

TUDOR PORTRAITS

**The great Tudor portrait painter
Hans Holbein**

**Work to be brought to school to
make a classroom display.**

Portraits are drawings, paintings or photographs of a person's face and expression. In the Tudor period portraits were very popular amongst the noble families. Having your portrait painted was a sign of nobility and wealth. Monarchs demanded that they were painted in a flattering way, to make themselves look as powerful as possible. If the king or queen was not satisfied with a portrait, the artist could loose their head!

Read the information about Hans Holbein and then follow the three steps to complete your portrait. Don't worry if you don't have paint at home, use whatever materials you have (but try to avoid colouring large areas in felt tip pen as this can look messy).



HANS HOLBEIN

1497-1543



Hans Holbein

- Hans Holbein was born in Germany. Later the family moved to Switzerland. He was the son of a painter and soon developed a reputation as a talented artist.

- Like most artists of this period, he painted mainly religious subjects.
- In 1526, Holbein moved to England.
- He was commissioned to paint a picture of Thomas Moore.



- Thomas Moore was so impressed with Holbein's technique of representing likenesses, he told everybody about this wonderful artist.
- Wealthy people in England commissioned Holbein to paint their portraits.
- Thomas Cromwell, one of Henry VIII's advisors, had his portrait painted.
- Henry VIII saw it and was also impressed.



- Henry asked Hans Holbein to be one of the artists working for the royal family.
- Several paintings were painted of Henry VIII. Other royal artists copied them and they were displayed throughout England or sent to foreign monarchs.





- After the death of Jane Seymour, Henry wanted another wife. He sent Hans Holbein to other countries to paint portraits of suitable candidates.
- Henry's first choice was Christina, Duchess of Milan, Italy. She turned him down! She was worried that she would be beheaded if she did not produce a son.

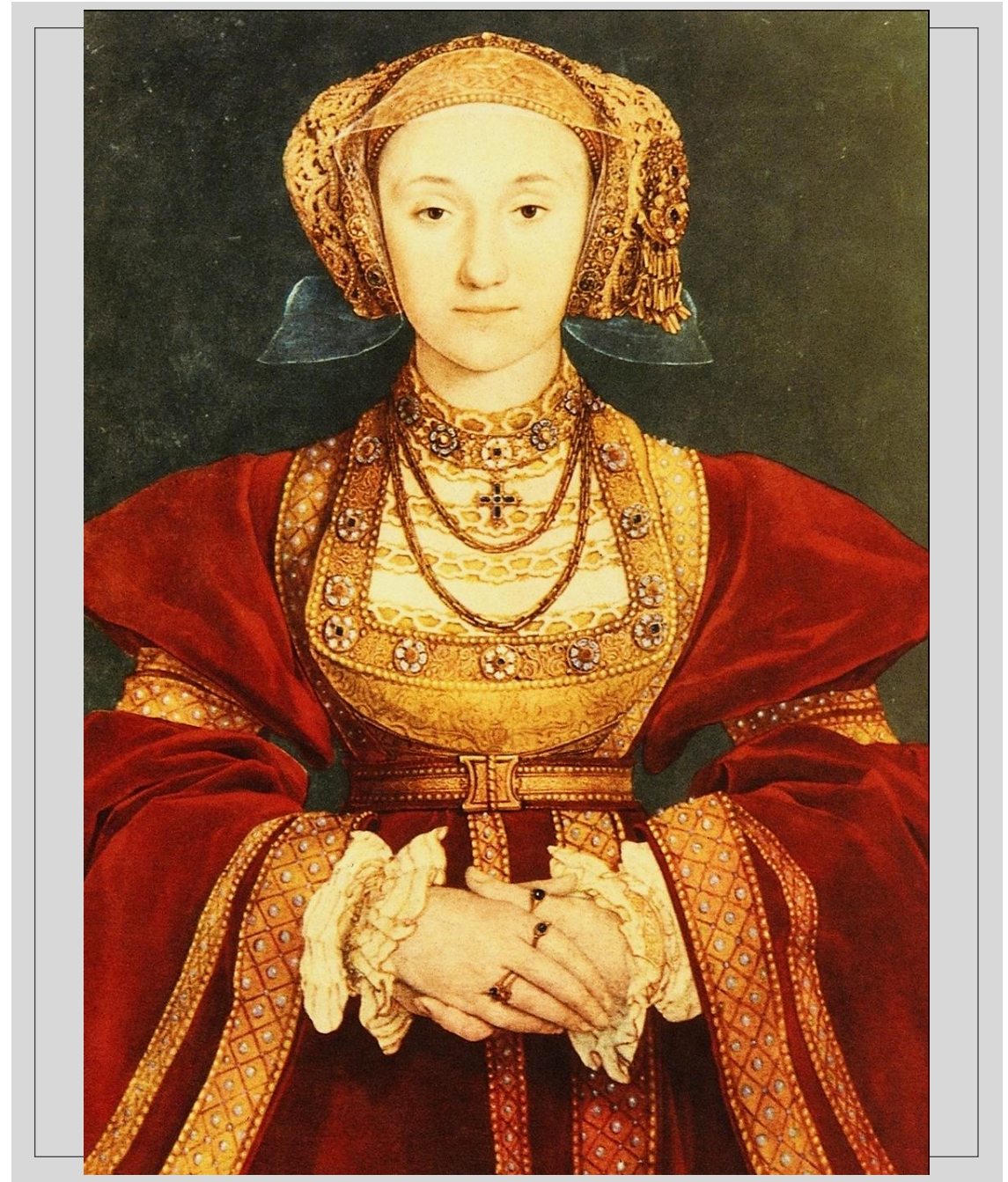
A portrait of Christina, Duchess of Milan, wearing a black cap and a dark dress with a fur collar. The text "CHRISTINA, DUCHESS OF MILAN" is overlaid in white capital letters at the bottom.

