

# Keeping the Crown

As king, Henry VII passed a law banning private armies in England. This meant that rich lords and ladies could no longer have their own armies and so the king was much safer.

Henry forced rich nobles to pay him a lot of money. This had the effect of giving him more money to spend on guards and giving the nobles less money to cause trouble with.

Henry made friends with England's powerful neighbour Spain by marrying his son (Henry VIII) to the Spanish princess Catherine of Aragon.

Henry showed everyone that he was rich and powerful. He wore expensive clothes and threw expensive parties to impress people, and to let them know he was the boss.

Henry married Elizabeth of York, the daughter of his enemy. This marriage meant that the fighting between the two families ended as they were now one.

This was a political marriage, not done out of love but out of a desire to end the War of the Roses.

Henry invested a lot of money in the military. He was especially fond of modern technology and made sure he had the best cannons money could buy.

Henry forced France to give him money to prevent England invading, giving Henry even more money.

