## I'm not a bot



All the latest news, insights and gossip from the Premier League, in your inbox every weekday. Jennifer MeierhansBusiness reporter, BBC NewsGetty ImagesPresident Donald Trump has signed an executive order to reduce tariffs on some British goods entering the US.It is the first part of a deal which the UK hopes will extend to other products sold to the States. Trump's blanket 10% tariff on imports from countries around the world still applies to most UK items. Here's an at-a-glance guide to what is in the deal. This isn't a trade deal major trade deal major trade deal major trade deal major trade deal. sign the type of free-trade agreement India and the UK finalised in May. That authority lies with US Congress. The legislative branch of the US government need to approve a trade agreement has reversed or cut some of those tariffs on specific goods. Car tariffs cut The executive order signed by Trump will cut the tariff paid by US-based firms on imports of British cars. The president had imposed a 25% tax on UK cars and automotive parts, on top of an existing 2.5% levy. This has been cut to 10% for a maximum of 100,000 UK cars, which matches the number of these vehicles that the UK exported last year. However, any cars exported above the quota will be subject to a 27.5% tax. Cars are the UK's biggest export to the US - worth about £9bn last year. But car industry leaders have told the BBC the quota could effectively put a ceiling on the number they can export competitively. The UK currently imposes a 10% levy on US car imports which will remain in place. The order Trump signed also agreed to remove tariffs on certain kinds of aerospace products. Steel and aluminium still not signed Steel and aluminium tariffs were a major part of the original tariff deal but the detail is yet to be worked out. In May, the government announced that Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer had negotiated a 25% levy down to zero. However, an agreement on this has not been finalised, meaning that UK steel and aluminium are still subject to a 25% tariff. Furthermore, the rate could double to 50% if the UK and US do not reach a deal by 9 July. Under current rules, in order to qualify for an exemption, steel has to be "melted and poured" in the country from which it is imported. Last year, Tata Steel shut down its blast furnaces and, while it transitions to using an electric furnace, it has been imported and it would impose a quota on the "most favoured nation rates for UK steel and aluminium and certain derivative steel and aluminium products. "It is currently unclear how much of these products the UK will be able to export to the US under this quota system without paying more. It is also unclear whether only steel melted and poured in the UK will be nefit. The UK exports a relatively small amount of steel and aluminium to the US, about £700m in total. However, the tariffs also cover products made with steel and aluminium, including things such as gym equipment, furniture and machinery. These are worth much more, about £2.2bn, or about £2.2bn, or about £700m in total. However, the tariffs also cover products made with steel and aluminium, including things such as gym equipment, furniture and machinery. These are worth much more, about £2.2bn, or about £2.2bn, or about £2.2bn, or about £3.2bn, or about £3 industry body Steel UK said: "We look forward to imminently benefiting from a tariff rate cut similar to that which the automotive and aerospace industries will enjoy."The UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steel industry badly needs clarification over the 'melted and pour badly needs clarification over the 'melted and pour badly needs clarification over will be agreed on pharmaceuticals is still unknown, with the UK saying work would continue on this and the remaining reciprocal tariffs. In May, the US said both countries would "promptly negotiate significantly preferential treatment outcomes on pharmaceuticals". Pharmaceuticals are a major export for the UK when it comes to US trade - last year sales of these products were worth £6.6bn making it the UK's second-biggest export to the US. It's also America's fourth biggest export to the UK, valued at £4bn last year. Most countries, including the US, imposed few or no tariffs on finished drugs, as part of an agreement aimed at keeping medicines affordable. The president has not announced any trade restrictions on medicines yet. No change to the UK's 2% digital services tax There was no change to the UK's 2% digital services tax in the original deal and this has been seen as a sticking point. Businesses that run social media, search engines or online marketplaces have to pay it if they receive more than £500m in global revenues and £25m from UK users annually. But this threshold is easily met by US tech giants like Meta, Google, Apple. The UK government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a digital trade deal". But the US government said it had "agreed to work on a di address the tax. "It is discriminatory, unjustified, and