



Born: 17 Mar 1473 Edinburgh, Scotland

Married: Margaret Tudor *Margaret Boyd (Mistress)

Died: 9 Sep 1513 Northumberland, England at the battle of Flodden Field

Parents: James Stewart III, King of Scotland & Margaret Odenburg

James IV was 15 when his father was assassinated. He had been an unwilling participant in the forces that had brought down his father, and was said to have worn an iron belt around his waist in penance.

James was a Renaissance King who spoke several languages including Gaelic, English and French and was keen on arts and learning. Aberdeen University was founded, the printing press came to Scotland and education was made compulsory for barons and wealthy landowners. He spent lavishly on the court and built new halls in Edinburgh and Stirling castles. Edinburgh became main burgh and centre of government and justice.

He successfully settled major feuds between his nobles and between the Highland clans, and ended the hold of the MacDonald who had semi-independently ruled the Western Isles. He supported the Yorkist pretender Perkin Warbeck which provoked a military response from his Henry VII of England. However this was patched up in a truce 'of perpetual peace' in 1502, and his marriage to Margaret Tudor, daughter of Henry VII, in the following year was to ultimately bring the thrones of Scotland and England together.

By 1513 Henry VIII was on the throne of England and fighting in France. Encouraged by Louis XII of France under the 'Auld Alliance' James invaded England but the Scots were massacred by the English forces under the Earl of Surrey at the Battle of Flodden Field in Northumberland on 9 September 1513. James was killed and his body was taken to London where its fate is uncertain.

Timeline for King James IV of Scotland

[Historical Timeline for Scotland 834 – Present](#)

1488	James IV becomes king
1493	Lordship of the Isles abolished. In 1540 the title was reserved to the crown.
1495	Creation of the University of Aberdeen (King's College).
1496	Education Act of 1496 makes education compulsory for barons and wealthy landowners.
1502	Marriage contract between James IV and Margaret Tudor signed by King James
1503	King James IV marries Margaret Tudor, daughter of King Henry VII of England. The marriage was known as the Union of the Thistle and the Rose.
1507	First printing press in Scotland is set up by Andrew Myllar
1513	James IV invades England to support his French allies after the English king, Henry VIII, invades France. James and most of the Scottish nobility and clergy are slaughtered by the English army at the Battle of Flodden Field http://www.britroyals.com/scots.asp?id=james4_scot