CHRISTINA, DUCHESS OF MILAN

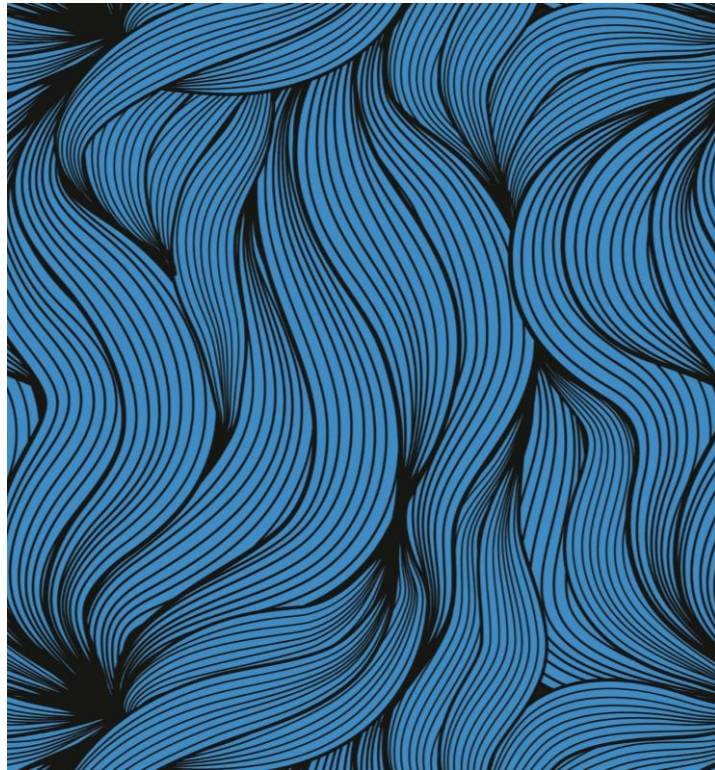
- Hans Holbein introduced Henry VIII to the painting of Ann of Cleves of Germany who became Henry's fourth wife.
- The marriage lasted seven months.



◦ Anne of Cleves



- As well as painting portraits, Hans Holbein designed furniture, banners and jewellery.
- He continued to work for Henry VIII until his death from the plague in 1543. He had spent ten years working in the court of Henry VIII.



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**YOUR TASK ON THE FOLLOWING
SLIDES**

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STEP 1: Draw the face. Watch the video to learn how to sketch a face in proportion.



VIDEO LINK – Also on the mat and the website.

Spend your time on this part. Really try hard to make it as accurate as possible – even if it takes a few attempts!



Jane Seymour, Henry VIII and Edward VI

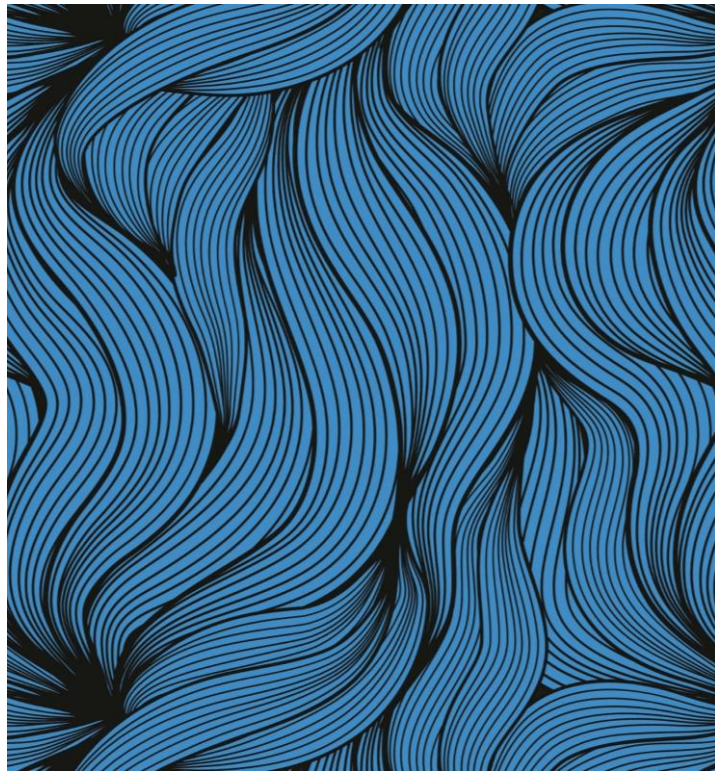


Anne Boleyn, Catherine of Aragon and Henry VII

STEP 2: You can now choose a Tudor monarch and add the detail. Look at the neck and shoulder shape. Add the hair, hat and clothes. Remember, if you have Henry VIII, you may have to make the face a little bigger due to his size!



- **STEP 3: Colour or shade your portraits! What do you notice about the colours that are in the pictures of the Tudor portraits? If you are feeling creative you could even cut up old magazines and newspapers and collage your portrait. If you don't have any colours or magazines- you could use pencil to create light and dark areas. Take a look at the examples.**



TUDOR PORTRAITS

**When we go back to
school, please bring your
portrait work and we will
be able to make a
classroom display for our
new topic 😊**