should be removed promptly," it said. No drop to food standards US beef exports to the UK has scrapped this tariff and raised the quota to 13,000 metric tonnes, according to a White House document. In return, the UK has been given the same quota at a lower rate in line with other countries. Crucially, there will be no weakening of UK food standards on imports as part of this deal, the UK government statement said, insisting that American hormone-treated meat will not seep onto the UK market. This is an area where the UK has chosen alignment with EU - and the forthcoming "Brexit reset" with the EU - over the US. Meanwhile, the UK has granted a tariff-free quota of 1.4 billion litres of ethanol a year. Companies have warned that if Britain is flooded with cheaper US ethanol it places the future of domestic firms in peril. The National Farmers Union said the inclusion of "a significant volume of bioethanol [a renewable fuel made from crops] in the deal raises concerns for British arable farmers". This page is no longer being updated. It was last updated on 9 July 2024The United Kingdom is a state made up of the historic countries of England, Wales and Scotland, as well as Northern Ireland. It is known as the home of both modern parliamentary democracy and the 2016 referendum vote to leave the European Union has raised significant questions about the country's global role. Nonetheless, the United Kingdom remains an economic and military power with great political and cultural influence around the world. Capital: LondonArea: 242,945 sq kmPopulation: 67.7 millionLanguages: English, also Scots, Ulster Scots, Scottish Gaelic, Irish, Welsh, Cornish Life expectancy: 79 years (men) 83 years (women) Head of state: King Charles IIIImage source, Getty ImagesHis Majesty King Charles III ascended to the throne in September 2022, on the death of his mother Queen Elizabeth II. In September 2015, she had become Britain's longest-reigning monarch, surpassing the record of her great-great grandmother Queen Victoria. At 73, King Charles was the oldest person to have ascended to the British throne. He is also head of state of several independent countries in the Commonwealth. As a constitutional monarch, his role in the legislative process is largely ceremonial. Prime Minister: Keir Starmer Image source, Getty ImagesKeir Starmer was elected prime minister in the July 2024 election, which saw a sweeping Labour party victory after 14 years of Conservative or Conservative o strengthening workers' rights. In his first address to parliament following the election, he urged new MPs to deliver "national renewal". He hoped the new parliament would replace the "politics of performance with the politics of service" and that all MPs have a duty to show that politics can be a force for good. There are numerous challenges facing the Labour government: these include stagnant economic growth and wages, high child poverty and homelessness, crumbling health care and public services, overcrowded prisons and sewage pollution by privatised utility companies. Image source, Getty ImagesImage caption, The UK has a strong tradition of public service broadcasting and an international reputation for creative programme-making. The BBC began daily radio broadcasts in 1922 and quickly came to play a pivotal role in national life. The corporation is funded by a licence fee, which every household with a TV set must pay. Hundreds of privately-owned radio and TV stations now compete with the BBC for listeners and viewers. There are many national and local newspapers, but print circulations have been sliding while online readership has surged. Image source, Getty Images Image caption, Trooping The Colour, the annual ceremony which commemorates the Monarch's official birthday Some key dates in modern British history: 1801 - United Kingdom formed by union of the kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland. 1815 - Role in defeating Napoleon's French Empire leads to Britain becoming pre-eminent imperial power. 1830s - Electoral reform acts begin steady move towards primacy of House of Commons and universal suffrage. 1840s - British industrial power harnessing technological change and boosts free trade and investment worldwide, reaching its peak in the second half of the 19th century. 1880s - Devolved government for Ireland becomes a major political issue, splitting Liberal Party and reviving a violent Irish separatist movement. 1914-18 - World War One. 1916 - Nationalists stage Easter Rising, seizing the General Post Office in Dublin and proclaiming an independent Irish republic. The rising is crushed by the British who execute its leaders.1919 - Led by Éamon De Valera, the nationalist movement Sinn Féin ('We Ourselves') sets up a Dublin assembly, the Dáil Éireann, which again proclaims Irish independence. A guerrilla campaign by the Irish Republican Army, or IRA, against British forces begins with heavy casualties on both sides.1921 - Anglo-Irish Treaty establishes the Irish Free State, partitioned from Northern Ireland.1924 - First UK government led by the Labour party under Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald.1931 -Economic crisis. Millions are unemployed. National Government coalition formed. 