

England and in the Restoration and Early Eighteenth Century – A Political & Cultural Chronology

1	1640-1651	English Civil Wars Parliamentarians and Puritans (Roundheads) vs. Monarchy, Aristocracy, and Anglicans (Cavaliers)
2	1649	Charles I beheaded
3	1649-1660	Commonwealth Period England is a Republic under Puritan rule Oliver Cromwell is England's Lord Protector from 1653-8 On his death, Richard Cromwell takes over – 1658-59
4	1650	England's first coffee house opens in Oxford
5	1660	Charles II takes the throne Theatres reopened
6	1660	Royal Society of London for the Improvement of Natural Knowledge founded
7	1673	Test Act requires officeholders to swear allegiance to Anglicanism
8	1678	Exclusion Crisis  Country Party = Whigs = constitutional monarchy, ties to moneyed-interests (merchants and protoindustrialists), toleration of nonconformists like Puritans Court Party = Tories = absolute monarchy (Divine Right of Kings), ties to court and landed interests, High Church
9	1685	Charles II dies; James II (Charles' openly Catholic brother) takes the throne
10	1688	Glorious (or Bloodless) Revolution James II goes into exile Parliament passes Bill of Rights
11	1689	Mary (James II's Protestant daughter) and her Dutch husband William take the throne Parliament passes the Act of Toleration
12	1694	Bank of England founded  Mary dies; William III rules alone
13	1695	Print Licensing Act lapses
14	1701	Act of Settlement Parliament officially excludes James II's Catholic son and passes the throne to German Protestant cousins of the Stuart dynasty, the House of Hanover
15	1701-1714	War of Spanish Succession
16	1702	William III dies; Anne (James II's other Protestant daughter) takes the throne
17	1709	Anne shifts her parliamentary allegiance from the Whigs to the Tories
18	1710	Copyright Act
19	1714	Anne dies; George I of Hanover takes the throne Tories' brief period of Parliamentary dominance is over – for the rest of the century
20	1720	South Sea Bubble pops MP Robert Walpole, who prevents disaster in the British economy, soon becomes in effect Britain's first prime minister (from 1722-1742)
21	1727	George I dies; George II takes the throne