

RICHARD 3

Reigned 1483–1485; play opens in 1471 (death of H6); closes in 1485 (Battle of Bosworth).

Dramatis Personae:

Elizabeth, Queen of King Edward the Fourth
Margaret, widow of King Henry the Sixth
Duchess of York
Lady Anne
Margaret Plantagenet

King Edward the Fourth
Edward, Prince of Wales, afterwards King Edward the Fifth
Richard, Duke of York
George, Duke of Clarence
Richard, Duke of Gloucester, afterwards King Richard the Third
A Young Son of Clarence
Henry, Earl of Richmond, afterwards King Henry the Seventh
Cardinal Bouchier
Thomas Rotherham, Archbishop of York
John Morton
Duke of Buckingham
Duke of Norfolk
Earl of Surrey
Earl Rivers
Marquess of Dorset
Lord Grey
Earl of Oxford
Lord Hastings
Lord Stanley, Earl of Derby
Lord Lovel
Sir Thomas Vaughan
Sir Richard Ratcliff
Sir William Catesby
Sir James Tyrell
Sir James Blunt
Sir Walther Herbert
Sir Robert Brakenbury
Christopher Urswick, a priest
Another Priest
Tressel and Berkeley
Lord Mayor of London
Sheriff of Wiltshire

Lords and other Attendants
A Pursuivant, Scrivener, Citizens
Murderers, Messengers, Soldiers
Ghosts of Richard III's victims

RICHARD 3

Reigned 1483–1485; play opens in 1471 (death of H6); closes in 1485 (Battle of Bosworth).

Name and title	Birth date	Death date	Age in play	Age at death
Queen Margaret of Anjou (married. Henry VI in 1455) Widow of HVI. Their son Edward died one day before his father's execution. She personally coordinated the Lancastrian armies, often leading them herself. Was hated in England; considered the best asset the Yorkists had. She killed Richard of York at Tewksbury.	1430	1482	41/--	52
Cecily Neville, Duchess of York Mother of Edward IV, Richard III, George Duke of Clarence, Edmund of Rutland (dead). Pious and refined widow to the previous Richard Duke of York (not in this play).	1415	1495	56/70	80
King Edward IV Brother of George and Richard, father of the two young princes Edward and Richard, and husband to Elizabeth. He is close to his deathbed as the play begins.	1442	1483	29/--	41
Queen Elizabeth Woodville Grey Daughter of Earl Rivers, brother to Anthony Rivers. Her daughter Elizabeth, who will be married to Henry VII, is 16 at the time of the play.	1431	1492	40/54	61
Edward, Prince of Wales; after King Edward V Oldest son of EdIV. He is one of the "princes in the Tower," although as soon as his father dies he is technically king.	Nov 1479	Sep 1483	1/--	12
Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York Younger son of EdIV. Betrothed at age 4 to Anne Mowbray, aged 3 (she was daughter of John Mowbray, 4th Duke of Norfolk); they married when both were 6 years old. He is the younger of the "princes in the Tower."	Aug 1473	Sep 1483	--/died	9
Richard, Duke of Gloucester; afterwards Richard III Brother to EdIV and Clarence. His standard was the boar's head. He really wasn't this bad guy.	Oct 1452	Aug 1485 Battle of Bosworth	19/33	33
George, Duke of Clarence Older brother to RIII. Married Warwick's oldest daughter, Isabella. Charged with seeking the death of the King by necromancy. Secretly murdered in the Tower on orders of RIII (rumor of drowning in a butt of malmsey; a butt is two hogsheads, or 126-gallon cask).	Oct 1449	1478	22/--	28
Margaret Plantagenet, Countess of Salisbury (in her own right). She is the "Girl" in the play. Married Sir Richard Pole. She was the last of the Plantagenets, 2nd daughter of George Duke of Clarence. Eventually became the sole heiress of her grandpa, Earl of Warwick, the Kingmaker. Her son Reginald, Cardinal Pole, offended Henry VIII with his book. Henry VIII executed her other sons Henry and Geoffrey (one was Lord Montacute). She was later executed at the Tower; they had to chase her around the platform to get her head off. [Thomson, p. 76]	1473	1541	2/12	68
Edward Plantagenet, Earl of Warwick ("Boy") A young son of George, Duke of Clarence, bro of Margaret. Confined all of his life because of his claim to the throne.	1475	1499 executed on false charges	--/10	24
Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond; after Henry VII Lancastrian; slays Richard III at Bosworth. Son of Margaret Beaufort and Edmund Tudor, Earl of Richmond. Becomes the first Tudor king. 28 at Battle of Bosworth. Stanley/Derby is his stepfather.	1457 at Pembroke Castle	1509	14/28	52

RICHARD 3

Reigned 1483–1485; play opens in 1471 (death of H6); closes in 1485 (Battle of Bosworth).

