# Buckingham Palace

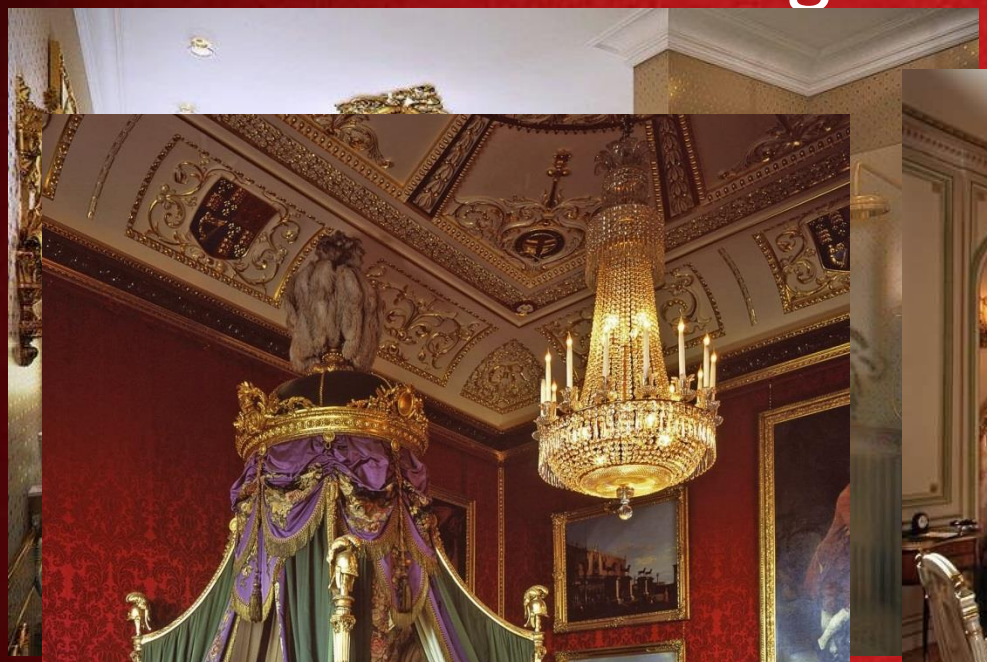


Queen Victoria was the first monarch to rule from Buckingham Palace in 1837. King Edward VII (7th) used it during his rule from 1901 – 1910. King George V (5th) and King George the VII (6th) also used it. Queen Elizabeth II now lives there.





# There are 775 rooms and 78 bathrooms in Buckingham Palace!







Over 800 people work at Buckingham Palace! They include cooks, maids, musicians, astronomers, medical staff, military people, secretarial staff and even a “Warden of the Swans” and a “Gentleman of the Horse.”

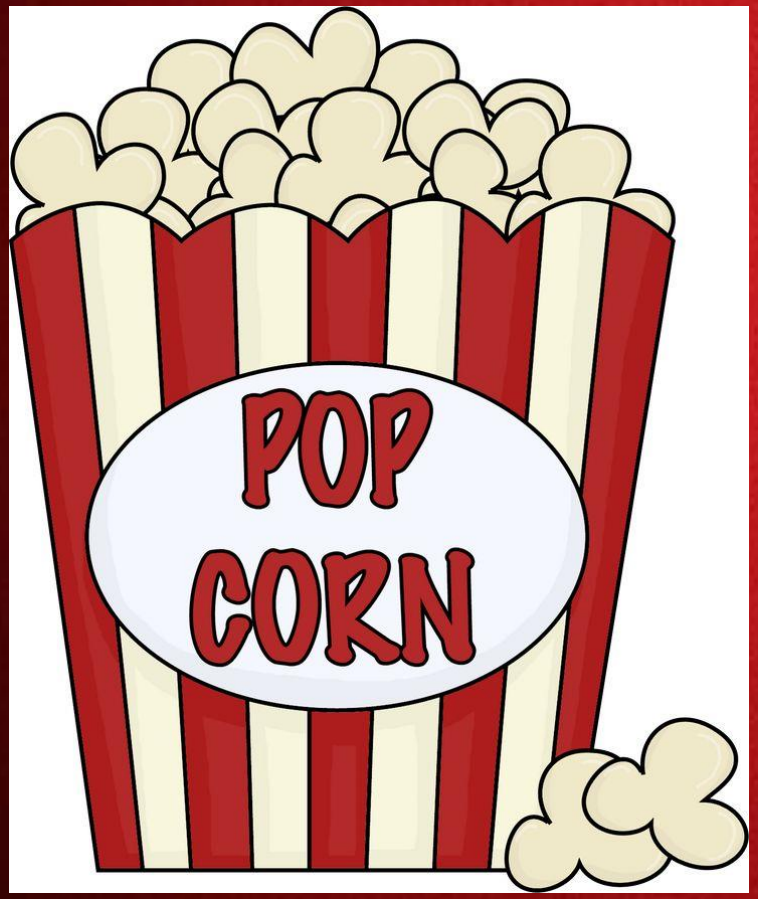


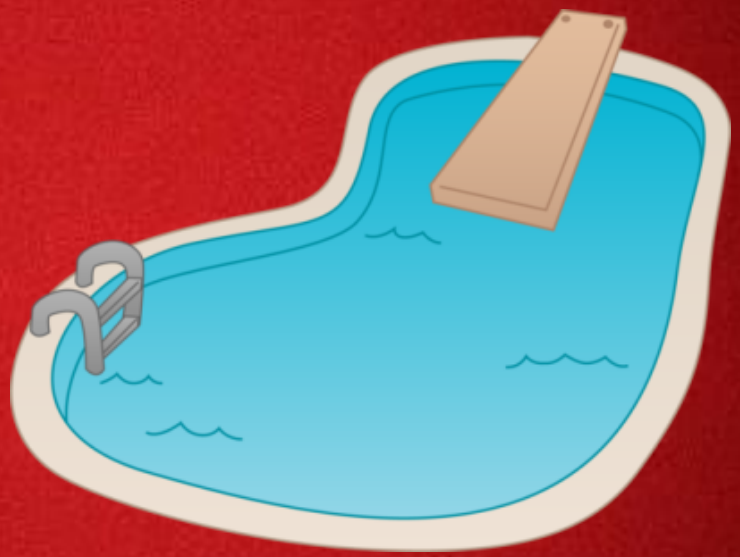






Buckingham Palace has it’s own pool, cinema, tennis court, cafeteria and chapel.



There are 350 mechanical clocks which a team of Horologists (clock experts) wind up and care for.



You can go inside some of the rooms at Buckingham Palace but only in August and September.





The balcony of Buckingham Palace is one of the most famous balconies in the world. The members of the Royal Family appear on the balcony on special occasions to great the people.



When the Queen is in the residence, you can see the Royal Standard flag above the palace . When she is away, the Union Jack flies instead.



There are always crowds of people waiting patiently outside Buckingham Palace. They come to see the ceremony of Changing the Guard.

Being a Queen's guard is not an easy job. You can't scratch your nose, you can't cough or sneeze.

This ceremony hasn't changed since 1660, believe it or not!



