



The first Victory in Europe Day/VE Day took place on May 8th 1945. The Prime Minister, Winston Churchill made it a public holiday and a day of celebration to mark the defeat of Germany by the Allied forces. VE Day marked the end of the Second World War, an end to six years of suffering, courage and endurance across the world.

Germany surrendered on 7 May 1945. People waited patiently beside their radios to hear the Prime Minister tell them the good news



“Tomorrow, Tuesday, will be treated as Victory in Europe Day and will be regarded as a holiday.”

Even though Japan still had to be defeated, Churchill said that Great Britain,

“May allow ourselves a brief period of rejoicing. God save the King!”

People took to the streets to show how happy they were that the war finally was over. They danced and sang, hung up flags and bunting and held street parties. All the church bells rang for the first time in six years to spread the good news.





London was packed with people celebrating in the streets. They gathered outside Buckingham palace to see the Royal family who made eight appearances on the balcony that day. Each time, the crowds went wild, cheering, waving their flags and singing 'God Save the King'



At 21:00, King George VI made a final radio broadcast to the nation. Buckingham Palace was lit up in floodlights for the first time since the start of the war, and two searchlights formed a V for victory sign above St Paul's Cathedral in London.

Watch this five-minute video clip to learn more about VE Day in 1945



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-ve-day/z7xtmfr>

So What About This Year?

75 years is an important anniversary so there were lots of special events that had been planned for this year. Unfortunately, these have had to be put on hold but that doesn't mean you can't celebrate VE in lockdown. Have a look at some of the ideas on this link.

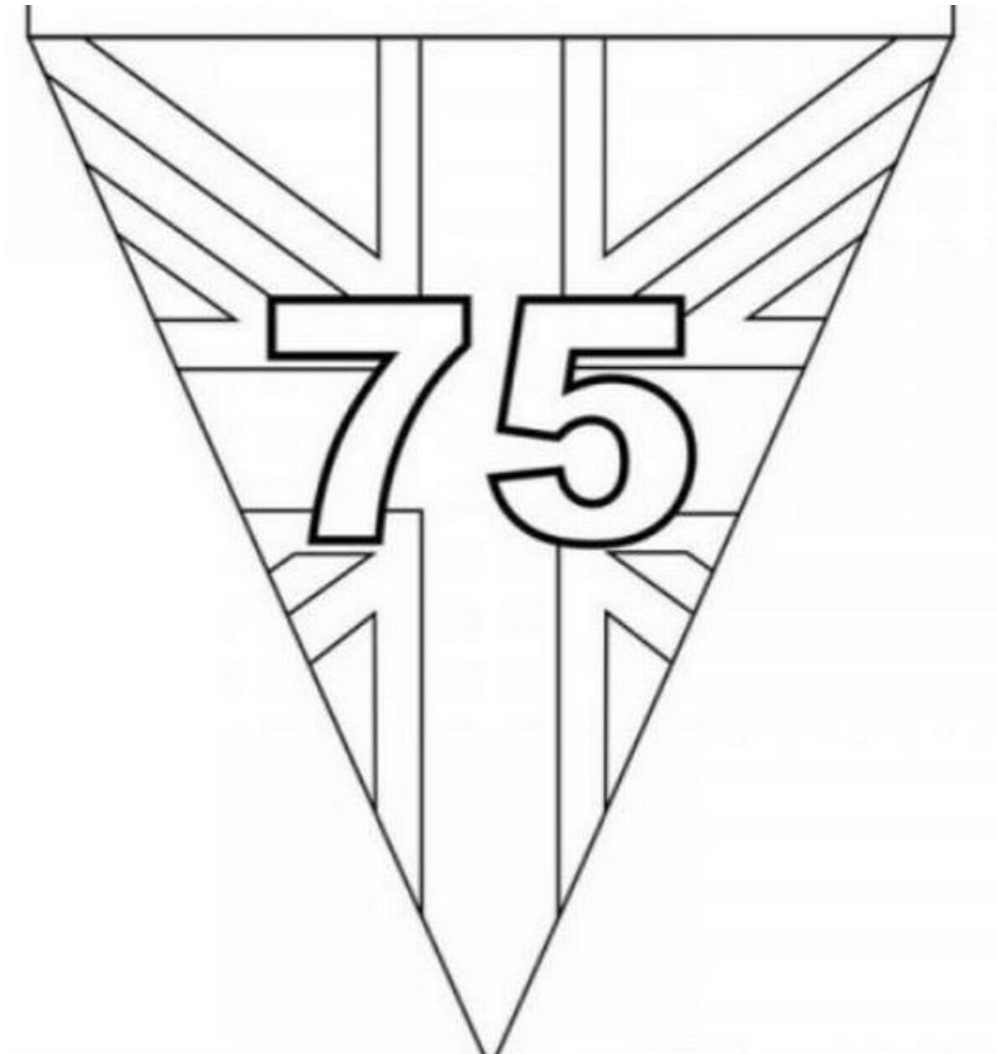
<https://www.goodtoknow.co.uk/family/ve-day-celebrations-in-lockdown-540015>