1936 - King Edward VIII abdicates over relationship with an American divorcee, Wallis Simpson. 1944 - Allied troops invade France from Britain on D-Day (6th June) and begin to fight their way towards Germany.1945 - Germany surrenders. Labour leader Clement Atlee is elected prime minister. The new Labour government carries out a radical programme of reforms, major industries and public utilities are nationalised, a welfare state is established as well as publicly funded healthcare system, the National Health Service. Image source, Getty ImagesImage caption, Prime Minister Winston Churchill makes his VE Day broadcast in May 19451945 - The UK becomes a permanent member of the UN Security Council. 1949 - The UK is one of the founder members of Nato. 1952 - UK becomes world's third country to develop an atomic bomb. 1956 - UK and France, secretly in conjunction with Israel, invade Egypt and occupy the Suez Canal Zone. They are forced to withdraw under US pressure. 1960 - Decolonisation of former British-controlled territories gathers pace. 1969 - British troops are sent to help quell communal unrest in Northern Ireland, which marks the start of The Troubles, triggered by the disputed status of Northern Ireland within the UK and a rising sense of injustice among large sections of the Catholic population. More than 3,000 people are killed between 1969-98. 1973 - The UK joins the European Economic Community, which is endorsed in a referendum two years later. 1979 - Conservative prime minister Margaret Thatcher begins move towards deregulation of economy. 1982 - Argentina invades the Falklands Islands in the South Atlantic. The UK dispatches a task force, which re-takes them. 1984 - The IRA attempts to assassinate Mrs Thatcher in her hotel in Brighton. Several people are killed and injured by a bomb blast, but the prime minister escapes unhurt. 1997 - Referendums in Scotland and Wales back the creation of separate assemblies, which are inaugurated in 1999. 1998 - The Good Friday Agreement on a political settlement for Northern Ireland is approved by voters in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. 2012 - Britain hosts the Summer Olympics and Paralympics. 2014 - Voters in Scotland reject independence in a referendum, with 55% opting to remain part of the UK and 45% favouring independence in a referendum, with 55% opting to remain part of the UK and 45% favouring independence in a referendum, with 55% opting to remain part of the UK and 45% favouring independence. dies, Charles III becomes king. Image source, Getty ImagesImage caption, London is a major centre for finance and cultureThe BBC is not responsible for the content of external sites. Natalie Sherman, Business reporterandChris Mason, Political editorWatch: A trade deal, a family photo and conflict in the Middle East - Trump's short G7A deal removing some trade barriers between the UK and US has been signed off by President Donald Trump. The move will bring into force parts of an agreement agreed between the two countries last month, and reduce tariffs on UK cars being shipped to the US. It comes after weeks of talks to implement parts of the pact, which the UK government hopes will shield British businesses from the impact of Trump's tariffs. But the deal includes a 10% levy on most UK goods, including cars, and did not address the expected removal of charges on steel imports. Speaking at the G7 summit in Canada, Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer called the move a "very important day" for both countries. The pact, initially agreed last month, is the first the White House has announced since it imposed wide-ranging tariffs on various goods entering America earlier this year. Trump has raised taxes on goods entering the US, in a series of rapid-fire announcements in an attempt to encourage businesses and consumers to buy more American-made goods. It sparked financial turmoil and alarm around the world, including in the UK, where car manufacturers and steelmakers rely on the US as a key destination for exports. Steel tariffs In the order Trump signed on Monday, the US said it would allow up to 100,000 cars into the US at a 10% tariff, instead of the 25% import tax imposed on all car imports earlier this year, as agreed under the terms outlined in May. The order said the US would set up a similar system for steel and aluminium, but did not specify what it would be axed for the UK - a major part of the original tariff pact. In response to a question about future tariffs, Trump said the UK was "very well protected". "You know why? Because I like them," he added. The US tax on UK imports of steel and aluminium is currently 25%. Earlier this month, Britain was temporarily spared when Trump announced a doubling of steel tariffs to 50%, but the tax could increase if the UK cannot reach an agreement by 9 July. Under current rules, in order to qualify for an exemption, steel has to