

Timeline

The colours represent different types of event as follows:

- Blue: economic events
- Yellow: social and cultural
- Red: political events
- Black: international events
- Green: religious events

[including foreign policy]

Note that during this period these factors were very much interlinked.

1485	● Henry VII takes throne following victory at Battle of Bosworth	● Henry marries Elizabeth of York	● Imposition of Lambert Simnel	● Murder of Earl of Northumberland and Yorkshire rising	● Beginning of imposition of Perkin Warbeck	● War against France	● Poughings appointed Lord Deputy of Ireland	● Execution of Sir William Stanley
1486	● Henry's first parliament	● Lovell rebellion	● Defeat of the Earl of Lincoln at the Battle of Stoke	● Treaty of Redon	● Birth of Prince Henry	● Treaty of Etaples		● Introduction of the Council Learned in the Law under the leadership of Sir Reginald Bray
1487	● Birth of Prince Arthur	● Export of unfinished cloth by foreign merchants banned	● Execution of the Earl of Warwick and of Warbeck	● Treaty of Medina del Campo	● Death of Prince Arthur	● Death of Sir Reginald Bray	● Treaty of Windsor	● Death of Henry VII and accession of Henry VIII
1496	● Intercursus Magnus treaty signed	● Cornish Rebellion	● Truce of Ayton between England and Scotland	● Marriage of Prince Arthur and Catherine of Aragon	● Marriage of Princess Margaret to James IV of Scotland	● Intercursus Matheus treaty agreed	● Intercursus Matheus treaty agreed	● Empson and Dudley arrested
1497		● Surrender of Warbeck						● Henry VIII's coronation
1498								● Marriage of Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon
1499								
1500								
1501								
1502								
1503								
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1505								
1506								
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1509								
1510	● Abolition of Council Learned in the Law	● War against France	● Battle of Flodden	● Wolsey emerges as chief minister	● Wolsey appointed Lord Chancellor	● Birth of Princess Mary	● Birth of Princess Mary	● Treaty of London
1511	● Empson and Dudley executed	● Re-foundation of St Paul's School	● Capture of Tournai and Therouanne	● Wolsey appointed Archbishop of York	● Princess Mary marries the Duke of Suffolk	● Publication of Thomas More's Utopia	● Completion of Torrigiano's funeral effigies of Henry VII and Elizabeth of York	
1512	● Thomas Wolsey appointed to Council			● Princess Mary marries Louis XI of France	● Wolsey begins building Hampton Court			
1513								
1514								
1515								
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1520	● Field of the Cloth of Gold							
1521								
1522								
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1531								
1532								
1533	● Henry marries Anne Boleyn	● Act of Supremacy	● Execution of Thomas More	● Execution of Anne Boleyn	● Birth of Prince Edward	● Second set of royal injunctions issued	● Six Articles Act	● Marriage of Henry and Anne of Cleves, quickly dissolved
1534	● Birth of Princess Elizabeth			● Marriage of Henry VIII and Jane Seymour				● Execution of Cromwell
1535	● Princess Mary declared illegitimate			● Princess Elizabeth declared illegitimate				● Marriage of Henry and Catherine Howard
1536	● Act in Restraint of Appeals			● Beginning of dissolution of the monasteries				
1537				● First set of royal injunctions issued				
1538				● Ten Articles issued				
1539				● Pilgrimage of Grace				
1540								
1541								
1542	● Execution of Catherine Howard	● Treaty of Greenwich	● Mary and Elizabeth reinstated to succession	● Battle of Ancrum Moor	● Death of Henry VIII	● Marquis of Hertford (later Duke of Somerset) appointed Protector	● Enclosure commission	● Warwick becomes Lord President of the Council, and Duke of Northumberland
1543								
1544								
1545								
1546								
1547								
1548								
1549								
1550								

- 1552
- Execution of Somerset
 - Act of Uniformity and issue of second Book of Common Prayer
- 1553
- Death of Edward VI, who is succeeded temporarily by Lady Jane Grey
 - Mary I proclaimed queen
 - Execution of Northumberland
 - Forty-Two Articles of Religion
 - Pole appointed papal legate to England
- 1554
- Wyatt's Rebellion
 - Execution of Lady Jane Grey
 - Marriage of Mary and Philip of Spain
- 1555
- Restoration of heresy law
 - Burnings for heresy resume
 - Harvest failure

