

# Off with their heads!

## The Tudor Dynasty

The Tudor dynasty ruled England from 1485 to 1603. Henry VII became king after defeating Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth Field.

The Tudors ended the Wars of the Roses, a long series of civil wars between the houses of Lancaster and York

## Henry VIII

Henry VIII was king from 1509 to 1547. He is famous for having six wives and breaking away from the Catholic Church. He was athletic and intelligent when he was young, but became overweight and unhealthy later in life. He founded the Church of England and built up the navy.

## Other Tudor monarchs

Edward VI, Henry VIII's son, ruled for a short time after Henry's death. Mary I, Henry's daughter, was queen after Edward. She was a Catholic and tried to return England to

## Catholicism.

Elizabeth I, Henry's other daughter, was the last Tudor monarch. Her reign is called the Elizabethan Era, a time of great peace and prosperity.



### **Catherine of Aragon (1485–1536)**

Henry and Catherine were married for 24 years and had one daughter, Mary. Their marriage was annulled in 1533 after Henry broke away from the Roman Catholic Church.



### **Anne Boleyn (c1501–1536)**

Henry married Anne in 1533 and their daughter, Elizabeth, was born later that year. Anne was accused of treason and beheaded at the Tower of London in 1536.



### **Jane Seymour (1508–1537)**

Henry married Jane Seymour three weeks after Anne was beheaded. Jane died 12 days after giving birth to their son, Edward.



### **Anne of Cleves (1515–1557)**

Henry was persuaded to marry Anne after seeing her portrait. They married in 1540 but divorced after six months.



### **Catherine Howard (1521–1542)**

Catherine Howard was a teenager when she married the 49-year-old king. Within two years, she was beheaded for treason.



### **Catherine Parr (1512–1548)**

Henry married his last wife, Catherine Parr, in 1543. She looked after Henry until he died.

**1491 28th June** Henry Tudor, later King Henry VIII, is born to King Henry VII and Elizabeth of York.

**1502 2nd April** Arthur, Henry's brother, dies aged 15.

**1509 21st April** Henry VII, dies. Henry VIII becomes king.  
**11th June** Henry marries Catherine of Aragon, his brother's widow.

**1516 18th February** Princess Mary is born to Catherine of Aragon.

**1533** After seven years, Henry breaks away from the Pope and the Roman Catholic Church so that his marriage to Catherine of Aragon can be annulled.  
**25th January** Henry marries Anne Boleyn.  
**7th September** Princess Elizabeth is born to Anne Boleyn.

**1534 3rd November** Henry becomes Head of the Church of England.

**1536** Roman Catholic monasteries, abbeys and convents are closed during the Dissolution of the Monasteries.  
**19th May** Anne Boleyn is executed for treason.  
**30th May** Henry marries Jane Seymour.

**1537 12th October** Prince Edward is born to Jane Seymour. Jane dies 12 days later.

**1540 6th January** Henry marries Anne of Cleves. The marriage lasts six months.  
**28th July** Henry marries Catherine Howard.

**1542 13th February** Catherine Howard is executed.

**1543 12th July** Henry marries Catherine Parr.

**1547 28th January** King Henry VIII dies, aged 55.