

König Ludwig II

Characteristics and Traits

Here are some personal characteristics and traits King Ludwig possessed:

- He was a typical Bavarian, as he had their typical characteristics: independent, love of the outdoors, and conservative.
- He had a vivid imagination, he was a dreamer, and he was loyal (to his servants and workers building his castles).
- He was shy and arrogant.
- He was also loyal to his friends, including his patronage to composer Richard Wagner after he was told to leave Munich.
- He was very intelligent, as he was always asking his tutors questions, which they couldn't answer.
- He was very sensitive and not stern. He could be easily be swayed and persuaded by his court ministers to do wrong things. He tried to follow the politics of his father.
- He was a romantic, which is illustrated by his paintings of legends and mythology in his castles.
- He had good looks and physical appearance, which made him popular. He was much loved by his people with his dark hair and deep burning blue eyes.
- He had cool ideas for making things look fun.
- He had no real ability or knowledge in construction and building, but he was an excellent director for everything concerning his castles.
- He inherited his father's Romanticism (he rebuilt Hohenschwangau Castle) and his grandfather's architectural skill (he dreamed not of building empires, but dreamed of building castles).
- He was a dreamer, not a statesman. That was the fate of nobility, not all sons were capable or wanted to rule.



Joseph Albert took this photograph on 14 May 1861. It is one of the last pictures of Prince Ludwig in which he still has his naturally straight hair. From 1862 until his death he always wore artificially curled hairstyles.