

Timeline

1485	Henry VII defeats Richard III to become King of England
1509	Henry VIII becomes King of England
May 1533	King Henry VIII divorces his first wife Catherine of Aragon
29 May 1536	Anne Boleyn is executed
1547	Edward VI becomes King of England aged just nine years old
1553	Mary I becomes Queen of England

Key people

Henry VII	Henry VII became King of England in 1485 when he defeated Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth Field. By marrying Elizabeth of York he ended the War of the Roses.
Henry VIII	Henry VIII became heir to the throne when his older brother Arthur died in 1502. Henry became King in 1509 and is known for having six wives. He had two of his wives executed accused of adultery.
Edward VI	Edward VI was the son of Henry VIII and his third wife Jane Seymour. He was in fact Henry's only son and so was the heir to the throne. Edward acceded the throne at just nine years old. However, Edward was a sickly child and died aged 15 years old.
Mary I	Mary became Queen of England upon her younger brother's death in 1553. Mary was a Catholic and married to King Philip of Spain. The couple returned England to the Catholic faith. Due to her treatment of Protestants she earned the name 'Bloody Mary'.

Key Terms

Catholic	A type of Christianity where the leader of the religion is the Pope in Rome.
Protestant	A type of Christianity which rejects Catholicism. They believed in changing the ways in which God is worshipped.
Divorce	The legal ending of a marriage where both parties are free to marry again.
Heir	A person who is entitled to inherit another person's money or title.
Reformation	The name used to describe the changes or reforms made to the Catholic Church in the 16th Century.
Excommunicated	A serious religious punishment where a person is no longer allowed to be part of the Catholic Church.
Vatican	The name of the city within Rome where the Pope lives.
Monasteries	A religious building which is home to monks who have given their life to God.
Dissolution	The act of breaking up an organisation. E.g. When Henry VIII closed all of the monasteries in England.
Pilgrimage of Grace	A protest against Henry VIII's policy of closing down the monasteries.
Heretic	A person whose beliefs are against the popular beliefs at the time.
Monarch	A person who is the king or queen.
Martyr	A person who is willing to die for their beliefs.

Key Events

<p>War of the Roses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The War of the Roses were a series of battles between the House of Lancaster and the House of York over who should be the King of England. The War of the Roses was eventually won by Henry Tudor (a member of the Lancaster family) who defeated Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth Field.
<p>Henry VIII and his six wives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Henry VIII became king in 1509 upon the death of his father Henry Tudor. Henry was 18 when he became king and in the same year he married Catherine of Aragon. Henry was desperate for a son and heir, unfortunately Catherine only gave birth to one child, a girl named Mary. Henry divorced Catherine in 1533 and quickly married Anne Boleyn. Anne also only gave birth to one child, a girl named Elizabeth. Henry had Anne executed and quickly married Jane Seymour. Fortunately Jane gave birth to a boy named Edward. Jane died shortly after childbirth. Henry married three more times after Jane, but did not have anymore children.
<p>The Reformation of the Church</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When Henry VIII decided to get divorced from Catherine of Aragon he had to ask the Pope for a divorce. The Pope said no! In order for Henry to get his divorce and marry Anne he had to break the English Church away from the Catholic Church. This is known as the Break from Rome or the Reformation. This meant that Henry was now head of the Church of England. England was no longer part of the Catholic Church.
<p>The Reign of Edward VI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As Edward was Henry's only son he acceded the throne ahead of his sisters and became king at just nine years old. Edward surrounded by Protestants, set about making changes to the Church in England. This brought the English Church more in line with the Protestant faith.
<p>The Reign of Mary I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mary was Henry's daughter from his first marriage and was a strict Catholic. When Mary and her Catholic husband acceded the throne they set about returning England to the Catholic faith. Protestants were severely punished by Mary.