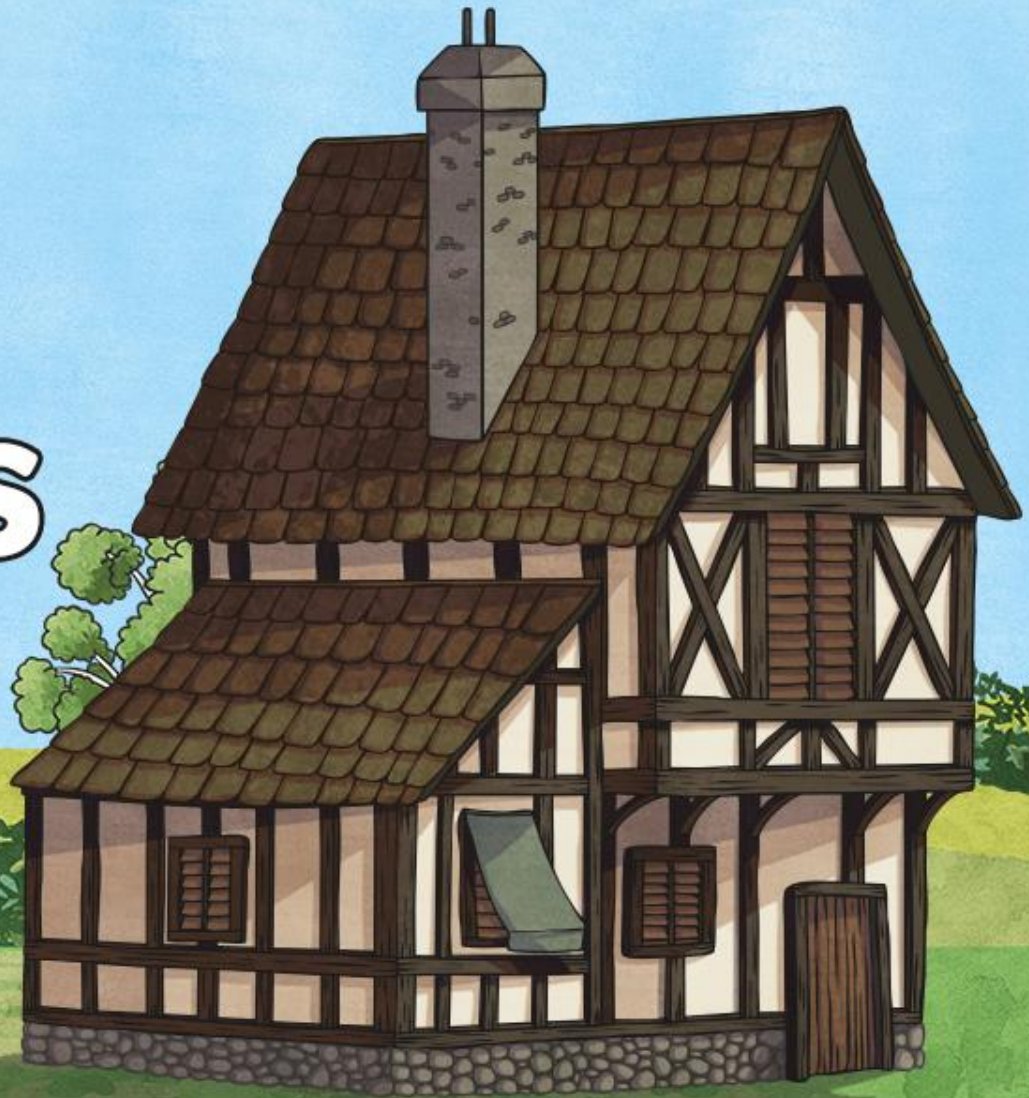


# Tudor Houses



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# The Tudor Dynasty

The Tudor era began in 1485 when Henry Tudor defeated Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth Field and ended in 1603 when Elizabeth I died.

The Tudor era was a time of great wealth and extravagance. Affluent people demonstrated how rich they were by the houses they owned.





# Wattle and Daub

Ordinary Tudor houses were built from wooden beams which formed the 'skeleton' of the building. Small wooden sticks and twigs were woven together – called wattle – and a mixture of clay, sand and animal dung daubed all over the wattle – called daub – was then attached to the frame.



The daub was then painted in limewash to look white, and the wooden beams were left exposed.

# Brick Walls

The wealthy could afford houses made from bricks. These homeowners made sure everyone knew they had money. Houses were built in a symmetrical formation.





# Beams

The beams were uneven because they were cut by hand and not machines.

The beams were evident from the outside.



# Making Space

Buying land to build a property was expensive, especially in London. Tudor builders had the ingenious idea of building the first floor, and sometimes the second floor, wider than the ground floor.

This created an overhang, which was called a gallery or jetty.



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# A Tudor Roof

Most Tudor houses had a thatched roof made from straw and water weed.



Many Tudor houses had tiled roofs made from clay or stone tiles.

# Tall Chimneys

Only wealthy Tudors could afford to have chimneys. These were ornate, tall and thin structures using moulded or cut brick.

The poor had a hole cut into the roof to allow smoke to escape.



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# Glass Windows

The best way to show off how wealthy you were in Tudor times, was to have as many windows as possible. They were expensive, as each pane had to be made by hand, and were very tiny. These are called casement windows.

Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire was built in the 1590s. The owner, Bess of Hardwick, was so wealthy that local people came up with the following saying: "Hardwick Hall, more glass than wall."



## Did you know...?

Poor people had windows made from horn or even paper!



# Furnishings

Furniture was wooden, often made from oak but sometimes elm.

It would have been very heavy. People tended to sit on benches and stools rather than chairs. The furniture would have been made for practical reasons rather than comfort.

Only wealthy Tudors could afford carpets, however, these were often hung on the walls.

Instead, the floor would be covered in rushes and reeds. The rushes would be replaced when it became smelly!





