



List of French monarchs

⚠ This is an old revision of this page, as edited by Cor- ([talk](#) | [contribs](#)) at 17:01, 24 April 2019 (→ *Robertian dynasty (922–923)*). The present address (URL) is a permanent link to this revision, which may differ significantly from the current revision.

The monarchs of the Kingdom of France and its predecessors (and successor monarchies) ruled from the establishment of the Kingdom of the Franks in 486 until the fall of the Second French Empire in 1870, with several interruptions.

Sometimes included as 'Kings of France'^[1] are the kings of the Franks of the Merovingian dynasty, which ruled from 486 until 751,^[2] and of the Carolingians, who ruled until 987 (with some interruptions).

The Capetian dynasty, the male-line descendants of Hugh Capet, included the first rulers to adopt the title of 'King of France' for the first time with Philip II (r. 1180–1223). The Capetians ruled continuously from 987 to 1792 and again from 1814 to 1848. The branches of the dynasty which ruled after 1328, however, are generally given the specific branch names of Valois (until 1589) and Bourbon (until 1848).

During the brief period when the French Constitution of 1791 was in effect (1791–92) and after the July Revolution in 1830, the style of "King of the French" was used instead of "King of France (and Navarre)". It was a constitutional innovation known as popular monarchy, which linked the monarch's title to the French people rather than to the possession of the territory of France.^[3]

With the House of Bonaparte, "Emperors of the French" ruled in 19th-century France between 1804 and 1814, again in 1815, and between 1852 and 1870.

Titles

Monarchy of France



Royal coat of arms



King of France
Charles X

16 September 1824 – 2 August 1830

Details

First monarch	<u>Clovis I</u> (as <u>King</u>)
Last monarch	<u>Napoleon III</u> (as <u>Emperor</u>)
Formation	509

The title "King of the Franks" (Template:Lang-la) gradually lost ground after 1190, during the reign of Philip II (but *FRANCORUM REX* continued to be used, for example by Louis XII in 1499, by Francis I in 1515, and by Henry II about 1550). It was used on coins up to the eighteenth century.^[n 1] During the brief period when the French Constitution of 1791 was in effect (1791–92) and after the July Revolution in 1830, the style "King of the French" was used instead of "King of France (and Navarre)". It was a constitutional innovation known as popular monarchy which linked the monarch's title to the French people rather than to the possession of the territory of France.^[5]

In addition to the Kingdom of France, there were also two French Empires, the first from 1804 to 1814 and again in 1815, founded and ruled by Napoleon I, and the second from 1852 to 1870, founded and ruled by his nephew Napoleon III (also known as Louis-Napoleon). They used the title "Emperor of the French".^{[6][7]}

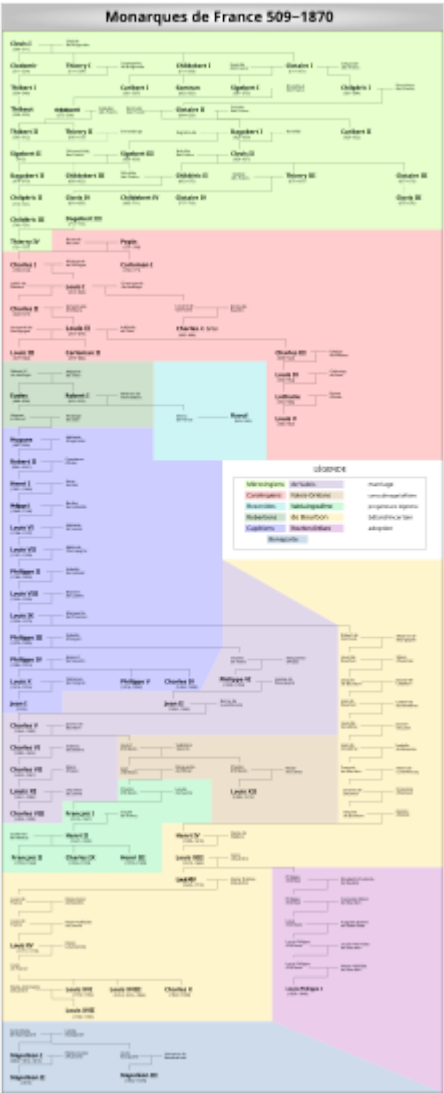
This article lists all rulers to have held the title "King of the Franks", "King of France", "King of the French" or "Emperor of the French". For other Frankish monarchs, see List of Frankish kings. In addition to the monarchs listed below, the Kings of England and Great Britain from 1340–60, 1369-1420, and 1422–1801 also claimed the title of King of France. For a short time, this had some basis in fact – under the terms of the 1420 Treaty of Troyes, Charles VI had recognized his son-in-law Henry V of England as regent and heir. Henry V predeceased Charles VI and so Henry V's son, Henry VI, succeeded his grandfather Charles VI as King of France. Most of Northern France was under English control until 1435, but by 1453, the English had been expelled from all of France save Calais (and the Channel Islands), and Calais itself fell in 1558. Nevertheless, English and then British monarchs continued to claim the title for themselves until the creation of the United Kingdom in 1801.