Some VE Day activities for You to Try At Home

1 Have a go at this word search



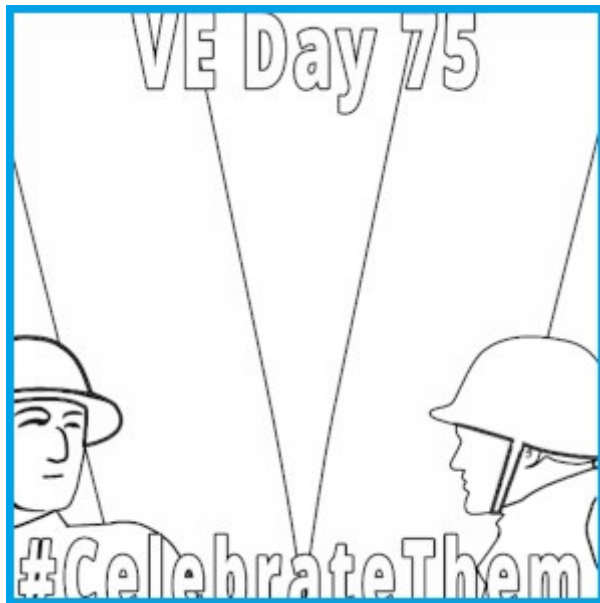
- 2 You could make your own VE Day bunting and use it to decorate your window or garden. Here is a template or you could design your own.



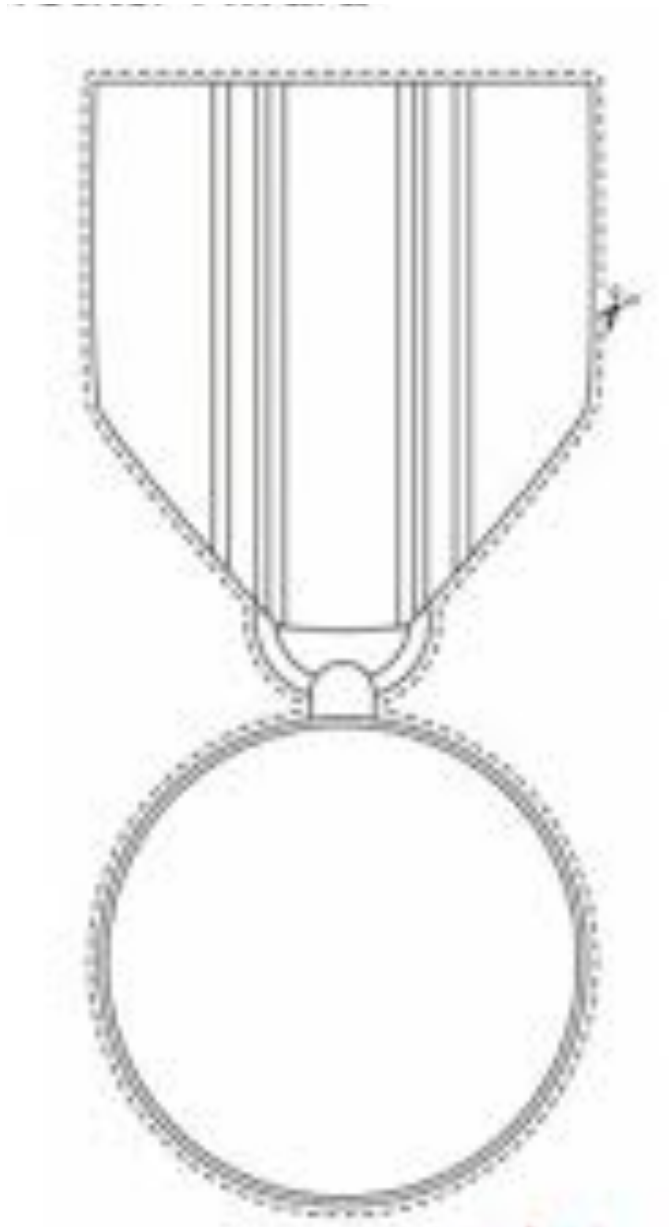
There are loads of free templates to download online and colour in, like this one from [PlanBee](#). Lego bunting is also a thing - with families downloading their own VE Day Lego Heroes bunting via the Colouring Heroes website [here](#).



- 3 You could design your own VE Day poster or colour one of these templates.



- 4 You could design a medal or a coin to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.



- 5 You could have a stay at home picnic with your family



- 6 No party or picnic is complete without some cake and there are loads of great suggestions for making your own VE Day-themed creations. Simple cupcakes with homemade cake toppers will do the job - simply draw your VE Day idea on a small piece of paper, or a sticker, and attach it to a cocktail stick. Voila. BBC Goodfood has loads of VE Day recipes to try out, including the fruity flag tray bake and the classic Victoria sponge.

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/ve-day>

Whatever you decide to do to mark this very special day in our History, please take a photograph and send it in. Go ahead girls, get creative. We look forward to seeing your ideas 😊



Mrs Johnston

Mrs Kelly

Mr McNeill

Miss Murray