like the Great Plague (1665) and the Great Fire of London (1666).

Navigated religious tensions between Anglicans, Catholics, and dissenters.

Death: 1685, succeeded by his brother James II.

James II 1685-1688 A Catholic king in a predominantly Protestant country, his attempts to promote Catholicism led to widespread discontent.

1688: Deposed during the Glorious Revolution, succeeded by his daughter Mary II and her husband, William III.

The Stuart Dynasty (1603–1714) (cont)

William III and Mary II Jointly ruled after the Glorious Revolution, which established constitutional monarchy and parliamentary sovereignty.
Reign: 1689–1702 (William III), 1689–1694 (Mary II)

1689: Bill of Rights, a key document in the development of the British constitutional system.

Their reign saw the end of absolute monarchy and the beginning of a more modern constitutional state.

Anne 1702-1714 Last monarch of the Stuart dynasty, her reign saw the Act of Union (1707), which united England and Scotland into the Kingdom of Great Britain.

Her reign also saw the War of the Spanish Succession, which established Britain as a major European power.

Died without surviving heirs, succeeded by the House of Hanover.

The House of Hanover (1714–1901)

George I 1714-1727 First Hanoverian king, his reign marked the beginning of the modern British parliamentary system.

His reliance on ministers like Robert Walpole, often considered the first Prime Minister, strengthened the role of Parliament.

Death: 1727, succeeded by his son George II.

George II 1727-1760 Last British monarch to lead troops into battle, at the Battle of Dettingen (1743) during the War of the Austrian Succession.

The House of Hanover (1714–1901) (cont)

His reign saw the expansion of British influence overseas, particularly in North America and India.

Faced the Jacobite Rebellion of 1745, led by Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie), which was defeated at the Battle of Culloden in 1746.

Death: 1760, succeeded by his grandson George III.

George III His long reign saw the American Revolution (1775–1783), leading to the loss of the American colonies.
1760-1820

Suffered from bouts of mental illness, leading to the Regency of his son, the future George IV, from 1811.

Oversaw the Napoleonic Wars (1803–1815), which ended with the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo.

Death: 1820, succeeded by his son George IV.

George IV Known for his extravagant lifestyle and as a patron of the arts and architecture, including the construction of the Royal Pavilion in Brighton.
1820-1830

His reign saw the passage of the Catholic Emancipation Act (1829), which allowed Catholics to sit in Parliament.

Death: 1830, succeeded by his brother William IV.

William IV Known as the "Sailor King," he had a naval career before ascending the throne.
1830-1837

His reign saw the passage of the Reform Act 1832, which began the process of electoral reform and expanded the franchise.

Death: 1837, succeeded by his niece Victoria.

The House of Hanover (1714–1901) (cont)

Victoria Her 63-year reign is known as the Victorian Era, a period of significant industrial, cultural, political, and military changes in the United Kingdom.
1837-1901

The British Empire expanded to its height, becoming the largest empire in history.

Her reign saw the Great Exhibition (1851), the Crimean War (1853–1856), and numerous social reforms.

Death: 1901, succeeded by her son Edward VII.

The House of Saxe-Coburg/Windsor (1901–Present)

Edward VII Known for his diplomacy and strengthening ties between Britain and other European nations, particularly France (leading to the Entente Cordiale).
1901-1910

His reign marked the beginning of the Edwardian Era, characterized by relative social stability and the continuation of the British Empire's global influence.

Death: 1910, succeeded by his son George V.

George V His reign saw World War I (1914–1918), after which the British Empire reached its zenith but also faced significant changes.
1910-1936

1917: Changed the royal house's name from Saxe-Coburg and Gotha to Windsor, in response to anti-German sentiment during World War I.

His reign also saw the rise of Irish independence, leading to the creation of the Irish Free State in 1922.



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The House of Saxe-Coburg/Windsor (1901–Present) (cont)

Death: 1936, succeeded by his son Edward VIII.

Edward VIII
January–December 1936

Abdicated the throne to marry Wallis Simpson, an American divorcee, causing a constitutional crisis.

His abdication led to his brother Albert becoming king as George VI.

Abdication: 1936, succeeded by his brother George VI.

George VI
1936-1952

Known for his leadership during World War II, including his morale-boosting visits to bombed-out areas of London.

His reign saw the start of the decolonization of the British Empire, with India gaining independence in 1947.

Also saw the creation of the modern Commonwealth.

Death: 1952, succeeded by his daughter Elizabeth II.

Elizabeth II
1952-2022

The longest-reigning British monarch, overseeing significant changes in British society, the monarchy, and the Commonwealth.

Her reign saw the decolonization of Africa and the Caribbean, the UK's entry into and exit from the European Union, and numerous technological and social changes.

Celebrated her Diamond Jubilee in 2012 and became the longest-reigning British monarch in 2015.

Death: 2022, succeeded by her son Charles III.

Charles III
2022-Present

Ascended the throne after the death of Elizabeth II.

The House of Saxe-Coburg/Windsor (1901–Present) (cont)

His reign continues to focus on the modernization of the monarchy and issues like climate change, reflecting his long-standing personal interests as Prince of Wales.



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