Frankish Empire

Merovingian dynasty (509–751)


The **Merovingians** were a Salian Frankish dynasty that ruled the Franks for nearly 300 years in a region known as *Francia* in Latin, beginning in the middle of the 5th century. Their territory largely corresponded to ancient Gaul as well as the Roman provinces of Raetia, Germania Superior and the southern part of Germania. The Merovingian dynasty was supposedly founded by Merovech,

Abolition	4 September 1870
Residence	<div> <div> Palais de la Cité</div> <div> Louvre Palace</div> <div> Palace of Versailles</div> <div> Tuileries Palace</div> </div>
Appointer	 Hereditary
Pretender(s)	<div> <div> Louis Alphonse</div> <div> (House of Bourbon)</div> <div> Jean d'Orléans</div> <div> (House of Orléans)</div> <div> Jean-Christophe</div> <div> (House of Bonaparte)</div> </div>





Family tree of French monarchs 509–1870

son of Chlodio, leader of the Salian Franks. But it rose to historical prominence with the reign of his supposed son Childeric I (c. 458-481) and supposed grandson Clovis I (481–511), who united all of Gaul under Merovingian rule.^[8]


Portrait	Name	King from	King until	Death	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
	<u>Clovis I</u>	509	511	Died of natural causes aged 45. Buried at <u>Abbey of St Genevieve</u> until 18th century. Remains relocated to <u>Basilica of St Denis</u> .	• Son of <u>Childeric I</u>	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)

After Clovis's death, his kingdom was divided among his four sons, who took up residences in different cities. The number and extent of the parts of the kingdom varied over time. Clothar I, the youngest son, eventually reunited the kingdom.






Theuderic, eldest son of Clovis, became king at Reims. His line ended in 555, after which its lands passed to his youngest brother Chlothar.

	<u>Theuderic I</u> (Thierry)	511	533 or 534	Died aged 48.	• Eldest son of Clovis I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) at Reims
	<u>Theudebert I</u> (Thibert)	533 or 534	547 or 548	Killed in a hunting accident, aged 47.	• Son of Theuderic I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) at Reims
	<u>Theudebald</u> (Thibaut)	547 or 548	555	Died aged 20.	• Son of Theudebert I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) at Reims


Chlodomer, Clovis' second son, became king at Orléans. His sons were murdered and he died shortly afterwards; his realm was divided between his two younger brothers, Childebart and Chlothar.

	<u>Chlodomer</u> (Chlodomir)	511	25 June 524	Killed in the <u>Battle of Vézeronce</u> , aged 29.	• Second (surviving) son of Clovis I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) at Orléans
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Childebert, third son of Clovis, became king at Paris. He died in 558 and his lands passed to his youngest brother Chlothar.

