A history of hung parliaments

A hung parliament is one in which no party gains an overall majority of seats in the House of Commons. For almost 33 years of the past century Britain has experienced either coalition or minority government rule

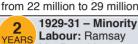
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coalition with Conservatives during World War I

1924-29 - Conservative: Baldwin's government

introduces equal votes for women, increasing electorate from 22 million to 29 million



MacDonald

1931-40 - Coalition: YEARS National Government led by Ramsay MacDonald, Baldwin and

Neville Chamberlain 1945-51 - Labour: Electorate wanting end to wartime austerity elects government

led by Clement Attlee 1964-70 - Labour: Led by Harold Wilson. Only nine MPs are neither Labour or

1970-74 - Conservative: **Edward Heath** is PM

Conservative

1976-79 - Minority YEARS Labour: Prime Minister James Callaghan

forms Lib-Lab pact 1979-97 - Conservative:

Premiership of *Margaret* Thatcher (far right) lasts 11 years, six months and 24 days. Thatcher is followed

by Prime Minister John Major (right) from 1990. Major leads minority government from December 1996





1922-23 - Conservative: Led by Andrew Bonar Law and Stanley Baldwin 1923-24 - Huna

40 parliament: Labour WEEKS Party, led by James Ramsay MacDonald. forms minority government,



supported by Liberals 1940-45 -Coalition: During Second World War Prime Minister

Winston Churchill

leads all-party War Cabinet of 13 Conservative ministers, 8 Labour, and 2 independents

1951-64 - Conservative: Governments led by Churchill, Anthony Eden (1955-). Harold Macmillan (1957-), and Alec Douglas-Home (1963-)

1974 - Huna: Wilson leads minority WEEKS Labour government

1974 -76 - Labour: Wilson has majority of three seats





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1997-2010 - New Labour: Governments led by Tony Blair (far left) and Gordon Brown from June 2007

2010-15 - Hung: Prime Minister David Cameron (left) leads coalition with 16 Conservatives and five

Liberal Democrats in Cabinet MPs neither Labour nor Conservative now at 92

Pictures: Associated Press

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YEARS

