

British Army Regimental Succession of Titles: Infantry



In times of war and peace, the British Army has undergone significant changes.

The following defence reviews have impacted the make-up of British Army regiments:

- 1881 Childers Reforms
- 1920s reduction in Government spending following the Great War. The establishment of the Irish Free State saw the Irish regiments disbanded.
- 1957 Defence White Paper (implemented by 1962)
- 1966 Defence White Paper (implemented by 1970)
- 1990 'Options for Change' (implemented by 1994)
- 2003 'Delivering Security in a Changing World' (implemented by 2007)
- 2021 'Defence in a Competitive Age' (implemented by 2025)

Regiments are shown in order of precedence (by today's regiments)

Regiment of Foot	1881	1921/22	1957	1966	1990	2003	2025
				Grenadier Guards GREN GDS			
				Coldstream Guards COLDM GDS			
				Scots Guards SG			
	<i>formed 1900</i>				Irish Guards IG		
	<i>formed 1915</i>				Welsh Guards WLSH GDS		
<i>formed 1918</i>	Guards Machine Gun Regiment GMGR		<i>disbanded 1920</i>				

1st (The Royal Scots)	The Royal Scots (Royal Regiment) RS			The Royal Regiment of Scotland SCOTS
25th (King's Own Borderers)	The King's Own Borderers , <i>then The King's Own Scottish Borderers from 1887</i> KOSB			
21st (Royal North British Fusiliers)	The Royal Scots Fusiliers RSF		Royal Highland Fusiliers <i>(Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regiment)</i> RHF	
71st (Highland, Light Infantry)	The Highland Light Infantry HLI	Highland Light Infantry (City of Glasgow Regiment) HLI		
74th (Highlanders)				
42nd (Royal Highland, The Black Watch)	The Black Watch <i>(Royal Highland Regiment)</i> BW			
73rd (Perthshire)				
72nd (Duke of Albany's Own Highlanders)	The Seaforth Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs) , <i>then the Seaforth Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs, The Duke of Albany's)</i> SEAFORTH	The Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons) QO HLDRS	The Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons) HLDRS	
78th (Highlanders, Ross-shire Buffs)				
79th (Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders)	The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders CAMERONS			
75th (Stirlingshire)	The Gordon Highlanders GORDONS			
92nd (Gordon Highlanders)				
91st (Princess Louise's Argyllshire Highlanders)	Princess Louise's (Sutherland and Argyll Highlanders) , <i>then Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders)</i> A&SH			
93rd (Sutherland Highlanders)				
26th (Cameronian)	The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) CAMERONIANS			<i>disbanded 1968</i>
90th (Perthshire Volunteers)				

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Regiment of Foot	1881	1921/22	1957	1966	1990	2003	2025
2nd (Queen's Royal)	The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment),		The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment QRSR	The Queen's Regiment QUEENS			
31st (Huntingdonshire)	The East Surrey Regiment						
70th (Surrey)	SURREYS						
3rd (East Kent, The Buffs)	The Buffs (East Kent Regiment), <i>then The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) from 1935</i>		The Queen's Own Buffs, The Royal Kent Regiment QOB(RWK)				
	BUFFS						
50th (Queen's Own)	The Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment)						
97th (Earl of Ulster's)	RWK						
35th (Royal Sussex)	The Royal Sussex Regiment						
107th (Bengal Infantry)	R.SUSSEX						
57th (West Middlesex)	The Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment)		The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) MX				
77th (East Middlesex, Duke of Cambridge's Own)	MX						
37th (North Hampshire)	The Hampshire Regiment, <i>then</i> The Royal Hampshire Regiment						
67th (South Hampshire)	R.HAMPS						

4th (King's Own Royal)	The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) KING'S OWN	The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster) KING'S OWN	The King's Own Royal Border Regiment KING'S OWN		The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (King's Lancashire and Border) LANCS
34th (Cumberland)	The Border Regiment BORDER		The King's Regiment (Liverpool and Manchester) KING'S (L&M)		
55th (Westmoreland)					
8th (The King's)	The King's (Liverpool Regiment) KINGS				
63rd (West Suffolk)	The Manchester Regiment MANCH				
96th	The East Lancashire Regiment E.LAN R				
30th (Cambridgeshire)	The Prince of Wales's Volunteers (South Lancashire Regiment) <i>then</i> The South Lancashire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Volunteers) <i>from 1938</i> S.LAN R		The Lancashire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Volunteers) LANCS	The Queen's Lancashire Regiment QLR	
59th (2nd Nottinghamshire)					
40th (2nd Somerset)					
82nd (Prince of Wales's Volunteers)					
47th (Lancashire)	The Loyal North Lincolnshire Regiment LOYALS		The Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire) LOYALS		
81st (Loyal Lincoln Volunteers)					