	<u>Childebert I</u>	511	13 December 558	Died aged 62. Buried at Abbey of <u>Saint-Germain-des-Prés</u> .	• Third (surviving) son of Clovis I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) at Paris
Chlothar, fourth and youngest son of Clovis, became king at <u>Soissons</u> . By 558 he had inherited the lands of his older brothers and thus reunited all of the Frankish territories that had been held by his father.						
	<u>Chlothar the Old</u> (Clotaire)	511	29 November 561	Died aged 64. Buried at Abbey of <u>St. Medard, Soissons</u> .	• Youngest son of Clovis I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) at Soissons
After Chlothar's death, the kingdom was divided among his four sons. The parts of the kingdom varied over time and eventually developed into three distinct realms. <u>Neustria</u> , centred at Soisson and Paris, <u>Austrasia</u> , centered at <u>Metz</u> , and <u>Burgundy</u> , centered at Orléans. Chlothar II, grandson of Chlothar I, eventually reunited the kingdom.						
Charibert, Chlothar's eldest surviving son, became king of the Franks at <u>Paris</u> . He died without issue in 567 and his realm was partitioned between his younger brothers.						
	<u>Charibert I</u> (Caribert)	29 November 561	567	Died aged 50. Buried at Abbey of <u>Saint-Germain-des-Prés</u> .	• Eldest son of Chlothar I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) at Paris
Guntram, Chlothar's second surviving son, became king of Burgundy (king of the Franks at Orléans). At his death he was succeeded by his nephew Childebert II of the Franks, who was the son of Guntram's younger brother Sigebert.						
	<u>Guntram</u> (Gontran)	29 November 561	592	Died aged 60. Buried at Saint Marcellus, <u>Chalon-sur-Saône</u> .	• Second son of Chlothar I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) at Orléans
Sigebert, Chlothar's third surviving son, became king of Austrasia (king of the Franks at Reims/Metz).						
	<u>Sigebert I</u>	29 November 561	575	Murdered at <u>Vitry-en-Artois</u> , aged 40.	• Third son of Chlothar I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) at Metz
Childebert II, Sigebert's son, inherited Austrasia from his father and Burgundy from his uncle. He was succeeded in Austrasia by his eldest son Theudebert II and in Burgundy by his younger son Theuderic II.						
	<u>Childebert II</u>	575	595	Died aged 24.	• Son of Sigebert I • Adopted son of Guntram	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) King of Austrasia and (after 592) Burgundy

Theudebert II, Childebert II's eldest son, reigned as king in Austrasia but he and his son were murdered. His lands passed to his younger brother Theuderic II, who reunited the realms of Austrasia and Burgundy (which had been both held by their father Childebert II).

	<u>Theudebert II</u> (Thibert)	595	612	Murdered, aged 26.	• Older son of Childebert II	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) King of Austrasia
Theuderic II, Childebert II's youngest son, inherited Burgundy from his father and later Austrasia from his older brother Theudebert II. He was succeeded by his son Sigebert II.						
	<u>Theuderic II</u> (Thierry)	595	613	Died, aged 26.	• Younger son of Childebert II	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) King of Burgundy (595-613) and Austrasia (612-613)
	<u>Sigebert II</u>	613	613	Executed, aged 12.	• Son of Theuderic II	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) King of Austrasia and Burgundy

Chilperic, youngest son of Chlothar I, reigned as king of Neustria (Soissons). The deaths of his older brothers and their descendants resulted in his son and successor Chlothar II once again reuniting the Frankish realms.

	<u>Chilperic I</u> (Chilpéric)	29 November 561	584	Died aged 45. Buried at <u>Abbey of Saint-Germain-des-Prés</u> .	• Youngest son of Chlothar I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) at Soissons
	<u>Chlothar II the Great, the Young</u> (Clotaire)	584	18 October 629	Died aged 45. Buried at <u>Abbey of Saint-Germain-des-Prés</u> .	• Son of Chilperic I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) at Soissons King of Neustria (595-639) King of Burgundy (613-629) King of Austrasia (613-623)

Following the reunification of the kingdom, Neustria and Burgundy remained under the direct rule of the King of the Franks, while Austrasia was soon put under the rule of a junior king. The following list restricts itself to the kings ruling in Neustria and Burgundy.


	<u>Dagobert I</u>	18 October 629	19 January 639	Died aged 36. Buried at Basilica of <u>St Denis</u> .	• Son of Chlothar II	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)
	<u>Clovis II the Lazy</u>	c. 634	31 October 657	Died aged 23. Buried at Basilica of <u>St Denis</u> .	• Son of Dagobert I	King of Neustria and Burgundy (Roi de Neustrie et de Bourgogne)
	<u>Chlothar III</u> (Clotaire)	31 October 657	673	Died aged 24. Buried at Basilica of <u>St Denis</u> .	• Son of Clovis II	King of Neustria and Burgundy (Roi de Neustrie et de Bourgogne) King of Austrasia (661– 662)
	<u>Childeric II</u> (Childéric)	673	675	Died aged 22. Buried at <u>Abbey of Saint- Germain- des-Prés</u> .	• Son of Clovis II • Younger brother of Chlothar III	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)
	<u>Theuderic III</u> (Thierry)	675	691	Died aged 37.	• Son of Clovis II • Younger brother of Childeric II	King of Neustria (Roi de Neustrie) King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) (687– 691)
	<u>Clovis IV</u>	691	694	Died aged 17.	• Son of Theuderic III	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)

