

Name	Entered office	Left office	Political party	Other ministerial offices held	Notes and key events
Sir Robert Walpole <i>(from 1742 as Earl of Orford)</i>	4 April 1721	11 February 1742	Whig	First Lord of the Treasury, Chancellor of the Exchequer & Leader of the House of Commons	Regarded as the first Prime Minister in the modern sense; The South Sea Company bubble; criticised for Great Britain's poor performance in the War of Jenkins' Ear.
The Earl of Wilmington	16 February 1742	2 July 1743	Whig	First Lord of the Treasury	Increased tax on spirits; in poor health for much of his time as Prime Minister, the government was led <i>de facto</i> by John Carteret.
Henry Pelham	27 August 1743	6 March 1754	Whig	First Lord of the Treasury, Chancellor of the Exchequer & Leader of the House of Commons	Reorganisation of the Royal Navy; adoption of the Gregorian Calendar; Marriage Act 1753; helped end the War of the Austrian Succession.
The Duke of Newcastle <i>(1st term)</i>	16 March 1754	16 November 1756	Whig	First Lord of the Treasury & Leader of the House of Lords	Led Great Britain into the Seven Years' War with France in North America.
The Duke of Devonshire	16 November 1756	25 June 1757	Whig	First Lord of the Treasury & Leader of the House of Lords	The government was largely run by William Pitt the Elder.

The Duke of Newcastle <i>(2nd term)</i>	2 July 1757	26 May 1762	Whig	First Lord of the Treasury & Leader of the House of Lords	Great Britain gained more influence abroad in the Seven Years' War; the war was largely prosecuted by Pitt the Elder as Secretary of State.
The Earl of Bute	26 May 1762	16 April 1763	Tory	First Lord of the Treasury & Leader of the House of Lords	Ended the dominance of the Whigs and the Seven Years' War.
George Grenville	16 April 1763	13 July 1765	Whig	First Lord of the Treasury, Chancellor of the Exchequer & Leader of the House of Commons	Lowered domestic tax at the expense of the colonies; introduced the Stamp Act 1765 (which ultimately led to the American Revolution).
The Marquess of Rockingham <i>(1st term)</i>	13 July 1765	30 July 1766	Whig	First Lord of the Treasury & Leader of the House of Lords	Repealed the controversial Stamp Act, inspired by protests from both American colonists and British manufacturers who were hurt by it.
The Earl of Chatham, "William Pitt the Elder"	30 July 1766	14 October 1768	Whig	Lord Privy Seal	The first real Imperialist; credited with the birth of the British Empire; indirectly responsible for the French Revolution (due to Great Britain's defeat of France in Canada).
The Duke of Grafton	14 October	28 January 1770	Whig	First Lord of the Treasury & Leader of the	Attempted to reconcile with the American colonies.

	1768			House of Lords	
Lord North	28 January 1770	22 March 1782	Tory	First Lord of the Treasury, Chancellor of the Exchequer & Leader of the House of Commons	Led Great Britain into the American Revolution, making a number of tactical errors; the Gordon Riots; resigned after a vote of no confidence.
The Marquess of Rockingham <i>(2nd term)</i>	27 March 1782	1 July 1782	Whig	First Lord of the Treasury & Leader of the House of Lords	Acknowledged the independence of the United States; began a process of political reform (however died in office).
The Earl of Shelburne	4 July 1782	2 April 1783	Whig	First Lord of the Treasury & Leader of the House of Lords	Planned political reform; secured peace with the United States, France and