5th (Northumberland Fusiliers)	The Northumberland Fusiliers, then The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers from 1935 RNF	The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers RNF	The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers FUSILIERS
6th (Royal First Warwickshire)	The Royal Warwickshire Regiment R.WARWICK	The Royal Warwickshire Regiment then The Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers from 1963 RWF	
7th (Royal Fusiliers)	The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) RF		
20th (East Devonshire)	The Lancashire Fusiliers LF		

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9th (East Norfolk)	The Norfolk Regiment then The Royal Norfolk Regiment from 1935 R.NORFOLK		1st East Anglian Regiment (Royal Norfolk and Suffolk) 1st EAR (RN&S)	The Royal Anglian Regiment R ANGLIAN							
12th (East Suffolk)	The Suffolk Regiment SUFFOLK										
10th (North Lincoln)	The Lincolnshire Regiment then The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment from 1946 R.LINCOLNS		2nd East Anglian Regiment (Duchess of Gloucestershire's Own Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire) 2nd EAR								
48th (Northamptonshire)	The Northamptonshire Regiment NORTHAMPTON										
58th (Rutlandshire)											
16th (Bedfordshire)	The Bedfordshire Regiment BEDS	The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment BEDS & HERTS	3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) 3rd EAR								
44th (East Essex)	The Essex Regiment ESSEX										
56th (West Essex)											
17th (Leicestershire)	The Leicestershire Regiment R.LEICESTERS		The Royal Leicestershire Regiment RLR								

14th (Buckinghamshire, Prince of Wales's Own)	The Prince of Wales's Own (West Yorkshire Regiment) W.YORKS		Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire POWRY	The Yorkshire Regiment (14th/15th, 19th and 33rd/76th Foot) then The Royal Yorkshire Regiment (14th/15th, 19th and 33rd/76th Foot) from 2023 YORKS
15th (York, East Riding)	The East Yorkshire Regiment then The East Yorkshire Regiment (The Duke of York's Own) from 1935 E.YORKS			
19th (1st York, North Riding, Princess of Wales's Own)	The Princess of Wales's Own (Yorkshire Regiment) then Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own (Yorkshire Regiment) from 1902 R YORKS	Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment) G HOWARDS		
33rd (Duke of Wellington's)	The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) W RID R	The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) DWR	The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) DWR	
76th				
65th (2nd Yorkshire, North Riding)	The York and Lancaster Regiment Y&L			<i>disbanded 1987</i>
84th (York and Lancaster)				

22nd (Cheshire)	The Cheshire Regiment CHESHIRE			The Mercian Regiment MERCIAN
29th (Worcestershire)	The Worcestershire Regiment WORCS R			
36th (Herefordshire)				
45th (Nottinghamshire, Sherwood Foresters)	The Sherwood Foresters (Derbyshire Regiment) then The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) from 1902 SF	The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) FORESTERS	The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment WFR	
95th (Derbyshire)				
38th (1st Staffordshire)	The Staffordshire Regiment STAFFORDS			
80th (Staffordshire Volunteers)				
64th (2nd Staffordshire)	The Prince of Wales's (North Staffordshire Regiment) NORTH STAFFS	The North Staffordshire (Prince of Wales's) NORTH STAFFS	The Staffordshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's) STAFFORDS	
98th (Prince of Wales's)				

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23rd (Royal Welsh Fusiliers)	The Royal Welsh Fusiliers RWF	The Royal Welch Fusiliers RWF				The Royal Welsh R WELSH	
24th (2nd Warwickshire)	The South Wales Borderers SWB			Royal Regiment of Wales (24th/41st Foot) RRW			
41st (The Welsh)	The Welsh Regiment Welsh R.	The Welch Regiment WELCH					
69th (South Lincolnshire)							