	<u>Chilperic III</u> the Just	694	23 April 711	Died aged 33. Buried at Church of St Stephen at Choisy-au-Bac, near Compiègne.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Theuderic III • Younger brother of Clovis IV 	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)
	<u>Dagobert III</u>	23 April 711	715	Died aged 17.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Chilperic III 	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)
	<u>Chilperic II</u> (Chilpéric II)	715	13 February 721	Died aged 49. Buried at Noyon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Probably son of Childeric II 	King of Neustria and Burgundy (Roi de Neustrie et de Bourgogne) King of the Franks (Roi des Francs) (719–721)
	<u>Theuderic IV</u>	721	737	Died aged 23.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Dagobert III 	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)
<p>The last Merovingian kings, known as the lazy kings (rois fainéants), did not hold any real political power, while the Mayor of the Palace governed instead. When Theuderic IV died in 737, Mayor of the Palace <u>Charles Martel</u> left the throne vacant and continued to rule until his own death in 741. His sons <u>Pepin</u> and <u>Carloman</u> briefly restored the Merovingian dynasty by raising Childeric III to the throne in 743. In 751, Pepin deposed Childeric and became King in his place.</p>						
	<u>Childeric III</u> (Childéric)	743	November 751	Died aged 37.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Chilperic II or of Theuderic IV. 	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)

Carolingian dynasty (751–888)

The Carolingian dynasty was a Frankish noble family with origins in the Arnulfing and Pippinid clans of the 7th century AD. The family consolidated its power in the 8th century, eventually making the offices of mayor of the palace and dux et princeps Francorum hereditary and becoming the real powers behind the Merovingian kings.


In 751, a Carolingian, Pepin the Younger, dethroned the Merovingians and with the consent of the Papacy and the aristocracy, was crowned King of the Franks.^[9]

Portrait	Name	King from	King until	Death	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
	<u>Pepin the Short</u>	751	24 September 768		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of <u>Charles Martel and Rotrude of Hesbaye</u>, a maternal granddaughter of Theuderic III 	<u>King of the Franks</u>
	<u>Carloman I</u>	24 September 768	4 December 771		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Pepin 	<u>King of the Franks</u>
	<u>Charlemagne</u> Charlemagne	24 September 768	28 January 814		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Pepin 	<u>King of the Franks</u> <u>Emperor of the Romans</u> from 800
	<u>Louis I the Pious</u>	28 January 814	20 June 840		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Charlemagne 	<u>King of the Franks</u> <u>Emperor of the Romans</u>
	<u>Charles I the Bald</u>	20 June 840	6 October 877		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Louis I 	<u>King of the Franks</u> <u>Emperor of the Romans</u> (875–77)
	<u>Louis II the Stammerer</u>	6 October 877	10 April 879		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Charles II 	<u>King of the Franks</u>
	<u>Louis III</u>	10 April 879	5 August 882		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Louis II 	<u>King of the Franks</u>

	<u>Carloman II</u>	5 August 882	6 December 884		• Son of Louis II	<u>King of the Franks</u>
	<u>Charles II the Fat</u>	20 May 885	13 January 888		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of <u>Louis the German</u> • Cousin of Louis II and Carloman II • Grandson of Louis I 	<u>King of the Franks</u> <u>Emperor of the Romans (881–88)</u>


Robertian dynasty (888–898)

The Robertians were Frankish noblemen owing fealty to the Carolingians, and ancestors of the subsequent Capetian dynasty. Odo, Count of Paris, was chosen by the western Franks to be their king following the removal of emperor Charles the Fat. He was crowned at Compiègne in February 888 by Walter, Archbishop of Sens.^[10]


Portrait	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
	<u>Odo of Paris</u> (Eudes)	29 February 888	1 January 898	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of <u>Robert the Strong (Robertians)</u> • Elected king against young Charles III. 	<u>King of the Franks</u> (Roi des Francs)

Carolingian dynasty (898–922)

Charles, the posthumous son of Louis II, was crowned by a faction opposed to the Robertian Odo at Reims Cathedral, though he only became the effectual monarch with the death of Odo in 898.^[11]


Portrait	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
	<u>Charles III the Simple</u>	28 January 898	30 June 922	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posthumous son of Louis II • Younger half-brother of Louis III and Carloman II 	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)

Robertian dynasty (922–923)




Portrait	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
	<u>Robert I</u>	30 June 922	15 June 923	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Robert the Strong (Robertians) • Younger brother of Odo 	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)

Bosonid dynasty (923–936)

The Bosonids were a noble family descended from Boso the Elder, their member, Rudolph (Raoul), was elected "King of the Franks" in 923.

