

THE COURSE OF THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR

1642	In August 1642, Charles set up his standard at Nottingham. Both sides are busy recruiting but neither side contains many trained soldiers. Royalists had the better cavalry who were led by Prince Rupert of the Rhine. October 1642, the Battle of Edgehill was indecisive. Earl of Essex leaves London open by marching North, but Charles fails to seize the initiative and capture London when he had the chance.
1643	Royalists plan to attack London on all three sides from the West, North and Midlands, but plan comes to nothing. The Royalists besieged Gloucester. Earl of Essex led the London apprentices to relieve it. On the way back they met with a Royalist army at the First battle of Newbury.- a draw. An alliance made between Scots and Parliament called the Solemn League and Covenant . Scots promised to lend an army of 20,000 under command of Leslie and if the Royalists were defeated, Parliament would enforce the Presbyterian religion in England. At the same time, Charles realised that he needed outside help and secured the help of 3,000 Irish Catholics.
1644	York besieged by Scots and Roundheads under Cromwell and Fairfax. Rupert sent to the rescue of York. In July, the battle of Marston Moor takes place. The largest battle of the war in which Rupert was out thought and out fought by Cromwell. Royalists lost control of the North of England. The defeats elsewhere of old Parliamentarian Generals led to the Earls of Essex and Manchester being sacked. Cromwell and Fairfax took over. The New Model Army was created. The first professional English Army.
1645	June - Battle of Naseby . Royalists smashed by New Model Army. King's baggage train and papers captured. Although the war carried on for a little while, this was the decisive battle. After the defeat at Naseby, Charles marches North to join up with Montrose in Scotland. However, Montrose was routed at Philiphaugh by Leslie and this saw Royalist hopes ended.
1646	Charles surrenders to the Scots at <u>Newark</u> , hoping to do a deal. After months of negotiations he refused Parliament's terms which were to accept Presbyterianism and give up control of the Militia. Charles continues to try and play one enemy off against another.
1647	Charles handed over to Parliament for £200,000. There were growing arguments between Parliament and the Army. Parliament was pro Presbyterian whereas the Army was for religious toleration. Charles was kidnapped by the Army and more negotiations took place. The army set down some very generous terms, called the Heads of the Proposals . Charles refused any terms as he thought he was indispensable.
1648	The Army managed Charles' escape to the Isle of Wight. Recaptured. Stirs up Scots to invade England as Parliament had broken their promises made in Solemn League and Covenant. This led to the Second Civil War with Scots siding with Royalists. Cromwell easily defeated Scots at Preston . Royalist risings crushed by Fairfax. Cromwell, now becoming increasingly impatient with Charles I. In Dec 1648, the Army takes over Parliament in Pride's Purge . 96 MP's expelled and 120 left. The " <u>Rump</u> " of the Long Parliament appointed a High Court to try King for treason.
1649	January - The trial of Charles I.

	GENERALS	
ROYALIST		PARLIAMENT
Prince Rupert Duke of Newcastle Sir Ralph Hopton Lord George Goring Earl of Montrose (Scots)		Earl of Essex Earl of Manchester Sir William Waller Sir Thomas Fairfax Oliver Cromwell Alexander Leslie (Scots)