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| **Macedonian dynasty (867–1056)** | | | |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/9f/Roman_Emperor_Basil_I.png/84px-Roman_Emperor_Basil_I.png | **Basil I** "the Macedonian" Βασίλειος ὁ Μακεδών | 24 September 867 – 29 August 886  (18 years, 11 months and 5 days) | Born in the Theme of Macedonia c. 811, he rose in prominence through palace service, becoming a favourite of Michael III, who crowned him co-emperor on 26 May 866. He overthrew Michael and established the Macedonian dynasty. He led successful wars in the East against the Arabs and the Paulicians, and recovered southern Italy for the Empire. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/8a/Detail_of_the_Imperial_Gate_mosaic_in_Hagia_Sophia_showing_Leo_VI_the_Wise_%28cropped%29.jpg/85px-Detail_of_the_Imperial_Gate_mosaic_in_Hagia_Sophia_showing_Leo_VI_the_Wise_%28cropped%29.jpg | **Leo VI** "the Wise" Λέων ὁ Σοφός | 29 August 886 – 11 May 912  (25 years, 8 months and 12 days) | Born on 19 September 866, either the legitimate son of Basil I or the illegitimate son of Michael III. Co-emperor since 6 January 870. Leo was known for his erudition. His reign saw a height in Saracen (Muslim) naval raids, culminating in the Sack of Thessalonica, and was marked by unsuccessful wars against the Bulgarians under Simeon I. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/ba/Emperor_Alexander_head.jpg/84px-Emperor_Alexander_head.jpg | **Alexander** Ἀλέξανδρος | 11 May 912 – 6 June 913  (1 year and 26 days) | Son of Basil I, Alexander was born in 870 and raised to co-emperor in 879. Sidelined by Leo VI, Alexander dismissed his brother's principal aides on his accession. He died of exhaustion after a polo game. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/e/e7/Constantine_VII_Porphyrogenitus.jpg/85px-Constantine_VII_Porphyrogenitus.jpg | **Constantine VII** Porphyrogenitus Κωνσταντῖνος ὁ Πορφυρογέννητος | 6 June 913 – 9 November 959  (46 years, 5 months and 3 days) | Son of Leo VI, he was born on 17/18 May 905 and raised to co-emperor on 15 May 908. His early reign was dominated by successive regencies, first by his mother, Zoe Karbonopsina, and Patriarch Nicholas Mystikos, and from 919 by the admiral Romanos Lekapenos, who wedded his daughter to Constantine and was crowned senior emperor in 920. Constantine re-asserted his control by deposing Romanos's sons on 27 January 945. His reign was marked by struggles with Sayf al-Dawla in the East and an unsuccessful campaign against Crete, and pro-aristocratic policies that saw a partial reversal of Lekapenos' legislation against the *dynatoi*. He is notable for his promotion of the "Macedonian Renaissance", sponsoring encyclopaedic works and histories. He was a prolific writer himself, best remembered for the manuals on statecraft (*De administrando imperio*) and ceremonies (*De ceremoniis*) he compiled for his son.[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Byzantine_emperors#cite_note-18) |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/56/Romanos_I_in_Madrid_Skylitzes.jpg/86px-Romanos_I_in_Madrid_Skylitzes.jpg | **Romanos I** Lekapenos Ῥωμανὸς Λεκαπηνός | 17 December 920 – 20 December 944  (24 years and 3 days) | An admiral of lowly origin, Romanos rose to power as a protector of the young Constantine VII against the general Leo Phokas the Elder. After becoming the emperor's father-in-law, he successively assumed higher offices until he crowned himself senior emperor. His reign was marked by the end of warfare with Bulgaria and the great conquests of John Kourkouas in the East. Romanos promoted his sons Stephen and Constantine (alongside Christopher, who died soon after) as co-emperors over Constantine VII, but was himself overthrown by them and confined to an island as a monk. He died there on 15 June 948. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/3/35/Romanos_et_Eudoxie_%28cropped%29.JPG/85px-Romanos_et_Eudoxie_%28cropped%29.JPG | **Romanos II** "the Purple-born" Ῥωμανὸς ὁ Πορφυρογέννητος | 9 November 959 – 15 March 963  (3 years, 4 months and 6 days) | The only surviving son of Constantine VII, he was born on 15 March 938 and succeeded his father on the latter's death. He ruled until his own death, although the government was led mostly by the eunuch Joseph Bringas. His reign was marked by successful warfare in the East against Sayf al-Dawla and the recovery of Crete by general Nikephoros Phokas. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/82/Nikephoros_Phokas_%28cropped_1%29.jpg/83px-Nikephoros_Phokas_%28cropped_1%29.jpg | **Nikephoros II** Phokas Νικηφόρος Φωκᾶς | 16 August 963 – 11 December 969  (6 years, 3 months and 25 days) | The most successful general of his generation, Nikephoros II was born c. 912 to the powerful Phokas clan. After the death of Romanos II, he rose to the throne with the support of the army and people as regent for the young emperors Basil II and Constantine VIII, marrying the empress-dowager Theophano. Throughout his reign he led campaigns in the East, conquering much of Syria. He was murdered by his nephew and one-time associate John Tzimiskes. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/2/23/John_I_in_Madrid_Skylitzes2.jpg/85px-John_I_in_Madrid_Skylitzes2.jpg | **John I** Tzimiskes Ἰωάννης ὁ Τσιμισκὴς | 11 December 969 – 10 January 976  (6 years and 30 days) | Nephew of Nikephoros Phokas, Tzimiskes was born c. 925. A successful general, he fell out with his uncle and led a conspiracy of disgruntled generals who murdered him. Tzimiskes succeeded Nikephoros as emperor and regent for the young sons of Romanos II. As ruler, Tzimiskes crushed the Rus' in Bulgaria and ended the Bulgarian tsardom before going on to campaign in the East, where he died. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/44/Basil_II_crop.png/84px-Basil_II_crop.png | **Basil II** "the Bulgar-Slayer" Βασίλειος ὁ Βουλγαροκτόνος | 10 January 976 – 15 December 1025  (49 years, 11 months and 5 days) | Eldest son of Romanos II, Basil was born in 958. The first decade of his reign was marked by rivalry with the powerful Basil Lekapenos, an unsuccessful war against Bulgaria, and rebellions by generals in Asia Minor. Basil solidified his position through a marriage alliance with Vladimir I of Kiev, and after suppressing the revolts, he embarked on his conquest of Bulgaria. Bulgaria was finally subdued in 1018 after over 20 years of war, interrupted only by sporadic warfare in Syria against the Fatimid Caliphate. Basil also expanded Byzantine control over most of Armenia. His reign is widely considered as the apogee of medieval Byzantium. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/88/Constantine_VIII_in_the_Exultet_roll_%282%29.jpg/84px-Constantine_VIII_in_the_Exultet_roll_%282%29.jpg | **Constantine VIII** Κωνσταντῖνος ὁ Πορφυρογέννητος | 15 December 1025– 12 November 1028  (2 years, 10 months and 28 days) | The second son of Romanos II, Constantine was born in 960 and raised to co-emperor on 30 March 962. During the rule of Basil II, he spent his time in idle pleasure. During his short reign he was an indifferent ruler, easily influenced by his courtiers and suspicious of plots to depose him, especially among the military aristocracy, many of whom were blinded and exiled. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/5d/Romanos_III_in_Madrid_Skylitzes.png/83px-Romanos_III_in_Madrid_Skylitzes.png | **Constantine VIII** Ῥωμανὸς Ἀργυρός | 15 November 1028 – 11 April 1034  (5 years, 4 months and 30 days) | Born in 968, the elderly aristocrat Romanos was chosen by Constantine VIII on his deathbed as Zoe's husband and succeeded on the throne after Constantine's death a few days later. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/b0/Michael_IV_the_Paphlagonian_%28cropped%29.jpg/84px-Michael_IV_the_Paphlagonian_%28cropped%29.jpg | **Michael IV** "the Paphlagonian" Μιχαὴλ ὁ Παφλαγών | 11 April 1034 – 10 December 1041  (7 years, 7 months and 28 days) | Born in 1010, he became a lover of Zoe even while Romanos III was alive, and succeeded him upon his death as her husband and emperor. Aided by his older brother, the eunuch John the Orphanotrophos, his reign was moderately successful against internal rebellions, but his attempt to recover Sicily failed. He died after a long illness. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/5f/Michael_V_in_Madrid_Skylitzes.jpg/77px-Michael_V_in_Madrid_Skylitzes.jpg | **Michael V** "the Caulker" Μιχαὴλ ὁ Καλαφάτης | 10 December 1041 – 20 April 1042  (4 months and 8 days) | Born in 1015, he was the nephew and adopted son of Michael IV. During his reign he tried to sideline Zoe, but a popular revolt forced him to restore her as empress on 19 April 1042, along with her sister Theodora. He was deposed the next day, castrated and tonsured, dying on 24 August 1042. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/3/3f/Zoe_mosaic_Hagia_Sophia.jpg/85px-Zoe_mosaic_Hagia_Sophia.jpg | **Zoe** "the Purple-born" Ζωὴ ἡ Πορφυρογέννητος | 21 April – 12 June 1042  (1 month and 22 days) | The daughter of Constantine VIII, she succeeded on her father's death, as the only surviving member of the Macedonian dynasty, along with her sister Theodora. Her three husbands, Romanos III (1028–1034), Michael IV (1034–1041) and Constantine IX (1042–1050) ruled alongside her. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/5d/Theodora_Porphyrogenita_crown.jpg/84px-Theodora_Porphyrogenita_crown.jpg | [**Theodora**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theodora_Porphyrogenita) "the Purple-born" Θεοδώρα ἡ Πορφυρογέννητος | 21 April – 12 June 1042  (1 month and 22 days)  11 January 1055 – 31 August 1056  (1 year, 7 months, 20 days) | The younger sister of Zoe, born in 984, she was raised as co-ruler on 19 April 1042. After Zoe married her third husband, Constantine IX, in June 1042, Theodora was again sidelined. After Zoe died in 1050 and Constantine in 1055, Theodora assumed full governance of the Empire and reigned until her death. She nominated Michael VI as her successor. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/94/Emperor_Constantine_IX.jpg/85px-Emperor_Constantine_IX.jpg | **Constantine IX** Monomachos Κωνσταντῖνος Μονομάχος | 12 June 1042 – 11 January 1055  (12 years, 6 months and 30 days) | Born c. 1000 of noble origin, he had an undistinguished life but was exiled to Lesbos by Michael IV, returning when he was chosen as Zoe's third husband. Constantine supported the mercantile classes and favoured the company of intellectuals, thereby alienating the military aristocracy. A pleasure-loving ruler, he lived an extravagant life with his favourite mistresses and endowed a number of monasteries, chiefly the Nea Moni of Chios and the Mangana Monastery. His reign was marked by invasions by the Pechenegs in the Balkans and the Seljuk Turks in the East, the revolts of George Maniakes and Leo Tornikios, and the Great Schism between the patriarchates of Rome and Constantinople. |

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| **Macedonian dynasty** |
| List of rulers |
| Basil I the Macedonian (Βασίλειος Α') (811–886, ruled 867–886) – married Eudokia Ingerina, mistress of Michael III; died in hunting accident |
| Leo VI the Wise (Λέων Ϛ') (866–912, ruled 886–912) – son of Eudokia Ingerina, legal son and heir of Basil I; possibly the natural son of Michael III; created church crisis with his fourth marriage—Zoe Karbonopsina, who took over as regent for their son, Constantine VII, in 914 and ruled the empire until 919 |
| Alexander (Αλέξανδρος) (870–913, ruled 912–913) – son of Basil I, regent for nephew |
| Constantine VII the Purple-born (Κωνσταντῖνος Ζ') (905–959, ruled 913–920 and 945-959) – son of Leo VI and Zoe Karbonopsina; married Helena, daughter of Romanos Lekapenos |
| Romanos I Lekapenos (Ρωμανός A') (c. 870–948, ruled 920–944) – staged a successful coup in 919 and became senior emperor in 920;[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macedonian_dynasty#cite_note-11) deposed in 944 and exiled |
| Romanos II the Purple-born (Ρωμανός Β') (938–963, ruled 959–963) – son of Constantine VII |
| Nikephoros II Phokas (Νικηφόρος Β' Φωκᾶς) (912–969, ruled 963–969) – successful general, married Romanos II's widow, regent for Basil; assassinated (Origin: Cappadocian) |
| John I Tzimiskes (Ιωάννης Α')(925-976, ruled 969–976) – successful general, brother-in-law of Romanos II, lover of Nikephoros's wife but banned from marriage, regent for Basil II and Constantine VIII |
| Basil II (Βασίλειος Β') the Bulgar-slayer (958–1025, ruled 976–1025) – son of Romanos II |
| Constantine VIII (Κωνσταντῖνος Η') (960-1028, ruled 1025–1028) – son of Romanos II; silent co-emperor with Basil II, sole emperor after his brother's death |
| Zoe (Ζωή) (c. 978–1050, ruled 1028–1050) – daughter of Constantine VIII |
| Romanos III Argyros (Ρωμανός Γ') (968–1034, ruled 1028–1034) – eparch of Constantinople; Zoe's first husband, arranged by Constantine VIII; murdered |
| Michael IV the Paphlagonian (Μιχαήλ Δ') (1010–1041, ruled 1034–1041) – Zoe's second husband |
| Michael V the Caulker (Μιχαήλ Ε') (1015–1042, ruled 1041–1042) – Michael IV's nephew, Zoe's adopted son |
| Theodora (Θεοδώρα) (980–1056, ruled 1042) – daughter of Constantine VIII, co-empress with Zoe |
| Constantine IX Monomachos (Κωνσταντῖνος Θ') (1000–1055, ruled 1042–1055) – Zoe's third husband |
| Theodora (Θεοδώρα) (ruled 1055–1056) – restored |
| **Non-dynastic**[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Macedonian_dynasty&action=edit&section=3)] |
| Michael VI (Μιχαήλ Ϛ') (ruled 1056–1057) – chosen by Theodora; deposed and entered monastery |
| Images  Images |
| https://roman-emperors.sites.luc.edu/mace.gif |



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| **Compiler FLN** |