Portrait	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
	<u>Rudolph</u> (Raoul)	13 July 923	14 January 936	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of <u>Richard, Duke of Burgundy</u> (Bosonids) • Son-in-law of Robert I 	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)

Carolingian dynasty (936–987)

Portrait	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
	<u>Louis IV</u> of Outremer	19 June 936	10 September 954	• Son of Charles III the Simple	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)
	<u>Lothair</u>	12 November 954	2 March 986	• Son of Louis IV	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)
	<u>Louis V</u>	8 June 986	22 May 987	• Son of Lothair	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)

Capetian dynasty (987–1792)

After the death of Louis V, the son of Hugh the Great and grandson of Robert I, Hugh Capet, was elected by the nobility as king of France. The Capetian Dynasty, the male-line descendants of Hugh Capet, ruled France continuously from 987 to 1792 and again from 1814 to 1848. They were direct descendants of the Robertian kings. The cadet branches of the dynasty which ruled after 1328, however, are generally given the specific branch names of *Valois* and *Bourbon*.

Not listed below are Hugh Magnus, eldest son of Robert II, and Philip of France, eldest son of Louis VI; both were co-kings with their fathers (in accordance with the early Capetian practice whereby kings would crown their heirs in their own lifetimes and share power with the co-king), but predeceased them. Because neither








Hugh nor Philip were sole or senior king in their own lifetimes, they are not traditionally listed as Kings of France, and are not given ordinals.











Henry VI of England, son of Catherine of Valois, became titular King of France upon his grandfather Charles VI's death in accordance with the Treaty of Troyes of 1420; however this was disputed and he is not always regarded as a legitimate king of France. English claims to the French throne actually date from 1328, when Edward III claimed the throne after the death of Charles IV. Other than Henry VI, none had ever had their claim backed by treaty, and his title became contested after 1429, when Charles VII was crowned. Henry himself was crowned by a different faction in 1431, though at the age of 10, he had yet to come of age. The final phase of the Hundred Years War was fought between these competing factions, resulting in a Valois victory at the Battle of Castillon in 1453, putting an end to any meaningful claims of the English monarchs over the throne of France, though English (and later British) monarchs would continue to use the title "King of France" until 1801.









From 21 January 1793 to 8 June 1795, Louis XVI's son Louis-Charles was the titular King of France as Louis XVII; in reality, however, he was imprisoned in the Temple throughout this duration, and power was held by the leaders of the Republic. Upon Louis XVII's death, his uncle (Louis XVI's brother) Louis-Stanislas claimed the throne, as Louis XVIII, but only became *de facto* King of France in 1814.

House of Capet (987–1328)

The main line of descent from Hugh Capet is known as the House of Capet. That line became extinct in 1328, creating a succession crisis known as the Hundred Years War. While there were numerous claimants to succeed, the two best claimants were the House of Valois and the House of Plantagenet and then later the House of Lancaster.









Portrait	Coat of arms	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
		<u>Hugh Capet</u>	3 July 987	24 October 996	• Grandson of Robert I	King of the Franks (Roi des Francs)
		<u>Robert II the Pious, the Wise</u>	24 October 996	20 July 1031	• Son of Hugh Capet	
		<u>Henry I</u> (Henri)	20 July 1031	4 August 1060	• Son of Robert II	
		<u>Philip I the Amorous</u> (Philippe)	4 August 1060	29 July 1108	• Son of Henry I	
		<u>Louis VI the Fat</u>	29 July 1108	1 August 1137	• Son of Philip I	
		<u>Louis VII the Young</u>	1 August 1137	18 September 1180	• Son of Louis VI	

		<u>Philip II Augustus</u> (Philippe Auguste)	18 September 1180	14 July 1223	• Son of Louis VII	King of the Franks (Roi des Franks) King of France (Roi de France)
		<u>Louis VIII the Lion</u>	14 July 1223	8 November 1226	• Son of Philip II Augustus	King of France (Roi de France)
		<u>Louis IX the Saint</u> (Saint Louis)	8 November 1226	25 August 1270	• Son of Louis VIII	
		<u>Philip III the Bold</u> (Philippe)	25 August 1270	5 October 1285	• Son of Louis IX	
		<u>Philip IV the Fair, the Iron King</u> (Philippe)	5 October 1285	29 November 1314	• Son of Philip III	King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre)

