

What Is a Coronation?

A coronation is a ceremony where a king or queen is officially given the crown of the country.



This is George IV's coronation in 1821

It is a ceremony full of pageantry and celebration but it also has a solemn religious side.

It is almost like a marriage ceremony between the monarch and their country.

Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation

The ascension of Queen Elizabeth II was on 6th February 1952 after the death of her father, George VI. Her coronation was not until 2nd June 1953. Queen Elizabeth II was 25 years old.

The exciting thing about this coronation was that, with television being new, it was the first coronation to be televised. Many people bought their first television just to watch it. Why not find some clips on the Internet and see it for yourself?

The ceremony lasted for three hours and was attended by more than 8000 guests.



The Crown Jewels

The Crown Jewels are kept in the Tower of London and made up of the orb, sceptres and the crown itself.

The orb represents the world and the cross represents God. Traditionally, the monarch has been God's representative on earth.



The monarch has two sceptres – one with a cross to represent their powers as the monarch and the other topped with a dove representing the holy ghost.



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What Happens at the Coronation?

The coronation service for the British monarch has been the same for around 1000 years.

The sovereign (king or queen) makes an important promise called the Coronation Oath.

After the anointing, the sovereign is given the orb and sceptres before having the crown placed on their head. These are known as the Crown Jewels.



This is Edward VII taking the Coronation Oath in 1902.

Friday Comprehension: The Queen's Coronation

Use the above facts and information to answer the questions. Please use the space provided.

What is a coronation?

Find and copy the word that means *serious*:

In which year was the first coronation to be televised?

What three crown jewels is the monarch presented with during their coronation?

What do the three crown jewels represent?

What is a sovereign?

How long did Queen Elizabeth II's coronation last for?

When was the Queen's coronation?