

How has Queen Elizabeth modernized the monarchy



Elizabeth II was crowned Queen on June 2, 1953, after the death of King George VI the year before. The ceremony had some traditional elements; for example, it was held at Westminster Abbey, where royal coronations have taken place for the past 900 years. However, the Queen also modernized the coronation by allowing it to be televised for the first time in history. An estimated 27 million people in the UK watched the ceremony, and for most people, it was the first time they had watched a live event on television.

The royal family often meet and shake hands with members of the public before official events, which has come to be known as a "royal walkabout." However, the practice of royals meeting the public didn't start until the Queen's tour of New Zealand and Australia in 1970, Insider previously reported. The monarch decided to greet the crowd on foot, rather than by driving to her next destination.

The royal family website, which was originally named the British Monarchy website, was originally created in 1997 and revamped in 2001. An updated version of the website was unveiled by the Queen in 2009, which included Google Maps integration, the royal diary of engagement, as well as integration with the royal family's YouTube channel, according to a press release from February 2009. Today, the royal family's website is used for sharing press releases, announcements, and biographies for various members of the royal family.

As Insider previously reported, the royal family's official Twitter account was created in 2009 with the handle @BritishMonarchy before being changed to @RoyalFamily. Over the years, it has been a major platform used by the Queen to share important news with the British public. Twitter was also where the family first shared the news of Her Majesty's death on September 8.

adapted from Mikhaila Friel, *businessinsider.com*, October 2022