



THE QUEEN'S HAT

The Queen's Guards



The Queen's Guards protect the residencies of the British Queen. If the ruling monarch is a male, the guards are called "King's Guards".

They are operational and military soldiers considered as the "Elite". The Queen's Guards consist of five regiments:

- Coldstream Guards
- Grenadier Guards
- Scots Guards
- Irish Guards
- Welsh Guards

Each of these regiments is commanded by a member of the Royal Family.

They protect Buckingham Palace and St. James Palace but they are also present at the Tower of London.

The number of Guards protecting Buckingham Palace depends on whether the Queen is at Palace or not. If she is, then the palace is guarded by four guards; if not by two.

Each Guard is on duty for two hours. The change of the Guard on duty is made in a ceremonial manner and is known as "Changing of the Guard".

The Queen's Guards wear a particular uniform. It consists of:

- a hat called "The Bearskin" because it is actually made of real Canadian Bearskin. It is black and 45,7 cm tall;
- a scarlet jacket or "tunic" with dark-blue collar and golden buttons. During winter, instead of a scarlet tunic they wear a grey coat;
- dark-blue trousers with red stripes

Read the sentences below and choose the correct answer.

1. The Queen's Guards are **military soldiers**
civilians
2. They protect the **Big Ben**
residencies of the British Queen
3. They consist of **three regiments**
five regiments
4. Each regiment is commanded by **a member of the Royal Family**
the British Parliament
5. If the Queen is at Buckingham Palace the guards are **two**
four
6. Their uniform consists of **a hat, a jacket and a Scottish kilt**
a hat, a tunic and trousers

Watch the video.