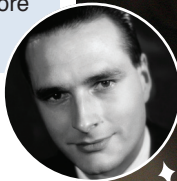


# Jacques Chirac 1932-2019



■ **1932:** Jacques Chirac born in Paris, son of bank manager, later managing director of **Dassault** aircraft company

■ **1956:** Marries **Bernadette Chodron de Courcel**, daughter of prominent diplomat. They have two daughters

■ **1957:** Graduates from **École Nationale d'Administration (ENA)** – training ground for France's top civil servants – before volunteering to fight in Algerian War

■ **1962:** Joins staff of Gaullist Prime Minister **Georges Pompidou**, who dubs him "the bulldozer" because of his drive

■ **1968:** Helps negotiate end to student riots

■ **1974:** Nominated prime minister by President **Valéry Giscard d'Estaing**

■ **1976:** Chirac resigns to form own neo-Gaullist party – **Rally for the Republic (RPR)**

■ **1977:** Chirac elected mayor of Paris – post he holds for 18 years



■ **1986:** Nominated prime minister by President **François Mitterrand**. Stays in office until 1988

■ **1995:** Chirac wins presidential election at third attempt after abandoning earlier support of Thatcherite economic reform. Election ends 14 years of Socialist presidency

■ **Jun 1995:** Announces resumption of French nuclear tests in South Pacific before signing total test ban treaty. Decision provokes international outrage

■ **Jul 1995:** Chirac is first French head of state to recognise role of France's Vichy regime in World War Two Holocaust

■ **1997:** Chirac calls early election to try to win support for conservative economic programme, but loses his majority to Left and is forced to share power with Socialist Prime Minister **Lionel Jospin**

■ **2000:** Chirac implicated in corruption case tied to time as Paris mayor

■ **2002:** Wins second term by crushing far-right leader **Jean-Marie Le Pen** in runoff vote after Le Pen shocks France by defeating Jospin in first round

■ **2003:** Refuses to back U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, winning unprecedented popularity at home – relations with U.S. suffer

■ **May 2005:** Campaigns in favour of European constitution – later rejected by French voters in referendum

■ **Sep 2005:** Chirac suffers minor stroke

■ **Oct-Nov 2005:** Calls state of emergency after rioting sweeps France's suburban ghettos

■ **2007:** Announces he will not stand for third term as president

■ **2011:** Given two-year suspended prison sentence for diverting public funds when mayor of Paris

■ **Sep 26, 2019:** Dies aged 86

