



Bell Work

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- ★ Answer questions #1 and #2 at the bottom of the page after studying the visuals
- ★ #1 – It was a place to house the court and to entertain foreign visitors, it made Louis seem almost like a God
- ★ #2 – It shows that French society accepted the idea that the king was far above everyone else and that he deserved whatever luxuries he desired



Louis XIV

L'etat c'est moi"
"I am the state"

(lay-tah say-muah)





Louis XIV

- ★ Became king at age 5 – under guidance of Cardinal Mazarin
- ★ Louis takes power at age 23 – rules for 72 years (longest in European history)
- ★ Known as the “Sun King”
 - Why do you think he was known as this?



Government

- ★ Excluded nobles from his councils
- ★ Increased power of intendants (collected taxes/administered justice)
- ★ Chose top advisors from the middle class
- ★ Repealed the Edict of Nantes
 - Saw Huguenots as a threat
 - Many left France



Economy

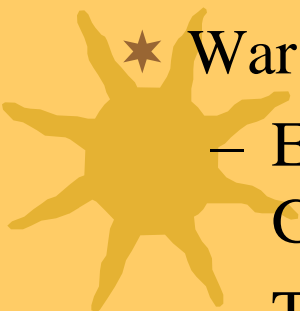
- ★ Increased taxes
- ★ Appointed Jean-Baptiste Colbert as minister of finance
- ★ Goal is to make France self-sufficient
- ★ Give gov't funds/tax benefits to French companies
- ★ High tariffs on imports
- ★ Repeal of Edict Nantes weakens economy



Wars

★ War of Spanish Succession

- England, Dutch Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Italian and German states vs. France and Spain
- Treaty of Utrecht
 - France and Spain not allowed to unite
 - France drained of money





Expansion

- ★ France was most powerful and most populated country
- ★ Invaded Spanish Netherlands and Dutch Netherlands
- ★ Many European nations allied against France





Arts

- ★ Versailles was the center of arts
- ★ Supported the arts
 - Opera and ballet became popular
 - Performed in plays
- ★ Purpose of art was to glorify the king and promote values that supported his absolute rule



Versailles

- ★ Splendid palace – nobles required to live there and wait on him
- ★ Home to 10,000 people
- ★ Louis surrounded himself with luxury
- ★ Rich decorations/furnishings showed the vast wealth and power of Louis



Control of the Nobility at Versailles

- ★ Louis is dressed by the 4 highest nobles.
 - Handing him his slippers
 - Holding his sleeves for him
- ★ 100 people would be surrounding his bed.
- ★ Lesser nobles stood in the hallway hoping to get a glance or a nod from him.
- ★ Palace of Versailles strategy: built in the countryside, it drew nobles away from their homes and made them dependent on the king. This gave more power to the intendants.





Versailles Statistics

- ★ 2000 acres of grounds
- ★ 12 miles of roads
- ★ 27 miles of trellises
- ★ 200,000 trees
- ★ 210,000 flowers planted every year
- ★ 80 miles of rows of trees
- ★ 55 acres surface area of the Grand Canal
- ★ 12 miles of enclosing walls
- ★ 50 fountains and 620 fountain nozzles
- ★ 21 miles of water conduits
- ★ 3600 cubic meters per hour water consumed
- ★ 26 acres of roof
- ★ 51,210 square meters of floors
- ★ 2153 windows
- ★ 700 rooms
- ★ 67 staircases
- ★ 6000 paintings
- ★ 1500 drawings and 15000 engravings
- ★ 2100 sculptures
- ★ 5000 items of furniture and objects d'art
- ★ 150 varieties of apple and peach trees in the Vegetable Garden





VERSAILLES. — Vue à vol d'oiseau sur le Parc, le Palais et la Ville.



