Name and title	Birth date	Death date	Age in play	Age at death
Lady Anne Neville Youngest daughter of Richard Neville, Kingmaker, Earl of Warwick. Her first husband Edward, Prince of Wales (son of Henry VI and Margaret), was killed at the Battle of Tewksbury, 19 years old. Their marriage was never consummated, his mother's wish, so it could be annulled if necessary.	1456	1485	15/28	28
Cardinal Thomas Bourchier 56th Archbishop of Canterbury. 3rd son of William Bourchier, Earl of Ewe, and Anne Plantagenet, daughter of Thomas of Woodstock.				
Thomas Scott Rotherham, Archbishop of York	1423	1500	48/62	77
John Morton, Lord of Ely Bishop of Ely in 1479.			60+	
Henry Stafford, 2nd Duke of Buckingham Reared by Edward IV to be a firm Yorkist, although his father and grandfather were Lancastrians. Married to Catherine Woodville in 1466. Grandpa: Humphrey, 1st Duke of Buckingham; died 1460 (2HVI). Dad: Humphrey, Earl of Stafford; died 1455 in the first Battle of St. Albans.	1455	2 Nov 1483 executed by RIII when 29 years old.	17/29	29
John Howard, Duke of Norfolk The first Howard to bear this title (created by RIII). His grandfather was Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk in RII (his mother was Katherine/Margaret, Mowbray's daughter).	1425?	1485 slain at Bosworth fighting for RIII	46/60	60
Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey (+2nd Duke of Norfolk) Only son of John Howard, Duke of Norfolk (above). This person is a combo of two Norfolks and two Surreys; see Thomson, p. 221.	1443	1524	28/39	81
Anthony Woodville, 2nd Earl Rivers Brother to Queen Elizabeth Woodville. RIII cut off his head at Pomfret with no trial, after supposedly framing him. Prolific writer; produced some of the first manuscripts in England. Author of the first book printed on English soil, 1477, a translation from French of the <i>Dictes and Sayings of the Philosophers</i> , printed by Caxton at Westminster.	1442	1483 beheaded by RIII with no trial	29/dead in 1483	41
Sir Thomas Grey, 1st Marquess of Dorset Son to Queen Elizabeth Woodville by her first husband, Lord Richard Grey (mistake for Sir John Grey, 8th Baron Ferrers of Groby). RIII cut off his head. He was GGfather of Lady Jane Grey by his wife Cecily Bonville.	1451	1501 beheaded by RIII	20/34	50
John de Vere, 13th Earl of Oxford His father, the 12th Earl of Oxford, the Lancastrian leader of 3Henry VI, was beheaded in 1462, along with his oldest son, Aubrey. This John de Vere of Castle Hedringham, Essex is cousin to the Duke of Norfolk (above). First wife: Margaret Neville, daughter of the Earl of Salisbury. Their only son John died a prisoner in the Tower during his father's exile. Titles went to a nephew.	1442	1513	29/43	71
William Lord Hastings Governor of Calais. Married to Katherine Neville. RIII cut off his head without a trial.	1430	1483 beheaded without a trial	41/--dead in 1483	53

RICHARD 3

Reigned 1483–1485; play opens in 1471 (death of H6); closes in 1485 (Battle of Bosworth).