		<u>Louis X the Quarreller</u>	29 November 1314	5 June 1316	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Philip IV
		<u>John I the Posthumous (Jean)</u>	15 November 1316	20 November 1316	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Louis X
		<u>Philip V the Tall (Philippe)</u>	20 November 1316	3 January 1322	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Philip IV • Younger brother of Louis X
		<u>Charles IV the Fair</u>	3 January 1322	1 February 1328	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Philip IV • Younger brother of Louis X and Philip V



House of Valois (1328–1589)

The death of Charles IV started the Hundred Years' War between the House of Valois and the House of Plantagenet later the House of Lancaster over control of the French throne.^[12] The Valois claimed the right to the succession by male-only primogeniture, having the closest all-male line of descent from a recent French king. They were descended from the third son of Philip III, Charles, Count of Valois. The Plantagenets based their claim on being closer to a more recent French King, Edward III of England being a grandson of Philip IV through his mother, Isabella. The two houses fought the Hundred Years War to enforce their claims; the Valois were ultimately successful, and French historiography counts their leaders as rightful kings. One Plantagenet, Henry VI of England, did enjoy *de jure* control of the French throne under the terms of the Treaty of Troyes, which formed the basis for continued English claims to the throne of France until the 19th century. The Valois line would rule France until the line became extinct in 1589, in the backdrop of the French Wars of Religion. As Navarre did not have a tradition of male-only primogeniture, the Navarrese monarchy became distinct from the French, with Joan II, a daughter of Louis X, inheriting there.





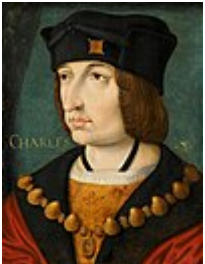

Portrait	Coat of arms	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
		<u>Philip VI the Fortunate</u> (Philippe)	1 April 1328	22 August 1350	• Grandson of <u>Philip III of France</u>	King of France (Roi de France)
		<u>John II the Good</u> (Jean)	22 August 1350	8 April 1364	• Son of Philip VI	King of France (Roi de France)
		<u>Charles V the Wise</u>	8 April 1364	16 September 1380	• Son of John II	King of France (Roi de France)
		<u>Charles VI the Beloved, the Mad</u>	16 September 1380	21 October 1422	• Son of Charles V	King of France (Roi de France)

House of Lancaster (1422–1453) (disputed)

Portrait	Coat of arms	Name	King	King	Claim	Title
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			from	until		
		<u>Henry VI of England</u> (Henri VI d'Angleterre)	21 October 1422	19 October 1453	By right of his father <u>Henry V of England</u> , who by the <u>Treaty of Troyes</u> became heir and regent of France. Grandson of Charles VI of France.	King of France (Roi de France)

House of Valois (1328–1589)











Portrait	Coat of arms	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with predecessor	Title
		<u>Charles VII the Victorious</u> , the Well-Served	21 October 1422	22 July 1461	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Charles VI • Uncle of Henry VI of England 	King of France. (Roi de France)
		<u>Louis XI the Prudent</u> , the Cunning, the Universal Spider	22 July 1461	30 August 1483	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Charles VII 	King of France (Roi de France)
		<u>Charles VIII the Affable</u>	30 August 1483	7 April 1498	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Louis XI 	King of France (Roi de France)



		<u>Louis XII</u> <i>Father of the People</i>	7 April 1498	1 January 1515	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great-grandson of Charles V • Second cousin, and by first marriage son-in-law of Louis XI • By second marriage husband of <u>Anne of Brittany</u>, widow of Charles VIII 	King of France (Roi de France)
		<u>Francis I</u> the Father and Restorer of Letters (François)	1 January 1515	31 March 1547	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great-great-grandson of Charles V • First cousin once removed, and by first marriage son-in-law of Louis XII 	King of France (Roi de France)
		<u>Henry II</u> (Henri)	31 March 1547	10 July 1559	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Francis I/Maternal grandson of Louis XII 	King of France (Roi de France)
		<u>Francis II</u> (François)	10 July 1559	5 December 1560	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Henry II 	King of France (Roi de France) King of Scots (1558–1560)
		<u>Charles IX</u>	5 December 1560	30 May 1574	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Henry II 	King of France (Roi de France)

