

QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE SPECIAL



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What is the Platinum Jubilee celebration?

The Platinum Jubilee marks 70 years of a monarch's reign. Queen Elizabeth II will be the first British monarch to reach the milestone.

On significant anniversaries, celebrations take place across the UK and the Commonwealth. This year, street parties will be held, as well as public ceremonies such as the Trooping the Colour, which marks the Queen's official birthday.

What date is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee?

The Queen officially made it to 70 years on the throne on Accession Day which fell on Sunday, February 6. It is the date on which the Queen acceded to the throne on the death of her father, George VI, in 1952.

The Queen usually spends the February anniversary in private reflection on the Sandringham estate, thinking

of her late father. This year, in the days leading up to Accession Day, she invited local community groups and volunteers to Sandringham for cake, and viewed a selection of Jubilee memorabilia. In a written message marking the occasion, she told her people: "It gives me pleasure to renew to you the pledge I gave in 1947 that my life will always be devoted to your service. The Queen's coronation took place on June 2, 1953, at Westminster Abbey in London.



Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh on the day of their coronation in 1953

Credit: Hulton Archive

The major Platinum Jubilee celebrations will therefore begin on Thursday, June 2, 2022, and will continue over the weekend until June 5.



Fun Facts

The Queen's first corgi was named Susan and was a gift for her 18th birthday. Over the years, the Queen has had more than **30 corgis**. A footman was once reprimanded for giving the Queen's corgis whiskey.



The Queen has paid visits to the sets of **Coronation Street** and **EastEnders**, two wildly popular British soap operas.



The Queen's first official portrait was painted in 1933, when she was just seven-years-old. She has since sat for over **130 official portraits**.



During World War II, Elizabeth learned to change a spare tyre and a spark plug in an automobile maintenance course. She is believed to be the only royal monarch with these practical skills.



Each year, the Queen gives her staff Christmas puddings as a holiday gift. It is estimated she has gifted over **90,000 puddings** to date.



Peculiar gifts given to the Queen during her reign include tortoises, an elephant, a jaguar, sloths, and beavers. The animals were placed in London Zoo. During a 1991 visit to the U.S., the Queen was gifted a **pair of cowboy boots**.