Name and title	Birth date	Death date	Age in play	Age at death
Sir Thomas Stanley, Earl of Derby First married Eleanor Neville, daughter of Richard Neville, sister to Richard, Earl of Warwick (Kingmaker). Yorkist. Married 2nd, Margaret Beaufort, widowed mother of Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond (Henry VII), thus he is the stepfather of Henry VII, and uncle to Anne. His brother, William Stanley, is in 3HVI with no lines; altho Asimov says just the opposite.	1435	1504	36/50	69
Sir Thomas Vaughan Personal counselor to the boy-King, Edward V		1483 beheaded for loyalty to EdIV		
Francis 12th Lord Lovel Son of Sir John Lovel, 8th Baron Lovel of Tichmarsh. Favorite of RIII. Fled to the continent after Bosworth.	1454	1487 probably killed at the Battle of Stoke	17/31	33
Sir Richard Radcliffe Son of Sir Thomas Radcliffe. He is the "rat" of "The Cat, the Rat, and Lovell our dog, Rule all England under a hog."		1485 slain at Bosworth		
Sir William Catesby He was not really "Sir," just an esquire. Son of Sir William Catesby. Married Margaret Zouche, daughter of William Lord Zouche. He is the "cat."	1440	1485 beheaded three days after Bosworth	31/45	45
Sir James Tyrell (Yorkist) Oldest son of William Tyrell of Gipping, Suffolk. Beheaded in 1502.		1502		
Sir James Blount 3rd son of Sir Walter Blount, 1st Baron Montjoy. GGrandson of Sir Walter Blunt, 1HIV.	1445?	1493 unmarried	26?/40	48?
Sir Walter Herbert Son of William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke (see 3HVI) who was executed by the Lancastrians, but Walter fights for the Yorkists and Richard III.	1440	1507	31/45	67
Sir William Brandon 5.iii.22				
Sir Robert Brakenbury Keeper (Lieutenant) of the Tower and Sheriff; served under Henry Stafford, 2nd Duke of Buckingham				
Sir Christopher Urswick, priest Margaret Beaufort's personal agent and messenger.				
Tressel Any relation to Elizabeth Trussell of Kibblestone?				
Berkeley Not clear which gentleman is meant				
Henry Long of Wrexall, Sheriff of Wiltshire Led forth the Duke of Buckingham to execution.		1490		
Sir Edmund Shaw, Lord Mayor of London				

RICHARD 3

Reigned 1483–1485; play opens in 1471 (death of H6); closes in 1485 (Battle of Bosworth).

Name and title	Birth date	Death date	Age in play	Age at death
Mentioned:				
Lord Richard Grey, 8th Baron Ferrers of Groby (Error for Sir John Grey, first husband of Queen Elizabeth Woodville.) Killed in battle.	1456	1483		
George Stanley Oldest son of Thomas Lord Stanley, later Earl of Derby, and Eleanor Neville.				
The Guildfords Sir John Guildford and his son, Sir Richard Guildford. Richard died in 1506 in Jerusalem while on a pilgrimage. His second wife was Joan Vaux, sister of Sir Nicholas Vaux.				
Sir Edward Courtenay 4.iv.500 Cousin (not brother) of the Bishop of Exeter.		1509		
Bishop of Exeter 4.iv.500 Peter Courtenay, 3rd son of Philip Courtenay of Powderham. "Elder brother" to Sir Edward Courtenay (but he is really a cousin).		1492		
Sir Gilbert Talbot 5.i.13-15 3rd son of John Talbot, 2nd Earl of Shrewsbury, and Elizabeth, daughter of James Butler, 4th Earl of Ormonde.	1452	1517	19/33	65
Sir William Stanley 5.i.13-15 Brother to Thomas. 2nd son of Thomas 1st Baron Stanley. It was his band of 3,000 tall men of Cheshire that turned the tide against RIII.	1435	1495 executed for treason with Perkin Warbeck		
Earl of Pembroke 5.iii.22 "Redoubted Pembroke" 5.i.13-15 is Jasper Tudor, second son of Owen Tudor. Thus he is Richmond's uncle. He married Katherine Woodville, sister of the Queen, daughter of Richard Earl Rivers. She was Buckingham's widow.	1431	1495		
Rhys ap Thomas 5.i.13-15 Native of southwest Wales, Carmarthen. Was only a knight, but treated and thought of as a prince in his home area. Told RIII Richmond would enter Wales over his dead body, so when he switched sides, he allowed Richmond to step over his body.	1449	1525	22/36	76
Lord Northumberland 5.iii.69 "Melancholy Lord Northumberland" Henry Percy, 4th Earl of Northumberland. He is the son of Henry Percy, 3rd Earl.	1446	1489 killed in a riot led by John à Chambre.	25/39	43
Lord Northumberland 1.iii.187 "Northumberland, then present, wept to see it." This is Henry Percy, 3rd Earl of Northumberland, grandson of Hotspur. He was in 3HVI.	1421	March 1461 Slain at the Battle of Towton	39/--	40
Walter Devereux, Lord Ferrers 5.v.13 Also from southwest Wales, Carmarthen. Married Anne, daughter of William 7th Lord Ferrers of Chartley.	1432	1485 at Bosworth	39/53	53