27th (Inniskilling)	The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers R.INNISKIS		The Royal Irish Rangers (27th Inniskilling, 83rd and 87th) R IRISH	The Royal Irish Regiment R IRISH
108th (Madras Infantry)				
83rd (County of Dublin)	The Royal Irish Rifles RIRif	The Royal Ulster Rifles RUR		
86th (Royal County Down)				
87th (Royal Irish Fusiliers)	The Royal Irish Fusiliers (Princess Victoria's) RIF			
89th (Princess Victoria's)			The Ulster Defence Regiment UDR	
18th (Royal Irish)	Royal Irish Regiment RIR	<i>disbanded 1922</i>		
88th (Connaught Rangers)	Connaught Rangers CR	<i>disbanded 1922</i>		
94th				
100th (Prince Regent's County of Dublin Regiment)	<i>disbanded 1818</i>			
100th (Prince of Wales's Royal Canadian)	Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians) PWLR	<i>disbanded 1922</i>		
109th (Bombay Infantry)				
101st (Duke of York's Irish)	<i>disbanded 1817</i>			
101st (Royal Bengal Fusiliers)	Royal Munster Fusiliers RMF	<i>disbanded 1922</i>		
104th (Bengal Fusiliers)				
102nd (Royal Madras Fusiliers)	Royal Dublin Fusiliers RDF	<i>disbanded 1922</i>		
103rd (Royal Bombay Fusiliers)				
104th (New Brunswick)	<i>disbanded 1817</i>			

formed 1940	The Parachute Regiment PARA
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8th (Sirmoor) Local Battalion <i>then</i> 2nd Gurkha Regiment <i>from</i> 1861	2nd (Prince of Wales's Own) Gurkha Regiment (The Sirmoor Rifles)	2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles) - transferred from the British Indian Army to the British Army in 1947 2 GR		The Royal Gurkha Rifles RGR		
Rungpoor Light Infantry	42nd Regiment of Gurkha Light Infantry	6th Gurkha Rifles from 1903 6 GR	6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles - transferred from the British Indian Army to the British Army in 1947 6 GR			
formed 1902		7th Gurkha Rifles 7 GR	7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles - transferred from the British Indian Army to the British Army in 1947 7 GR			
formed 1890		Four titles between 1890 and 1901, from 10th Regiment (1st Burma Battalion) of Madras Infantry to 10th Gurkha Rifles 10 GR	10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles - transferred from the British Indian Army to the British Army in 1947 10 GR			

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11th (North Devon)	Devonshire Regiment DEVON		Devonshire and Dorset Regiment D&D							
39th (Dorsetshire)	Dorsetshire Regiment									
54th (West Norfolk)	DORSET									
28th (North Gloucestershire)	The Gloucestershire Regiment GLOSTERS				The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire, and Wiltshire Regiment RGBW					
61st (South Gloucestershire)	Princess Charlotte of Wales's (Berkshire Regiment) R.Berks.R			The Royal Berkshire Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales's) R.BERKS						
49th (Hertfordshire, Princess Charlotte of Wales's)										
66th (Berkshire)										
62nd (Wiltshire)	The Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment) Wilts.R.		The Wiltshire Regiment (Duke of Edinburgh's) WILTS		The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire) DERR					
99th (Duke of Edinburgh's)										
43rd (Monmouthshire Light Infantry)	The Oxfordshire Light Infantry, then The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry from 1908 OX & BUCKS		1st Green Jackets (43rd and 52nd) 1 RGJ			The Royal Green Jackets RGJ				
52nd (Oxfordshire, Light Infantry)										
60th (King's Royal Rifle Corps)	The King's Royal Rifle Corps KRRC		2nd Green Jackets, The King's Royal Rifle Corps 2 RGJ							
Rifle Brigade (The Prince Consort's Own)	The Prince Consort's Own (Rifle Brigade) RB		3rd Green Jackets, The Rifle Brigade 3 RGJ		The Rifles RIFLES					
13th (1st Somersetshire)	Prince Albert's (Somerset Light Infantry) SLI		Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry SOM LI					1st Bn, Light Infantry 1 LI		
32nd (Cornwall Light Infantry)	Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry DCLI									
46th (South Devonshire)										
51st (2nd Yorkshire, West Riding, King's Own Light Infantry)	The King's Own Light Infantry (South Yorkshire Regiment) then The King's Own (Yorkshire Light Infantry) from 1897 KOYLI	King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry KOYLI						2nd Bn, Light Infantry 2 LI		
105th (Madras Light Infantry)										
53rd (Shropshire)	King's Light Infantry (Shropshire Regiment) KSLI	King's Shropshire Light Infantry KSLI						3rd Bn, Light Infantry 3 LI		
85th (Bucks Volunteers, King's Light Infantry)										
68th (Durham, Light Infantry)	Durham Light Infantry DLI			4th Bn, Light Infantry 4 LI				<i>disbanded 1969</i>		
106th (Bombay Light Infantry)										

formed 2021

Ranger Regiment
RANGER