



# QUEEN ELIZABETH II KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



## Overview

**Elizabeth II** (21<sup>st</sup> April 1926 – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022) was the **Queen of the United Kingdom** and the other **Commonwealth realms**.

**She ruled longer than any UK King or Queen in history**, having reigned since February 1953. Since 2016, she was also the longest-reigning living monarch in the world.

Elizabeth II had **few political powers**, and did not rule over the countries of the commonwealth realm in this way. Rather, governments and prime ministers are appointed to run the countries.

Elizabeth was married to Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, from 1947 until his death in 2021. Elizabeth and Philip had four children, eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren (as of Spring 2022).

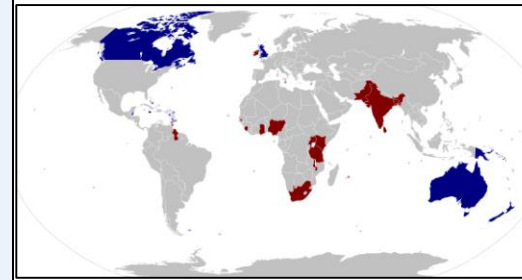
She celebrated her Platinum Jubilee (70 year reign) in 2022.

A photograph of Elizabeth II from 2015.



## Answers to Important Questions and Key Vocabulary

**Which countries was Elizabeth the Queen of?**



Elizabeth was the Queen of 15 countries (those in blue). These are known as the Commonwealth Realms. There are several other states, which were once realms, but are now republics (shown in red).

### Key Vocabulary

Elizabeth

Coronated

Abdicated

Head of State

Buckingham Palace

Patron

Jubilee

Reign

**Monarch**

Government

Prince Philip

Prince Charles

Commonwealth

**What role did the Queen play in politics?**



The Queen did not officially hold any political power. However, she did meet with the Prime Minister of the UK (and First Minister of Scotland) at least once per week. She also spent time each day working 'the boxes', which were filled with information for her about changes taking place in the country.

**What were Elizabeth's main strengths?**



Elizabeth had a strong sense of duty. As a young Queen, she made a pledge to serve her country for her entire life, and she never wavered from that promise. Elizabeth showed great courage in times of difficulty, both for herself and for the country. She spoke to and reassured the country during conflicts and pandemics. She also continued her duties during times of mourning and great loss.

**How was Elizabeth perceived around the world?**



Due to her extremely long life and reign, Queen Elizabeth II was ever-present in the lives of most people across the world. For this reason, she was often known around the world simply as 'The Queen' (even though there are many other Queens in the world). In recent times, many commonwealth nations voted to keep her as the Head of State.

## Times in Her Life

### Early Life



Elizabeth was born in Mayfair, London on 21st April 1926. Her father was Prince Albert, Duke of York. He eventually became George VI. Her mother was Elizabeth, Duchess of York.  
-Elizabeth was 13 when World War II started. As London was bombed, she was moved with her sister Margaret to Windsor.

### Heir Apparent



Elizabeth was born as the third in line to the British throne. Elizabeth's grandfather, King George V, died in 1936. Her uncle became King Edward VIII, however he abdicated after a short time. Her father became King George VI.

## Marriage, Children and Life as Queen

Princess Elizabeth married Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, on 20<sup>th</sup> November 1947. They had four children: Charles (born 1948), Anne (1950), Andrew (1960) and Edward (1964).



By 1951, King George VI's health was poor and Princess Elizabeth began to make official visits for him. He died on 6<sup>th</sup> February 1952 and Elizabeth's coronation was on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1953.

In 1952, Elizabeth and her family moved into Buckingham Palace, London. In the early years of her reign, she toured to many places around the world, including Australia, New Zealand, the USA and Canada. She also visited the Middle East and much of Europe.



### Later Years

Elizabeth celebrated her Silver, Golden, Diamond and Platinum jubilees in 1977, 2002, 2012, and 2022 respectively. She held a number of records for her long life and longevity on the throne. She continued to tour and carry out ceremonial duties well into her 90s.



### Role and Popularity



Elizabeth generally maintained strong public popularity, although this dipped after some events, such as during recessions and the death of Princess Diana.

## Top 10 Facts!

1. She was born Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor.
2. She first met her future husband, Prince Philip, when she was only 13.
3. Elizabeth served during World War II as a driver for the Women's Territorial Service.
4. Her great, great grandmother was Queen Victoria.
5. The Queen was formally addressed by people as 'Your Majesty' and then 'Ma'am.'
6. The Queen was very wealthy, but most of this wealth was in properties that she could not sell.
7. The Queen was well-known for her love of corgi dogs. Her first corgi was named 'Dookie.'
8. People reaching their 100<sup>th</sup> birthday received a special personalised card from the Queen.
9. The Queen was the patron of many charitable organisations.
10. There was 12 different Prime Ministers during Elizabeth's reign.

## Elizabeth II Timeline

21 <sup>st</sup> April 1926: Princess Elizabeth is born.	1936: Coronation and abdication of Edward VIII.	1937: Coronation of George VI. Elizabeth becomes heir.	November 1947: Elizabeth marries Prince Philip.	1948: Birth of Prince Charles, her eldest child.	6 <sup>th</sup> February 1952: Her reign begins.	2 <sup>nd</sup> June 1953: Elizabeth's coronation.	1977: Her silver jubilee is celebrated.	1982: Birth of Prince William – Charles' eldest child.	1997: Death of Diana, Princess of Wales.	2002: Death of the Queen Mother.	2021: Death of Prince Philip.	2022: Death of Queen Elizabeth.
----------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------	----------------------------------	-------------------------------	---------------------------------