- 1556
- Execution of Cranmer
 - Harvest failure

- 1557
- Paul IV revokes Pöle's papal legateship
 - War against France
 - Influenza epidemic

- 1558
- Death of Mary I and accession of Elizabeth I
 - Sir William Cecil appointed secretary
 - Loss of Calais
 - Influenza epidemic continues

- 1559
- Coronation of Elizabeth I
 - Acts of Supremacy and Uniformity
 - Fourth set of royal injunctions issued
 - Matthew Parker appointed Archbishop of Canterbury
 - Treaty of Câteau-Cambrésis signed
 - Elizabeth aids the Lords of the Congregation in Scotland

- 1560
- Treaty of Edinburgh signed
- 1561
- Undebased currency completely restored
- 1562
- Elizabeth seriously ill with smallpox
 - Military support for French Huguenots
- 1563
- Elizabeth urged to marry
 - Thirty-Nine Articles issued
 - Publication of Foxe's Book of Martyrs
 - Statute of Artificers

- 1564
- Treaty of Troyes signed

- 1565
- Vestarian Controversy
 - Elizabeth again pressed to marry
 - Parker's Advertisements

- 1567
- Mary, Queen of Scots forced to abdicate

- 1568
- Mary, Queen of Scots flees to England
 - Clash between Spanish fleet and English fleet under John Hawkins
 - Elizabeth impounds Spanish bullion

- 1569
- Northern Rebellion
- 1570
- Elizabeth excommunicated by Pope Pius V
- 1571
- Ridolfi Plot
 - Cecil raised to the peerage as Lord Burghley
- 1572
- Duke of Norfolk executed
 - Cartwright and Field begin campaign for reform of organisation of English Church
 - Treaty of Blois signed

- 1573
- Sir Francis Walsingham appointed secretary of state

- 1574
- Arrival of first Catholic missionary priests

- 1575
- Edmund Grindal appointed Archbishop of Canterbury

- 1577
- Suspension of Grindal
 - Execution of first Catholic priest, Cuthbert Mayne

- 1579
- Marriage negotiations between Elizabeth and the Duke of Anjou
- 1580
- Arrival of first Jesuit missionaries
- 1581
- Tightening of anti-Catholic laws
- 1583
- Throckmorton Plot
 - John Whitgift appointed Archbishop of Canterbury
 - Whitgift's Articles issued

- 1584
- Bond of Association
 - Expulsion of Spanish ambassador
 - Treaty of Joinville

- 1585
- Parry Plot
 - Further tightening of anti-Catholic legislation
 - Treaty of Nonsuch
 - Start of war between England and Spain

- 1586
- Babington Plot
 - Mary, Queen of Scots convicted of treason
 - Treaty of Berwick

- 1587
- Mary, Queen of Scots executed
 - Successful English attack on Spanish fleet in Cadiz

- 1588
- Death of Earl of Leicester
 - First 'Marpelate' tracts published
 - Defeat of Spanish Armada
- 1590
- Death of Walsingham
- 1591
- Death of Sir Christopher Hatton
 - Robert Cecil promoted to Privy Council
- 1593
- Execution of separatists

- 1594
- Start of Tyrone Rebellion in Ireland
 - Harvest failure

- 1595
- Harvest failure

- 1596
- Cecil appointed secretary of state
 - Harvest failure
 - Food riots

- 1597
- Harvest failure
 - Reports of starvation in parts of the north

- 1598
- Death of Lord Burghley
 - Defeat of English force in Ireland at Battle of Yellow Ford
 - Poor law enacted
- 1599
- Cecil appointed Master of Wards
 - Essex returns from Ireland
- 1601
- 'Rebellion' and execution of Earl of Essex
 - Agitation in Parliament over monopolies
 - Poor law revised
- 1603
- Death of Elizabeth I and accession of James I