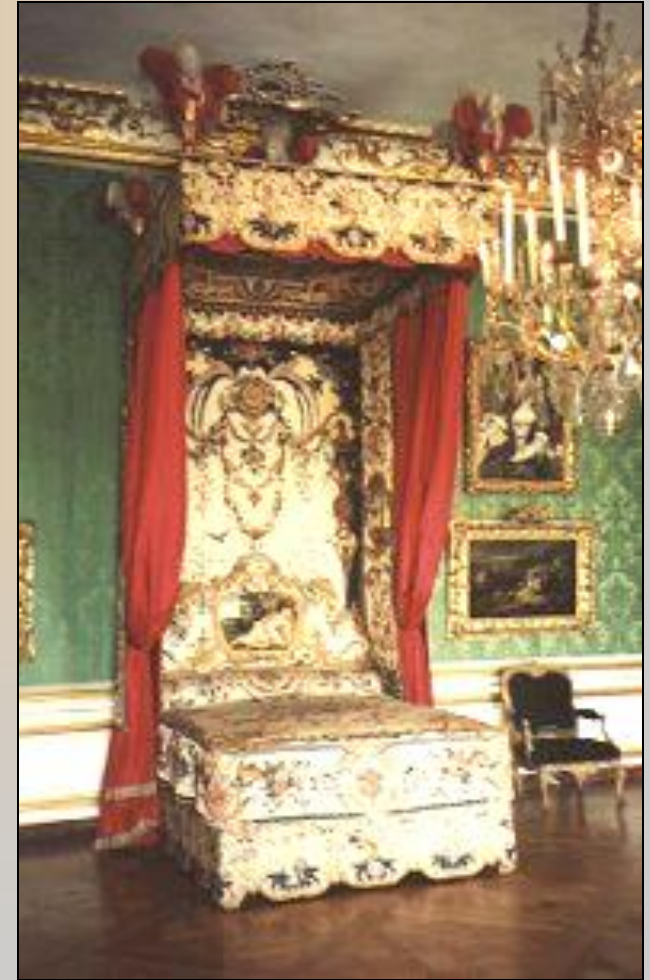






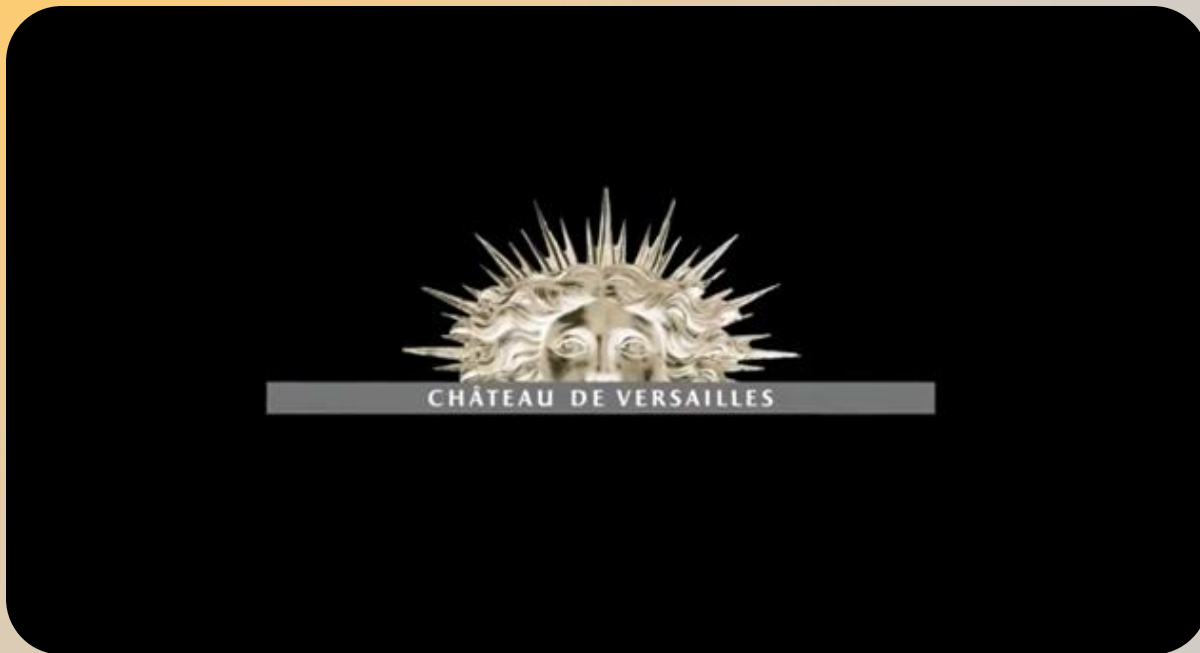
The King's Bed

The Queen's Bed



Louis XIV Furniture







Louis XIV's Legacy

- ★ Mixed legacy
- ★ Most well-known but ruined France
- ★ Promoted culture – palaces, churches, artists, playwrights
- ★ Constant warfare and Versailles forced France into debt
- ★ Conflicts between classes will eventually lead to revolution