		<u>Henry III</u> (Henri)	30 May 1574	2 August 1589	• Son of Henry II	King of France (Roi de France) King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania (1573– 1575)
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House of Bourbon (1589–1792)



The Valois line looked strong on the death of Henry II, who left four male heirs. His first son, Francis II, died in his minority. His second son, Charles IX, had no legitimate sons to inherit. Following the premature death of his fourth son Hercule François, and the assassination of his third son, the childless Henry III, France was plunged into a succession crisis over which distant cousin of the king would inherit the throne. The best claimant, King Henry III of Navarre, was a Protestant, and thus unacceptable to much of the French nobility. Ultimately, after winning numerous battles in defence of his claim, Henry converted to Catholicism and was crowned king, founding the House of Bourbon. This marked the second time the thrones of Navarre and France were united under one monarch; as different inheritance laws had caused them to become separated during the events of the Hundred Years Wars. The House of Bourbon would be overthrown during the French Revolution, replaced by a short-lived republic.

Portrait	Coat of arms	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
		<u>Henry IV the Green</u> <u>Gallant</u> <u>Good King</u> <u>Henry</u> (Henri)	2 August 1589	14 May 1610	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenth generation descendant of Louis IX in the male line By first marriage son in law of Henry II, Brother in law of Francis II, Charles IX and Henry III 	King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre)
		<u>Louis XIII the Just</u>	14 May 1610	14 May 1643	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Son of Henry IV 	King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre)
		<u>Louis XIV the Great the Sun King</u>	14 May 1643	1 September 1715	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Son of Louis XIII 	King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre)
		<u>Louis XV the Beloved</u>	1 September 1715	10 May 1774	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great-grandson of Louis XIV 	King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre)
		<u>Louis XVI the Restorer of French Liberty</u>	10 May 1774	21 September 1792	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grandson of Louis XV 	King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre) (1774–1791) King of the French (Roi des Français)

						(1791–1792)
		<u>Louis XVII</u> (Claimant)	21 January 1793	8 June 1795	• Son of Louis XVI	(Disputed) King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre)

House of Bonaparte, First Empire (1804–1814)

The French First Republic lasted from 1792 to 1804, after which its popular First Consul, Napoléon Bonaparte, decided to make France a monarchy again. He took the popular title Emperor of the French instead of King of France and Navarre or King of the French to avoid all titles of the Kingdom of France making France's second popular monarchy.



Portrait	Coat of arms	Name	Emperor from	Emperor until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
		<u>Napoleon I</u> (Napoléon)	18 May 1804	11 April 1814	Founder of the Bonaparte dynasty	Emperor of the French (Empereur des Français)

Capetian Dynasty (1814–1815)





Following the first defeat of Napoleon and his exile to Elba, the Bourbon monarchy was restored, with Louis XVI's younger brother Louis Stanislas being crowned as Louis XVIII. Louis XVI's son had been considered by monarchists as Louis XVII but he was never crowned and never ruled in his own right before his own death; he is not usually counted among French monarchs, creating a gap in numbering on most traditional lists of French kings. Napoleon would briefly regain control of the country during his Hundred Days rule in 1815. After his

final defeat at the Battle of Waterloo, Napoleon attempted to abdicate in favour of his son, but the Bourbon Monarchy was re-established yet again, and would continue to rule France until the July Revolution of 1830 replaced it with a cadet branch, the House of Orleans.

House of Bourbon, Bourbon Restoration (1814–1815)

Portrait	Coat of arms	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
		<u>Louis XVIII the Desired</u>	11 April 1814	20 March 1815	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grandson of Louis XV • Younger Brother of Louis XVI 	King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre)









House of Bonaparte, First Empire (Hundred Days, 1815)

Portrait	Coat of arms	Name	Emperor from	Emperor until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
		<u>Napoleon I</u> (Napoléon)	20 March 1815	22 June 1815	Founder of the Bonaparte dynasty	Emperor of the French (Empereur des Français)
		<u>Napoleon II the Eaglet</u> (Napoléon) ^[n 2]	22 June 1815	7 July 1815	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Napoleon I 	<i>(Disputed)</i> Emperor of the French (Empereur des Français)

Capetian dynasty (1815–1848)

House of Bourbon (1815–1830)