be "melted and poured" in the country from which it is imported. Last year, Tata Steel shut down its blast furnaces and, while it transitions to using an electric furnace, it has been importing steel from overseas. "Obviously we've still got some more work to do," Transport Secretary Heidi Alexander told the BBC. "We're working through some technical detail around steel, because we want to bring that 25% tariff that applies at the moment obviously down further. "The head of trade body UK Steel, Gareth Stace, said the industry "badly needs clarification over the 'melted and poured' requirement, and the level of quotas available to UK steelmakers". Monday's order also agreed to remove tariffs on certain kinds of aerospace products. Sir Keir described the agreement as a "sign of strength" between Britain and America. The deal on US-UK tariffs will come into effect seven days following its official publication. Mike Hawes, head of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, which represents UK carmakers, said it was "a huge reassurance" to the sector. He told the BBC's Today programme there had been fewer exports of British cars to the US as the industry waited for the deal to be ratified.On Monday, JLR, the UK carmaker owned by India's Tata Motors, lowered its earnings forecast after pausing shipments to the US in April due to tariffs. Car shipments to the US already incurred a 2.5% tariff which meant that if an agreement had not been reached, UK exports would have been taxed at 27.5%. Mr Hawes said the 10% tariff gave UK manufacturers "something of a competitive edge because their competitive edge because their competitive order will bring into force parts of a tariff deal agreed last monthAs part of the deal, the UK has granted a tariff-free quota of 1.4 billion litres of US ethanol. Previously, US ethanol shipments to the UK faced a 19% tariff. But ABF Sugar, which owns the largest bioethonal plant in the UK, has warned it could be forced to make redundancies if the British market is not protected. "A lot is at stake here, not just in the short-term but the long-term," said ABF Sugar chief executive Paul Kenward. He said the industry needed help from the government. "The government. "The government said if that does not happen, it will have to start consultations which could see 200 jobs cut from its Vivergo Fuels plant in Hull. The deal will also see the UK scrap a 20% tariff on US beef imports and raise the quota to 13,000 tonnes. But the UK government has insisted there will be no weakening of food standards and any US beef imports will update parliament on the implementation of quotas on US beef and ethanol, part of our commitment to the US under this deal. "Not a free-trade deal Ministers have hailed the US agreement is much more limited than the full-fat trade deal that has long been discussed on Downing Street. The scope of what was signed on Monday also appeared more restricted than the general terms of the deal as outlined last month. Trump has previously declared the pact on tariffs is a "major trade deal", but it is not. The US president does not have the authority to sign free-trade agreements without the approval of Congress. The pact has drawn criticism by opposition parties in the UK. Conservative party leader Kemi Badenoch has called it a "tiny tariff deal". Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesperson Daisy Cooper said the government needed to "come clean" on the deal's details, "including publishing impact assessments on how it will affect British farmers, food standards and steel industry". 17:06 - 18:00BBC OSSudanese accounts of escaping el-Fasher 18:00 - 18:06 BBC News 01/12/2025 18:01 GMT 18:06 - 18:50 Outlook The gay Kenyan boy band star who refused to be defeated 18:50 - 19:06 BBC News 01/12/2025 18:01 GMT 19:30 - 19:30 BBC News 19:30 -Summary01/12/2025 19:30 GMT 19:32 - 20:00Sport Today2025/12/01 GMT20:00 - 20:06BBC News01/12/2025 20:01 GMTNews & views from the BBC's international radio station. Jennifer McKiernanPolitical reporter, BBC NewsPA MediaKing Charles has held talks with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Sandringham, after a free trade deal was signed between the UK and India.UK cars and whisky will be cheaper to export to India and India textiles and jewellery cheaper to export to the UK under the multi-billion pound export to the UK under the multi in Norfolk after meeting Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer at Chequers, where the agreement was formally signed. Opponents had warned the deal could undercut British workers due to extended social security terms, but Business Secretary Jonathan Reynolds said this was "completely wrong". He added that Indian workers on temporary secondment to the UK would get the same deal already offered to many other countries. During his visit to Sandringham, Modi gifted Charles a tree to be planted in autumn, Last year, the Indian prime minister had launched an environmental initiative which encourages people to plant a tree in tribute to their mothers, 'Landmark moment': Modi and