



UK Government

The way we give honours



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Introduction



Our country gives special awards to people who have done something important.



The awards are called 'honours'.

You can suggest someone to receive an honour if you think they deserve it.

This information explains:



- which people deserve to get an honour

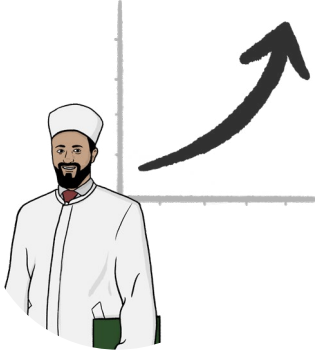


- the different types of honours that people can get



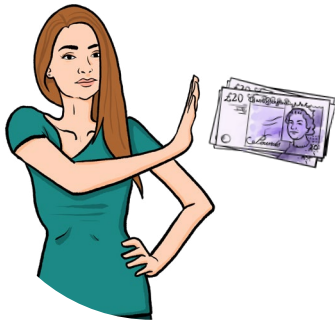
- how we decide which people will get an honour.

Who deserves an honour?



Honours are for people who have:

- made a real difference



- worked hard without asking to be paid



- lots of respect from the people they work with



- changed things for the better for people who need some help



- always done the right thing



- done something that is new and different



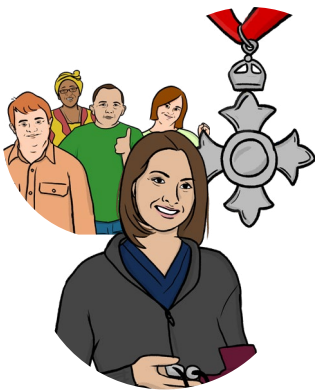
- helped our country.

What honours are there?



British Empire Medal (BEM)

The BEM is given to people who have worked hard in their local community.



Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE)

The MBE is given to people who have worked hard for their community over a long time and made a big difference.



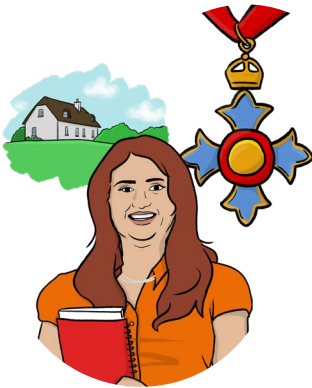
They have shown other people what can be done through their own hard work.



Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)

The OBE is given to people who have done something **special** for their region or country.

Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE)



The CBE is given to people who have done something **important** or a different kind of job or service for the country or a region of the country.

Dame or Knight



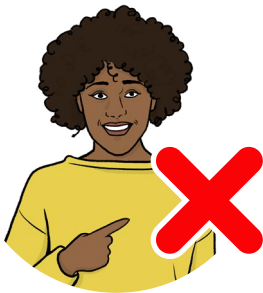
A Dame or Knight is given to someone who has done something **very special** for the country.

Other people agree that they are the very best at what they do.

How do people get an honour?



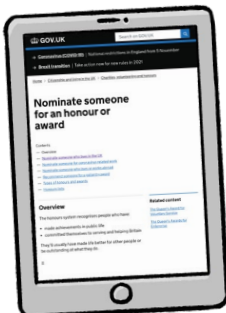
People will only be given an honour if someone has told us about why they are special.



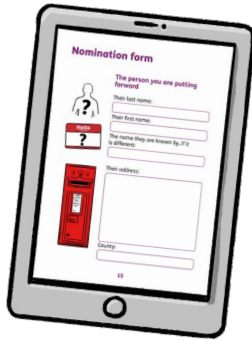
You cannot tell us about yourself.



You should not tell people that you have told us you think they should get an honour.



If you think someone else deserves an honour you can tell us about them by going to: www.gov.uk/honours



You can fill in an online form called a 'nomination form'.



Or we can send you a paper version of the nomination form. You can use the easy read nomination form to nominate someone.



When you put someone forward

You have to explain why what the person has done is special.



You have to tell us about the difference they have made.



With each nomination form you need 2 or more letters from other people to say they agree with your suggestion.

Who decides?



After you have told us about someone, we will check all the information you have given us.



We will ask other people if they agree with what you have said.



We have a group that helps us to decide which people should be given an honour.

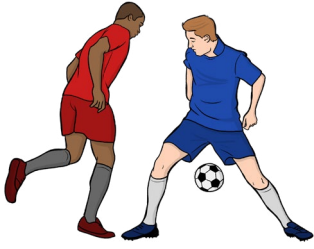


The group is made up of people who are involved in different types of work like:

- community and public services



- arts and culture



● sports



● health



● education



● science



● business



● politics.



When we have chosen which people should get an honour, we send a list to the Prime Minister.

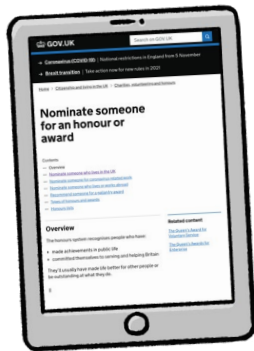


The Prime Minister checks the list and then sends it to Her Majesty the Queen for her agreement.



It can take around 18 months to 2 years from the date you tell us about someone special until you will know if they will get an honour.

More information



If you need more information please go to www.gov.uk/honours



Or contact us by:

Email: honours@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

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