Portrait	Coat of arms	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with	Title
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					predecessor(s)	
		<u>Louis XVIII</u> <u>the Desired</u>	7 July 1815	16 September 1824	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grandson of Louis XV • Younger Brother of Louis XVI 	King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre)
		<u>Charles X</u>	16 September 1824	2 August 1830	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grandson of Louis XV • Younger Brother of Louis XVI and Louis XVIII 	King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre)
		<u>Louis XIX</u> <u>Antoine</u>	2 August 1830	2 August 1830 (20 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Charles X 	(Disputed) King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre)
		<u>Henry V</u> (Henri)	2 August 1830	9 August 1830 (7 days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grandson of Charles X • Nephew of Louis Antoine 	(Disputed) King of France and of Navarre (Roi de France et de Navarre)

The Bourbon Restoration came to an end with the July Revolution of 1830, which deposed Charles X and replaced him with Louis-Philippe I, a distant cousin with more liberal politics. Charles X's son Louis signed a document renouncing his own right to the throne only after a 20-minute argument with his father; because he was never crowned he is disputed as a genuine king of France.^[13] Louis's nephew Henry was likewise considered by some to be Henry V, but the new regime did not recognise his claim and he never ruled.

House of Orléans, July Monarchy (1830–1848)

Under Louis-Philippe, the popular monarchy of France changed the styles and forms of the *ancien régime*, replacing them with more populist forms like replacing "King of France" with "King of the French").



Portrait	Coat of arms	Name	King from	King until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
		<u>Louis-Philippe I the Citizen King</u>	9 August 1830	24 February 1848	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixth generation descendant of Louis XIII in the male line • Fifth cousin of Louis XVI, Louis XVIII and Charles X 	King of the French (Roi des Français)

Over the years Louis-Philippe grew more Conservative. When a revolution broke out he fled to Great Britain leaving his grandson Prince Philippe, Count of Paris as King of the French. Two days later the Second French Republic was declared. He was never crowned making him disputed as a genuine monarch.

House of Bonaparte, Second Empire (1852–1870)

The French Second Republic lasted from 1848 to 1852, when its president, Louis-Napoléon Bonaparte, was declared Emperor of the French. He took the regnal name of Napoleon III, after his uncle (Napoleon I) and his cousin (Napoleon II, who was declared but uncrowned as heir to the Imperial throne).

Napoleon III would later be overthrown during the events of the Franco-Prussian War. He was the last monarch to rule France; thereafter, the country was ruled by a succession of republican governments (see French Third Republic).

Portrait	Coat of arms	Name	Emperor from	Emperor until	Relationship with predecessor(s)	Title
		<u>Napoleon III</u> (Napoléon)	2 December 1852	4 September 1870	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nephew of Napoleon I 	Emperor of the French (Empereur des Français)

Later pretenders

Various pretenders descended from the preceding monarchs have claimed to be the legitimate monarch of France, rejecting the claims of the President of France, and of each other. These groups are:

- Legitimist claimants to the throne of France: descendants of the Bourbons, rejecting all heads of state 1792–1814, 1815, and since 1830. Unionists recognized the Orléanist claimant after 1883.

- Legitimist-Anjou claimants to the throne of France: descendants of Louis XIV, claiming precedence over the House of Orléans by virtue of primogeniture
- Orléanist claimants to the throne of France: descendants of Louis-Phillippe, himself descended from a junior line of the Bourbon dynasty, rejecting all heads of state since 1848.
- Bonapartist claimants to the throne of France: descendants of Napoleon I and his brothers, rejecting all heads of state 1815–48, and since 1870.
- English claimants to the throne of France: Kings of England and later, of Great Britain (renounced by Hanoverian King George III upon union with Ireland in 1800).
- Jacobite claimants to the throne of France: senior heirs-general of King Edward III of England and thus his claim to the French throne, also claiming England, Scotland, and Ireland.

See also

- Kings of France family tree (detailed)
- French monarchs family tree (simple)
- Style of the French sovereign
- British claims to the French throne
- List of French consorts
- List of heirs to the French throne

Notes

1. '*Louis XII, 1499 [...] LVDOVIVS XII FRANCORUM REX MEDILANI DUX [...] Francis I, 1515 [...] FRANCISCUS REX FRANCORUM PRIMUS DOMINATOR ELVETIORUM [...] Henri II, 1550? [...] HENRICVS II FRANCORVM REX*' ^[4]
2. From 22 June to 7 July 1815, Bonapartists considered Napoleon II as the legitimate heir to the throne, his father having abdicated in his favor. However, throughout this period he resided in Austria, with his mother. Louis XVIII was reinstalled as king on 7 July.

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