Starmer sign India UK trade dealSir Keir said the agreement was "the biggest and most economically significant" trade deal Britain had made since Brexit. "This deal is now signed, sealed, delivered," he said. "The UK has been negotiating a deal like this for many years, but it is this government that got it done, and with it, we're sending a very powerful message that Britain is open for business, and that is already generating huge confidence. "The deal will create more than 2,200 British jobs across the country, he said, as Indian firms expand their operations in the UK and British companies secure new business opportunities in India. Sir Keir also said a trade deal was "not the extent or the limit of our collaboration with India" a country with which the UK has "unique bonds of history, of family and of culture, and we want to strengthen our relationship further". Modi hailed what he called "a blueprint for our shared prosperity". "On the one hand, Indian textiles, footwear, gems and jewellery, seafood, engineering goods will get better market access in the UK..."On the other hand, people and industries in India will be able to access products made in the UK, such as medical devices and aerospace parts, at affordable and attractive prices."The UK government said the deal - announced in May after years of negotiations - will boost the British economy by £4.8bn a year. The agreement was approved by the Indian cabinet earlier this week but has not yet been agreed by the UK parliament and is expected to take at least a year to come into effect. The agreement includes lower tariffs on: clothing and shoescarsfood, including frozen prawnsjewellery and gemsThe government also emphasised the benefit to economic growth and job creation from UK firms expanding exports to India.UK exports that will see levies fall include:gin and whiskyaerospace, electricals and medical devicescosmeticslamb, salmon, chocolates and biscuitsluxury carsThe UK already imports £11bn in goods from India but the lower tariffs agreed will make Indian exports cheaper, including for components used in advanced manufacturing. Indian manufacturers are also expected to gain access to the UK market for electric and hybrid vehicles. Average tariffs for exports to India will drop from 15% to 3%, making it easier for British companies to sell goods in India. Whisky tariffs for exports to India have been slashed in half, from 150% to 75%, giving the UK an immediate advantage over international competitors in reaching the Indian market, and the tariff will drop to 40% by 2035. The two prime ministers also agreed on closer collaboration will also assist in tackling corruption, serious fraud, organised crime, and irregular migration. This includes finalising a new sharing agreement for criminal records, which will assist court proceedings, help maintain accurate watchlists, and enable the enforcement of travel bans. The deal has not given the UK as much access as it would have liked to India's financial and legal services industries, and talks continue on a bilateral investment treaty aimed at protecting British investments in India and vice versa. The two nations also continue to discuss UK plans for a tax on high-carbon industries, which India believes could hit its imports unfairly. The Indian government welcomed an extended exemption on national insurance contributions, calling this "an unprecedented achievement" when the deal was agreed in May. The agreement means staff from UK firms who are temporarily working in India, will only pay social security contributions in their home country, rather than in both places. However, the UK government stressed it already has similar reciprocal "double contribution convention" agreements with 17 other countries including the EU, the US and South Korea. Responding to suggestions the deal meant British workers could be undercut by cheaper Indian workers, Reynolds told BBC Breakfast: "I can categorically tell you that is not the case. "There is no tax advantage for hiring an Indian worker over a British worker. "Conservatives hadow business secretary Andrew Griffith claimed the trade deal had only been made possible "because of Brexit delivered by the Conservatives" and was "a step in the right direction". But he added: "The irony should not be lost on anyone that any gains from this trade deal will be blown out of the water by [Deputy Prime Minister] Angela Rayner's union charter, stifling business with red tape, the jobs tax and, come autumn, Rachel Reeves' inevitable tax hikes that will punish Britain's makers just to reward those who do not contribute. "However, Liberal Democrat foreign affairs spokesperson Calum Miller said Brexit was what had hindered UK jobs and growth and called for a new UK-EU customs union. "We support the opening of trade, which is vital in the face of the tariff wars launched by Donald Trump," he said. "But the gains from this deal are a small fraction of what the government could deliver for jobs and growth from a better deal with the EU."

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