

Marriage contract Nr. 125: Hessen-Kassel - Großbritannien

- **Date of contract conclusion:** 1739-07-05
- **Place of contract conclusion:** Westminster

Groom

- **Name:** Friedrich II. von Hessen-Kassel
- **GND:** [130249424](#)
- **Year of Birth:** 1720
- **Year of Death:** 1785
- **Dynasty:** Hessen (Kassel)
- **Confession:** reformiert

Bride

- **Name:** Maria von Großbritannien, Irland und Hannover
- **GND:** [101335740X](#)
- **Year of Birth:** 1723
- **Year of Death:** 1772
- **Dynasty:** Welfen (Hannover)
- **Confession:** anglikanisch

Actors for Groom

- **Name:**
- **GND:** [118632914](#)
- **Dynasty:** Hessen (Kassel)
- **Relationship:** Vater

Actors for Bride

- **Name:**
- **GND:** [118538543](#)
- **Dynasty:** Welfen (Hannover)
- **Relationship:** Vater

Hessen-Kassel

1739-07-05

Contract content

Preamble: Names of the parties involved; purpose of the marriage; marriage for the benefit of the Protestant religion; names of the officials conducting the negotiations

- 1 – Dowry in the amount of 40,000 Reichstalers
- 2 – Waiver of inheritance rights by the bride
- 3 – Hand money in the amount of 2,000 Reichstalers for the bride
- 4 – Life estate of 8,000 Reichstalers; Steinau Castle and office in the County of Hanau as dower; rights to the dower determined; provision of natural produce regulated
- 5 – If the dower is not sufficient to generate the life annuity, compensation will be provided
- 6 – Surpluses from the dower estates will be allocated to the chamber
- 7 – Furnishings and maintenance of the widow's residence regulated
- 8 – Homage paid by subjects regulated
- 9 – Appointment of officials on the widow's estate regulated
- 10 – Subjects are to be left in peace with their freedoms and privileges; determination of rights reserved by the groom on the widow's estate
- 11 – Regulation of the widow's entry into the dower; provision for the widow in the first year
- 12 – If the widow has to temporarily relocate her residence for good reasons, she shall be assisted in doing so
- 13 – If the dower is changed during the marriage, it may only be replaced by an office of equal value
- 14 – Prohibition on pledging the dower; use of timber stocks regulated
- 15 – Regulation regarding debts of the spouses
- 16 – If the bride dies before the groom, the dowry shall fall to the groom
- 17 – Groom dies before the bride without common children: The widow has the choice of either having the dowry of 40,000 Reichstalers paid out or taking up the dower.
- 18 – If there are children from the marriage, they inherit the entire dowry
- 19 – If one of the spouses dies after consummation of the marriage but before the monetary payments have been made, the contract shall nevertheless be executed; If one of the spouses dies before consummation of the marriage, the contract is void; the spouses may still make gifts to each other by will, codicil or donationis mortis causa, provided that the family contracts are not violated.
- 20 – Place; date; signatures; LS

Regulations on inheritance law

- 2 – Renunciation of inheritance by the bride
- 16 – If the bride dies before the groom, the dowry goes to the groom

17 – If the groom dies before the bride without any children together: The widow has the choice of either having the dowry of 40,000 Reichstalers paid out or taking up the widow's dower

18 – If there are children together, they inherit the entire dowry

References

- **Archive copy:** HStAM, Urk. 3, 410
- **Contract language archive copy:** German
- **Digitized archive copy:** <https://arcinsys.hessen.de/arcinsys/showArchivalDescriptionDetails.action?archivalDescriptionId=6156252&executionId=W8txwnpS9N>

Recommended citation

Dynastische Eheverträge der frühen Neuzeit. Contract No. 125. Philipps University of Marburg. Available online at <https://dynastische-ehevertraege.online.uni-marburg.de/en/vertraege/125.html>.

```
@misc{ Dynastische Ehevertr{"a}ge der fr{"u}hen Neuzeit,  
title = {Dynastische Ehevertr{"a}ge der fr{"u}hen Neuzeit: Contract No. 125},  
url = {https://dynastische-ehevertraege.online.uni-marburg.de/en/vertraege/125.html}  
}
```