



How has the power of monarchy changed over time?

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When? – Historical Context



What? – Key Events

1066	William 'The Conqueror', Duke of Normandy defeats Harold Godwin at the battle of Hastings and establishes himself as King of England.
1066–1086	William orders for a comprehensive survey, called The Domesday Books of his realm to consolidate his power
1215	King John forced to sign the Magna Carta by his barons
1258	Simon De Montfort leads a revolt against King Henry III, establishing the first Parliament
1534	Henry VIII breaks with Rome and establishes himself as the Head of the Church of England
1645	The English Civil War is won by Parliamentarians, and the monarchy is abolished. Charles I is executed as Oliver Cromwell rules as 'Lord Protector'
1660	The Restoration—Charles II is reinstated as Monarch
1688	William III and Mary II are placed on the throne at the request of Parliament, the country's first Constitutional Monarchs in what is known as the Glorious Revolution
1721	Robert Walpole becomes the 'first Prime Minister'
1936	Edward VIII brings about an abdication crisis by trying to marry Wallis Simpson, a divorcee
2023	Charles III, our current Monarch, is coronated at Westminster Abbey

Where?



Key Vocabulary

Monarch	A sovereign head of state, especially a king, queen
Absolute monarch	A form of government where a monarch rules with supreme, unlimited power
Constitutional monarch	Where the powers of the monarchy are limited by a constitution
Parliament	Elected politicians who make laws and rule in the name of a monarch
Reign	The period of time a monarch rules for
Democracy	a system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state,
Magna Carta	A Royal charter which first established the rights of 'common' people by a monarch
succession	Inheriting a title or role
Commonwealth	What England was referred to when Oliver Cromwell led the country following the Civil War
Abdicate	renounce or give up the throne

Who (key people)



William I

Ruled as an absolute monarch from 1066.



John

Forced to sign the Magna Carta by rebellious barons



Edward VIII

Abdicated in 1936 in order to marry a divorcee

Learning Links



Year 1 – King John used Warwick Castle as a base to intimidate his rebellious barons



Year 5

Democracy was an idea introduced in Ancient Greece



Reception

Guy Fawkes was an example of someone who was unhappy