

The background of the entire image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of the American flag. The top half shows the blue field with white stars, and the bottom half shows the red and white stripes. The text is centered over the white stripe area.

Constitution Day

September 17th



Constitution Day (September 17th) became an official holiday in 2004 and was signed into law by President George W. Bush.

Constitution Day, Independence Day, and Presidents' Day are an important part of the biography of the United States of America, because it recognizes the value of the American way of life, and the success of a nation of free people whose rights and liberties are protected by a written Constitution.

September 17, 1787 was the day the delegates to the Constitutional Convention met to sign the document they had created. Celebrate our government and our lifestyle by learning about the history of the Constitution, the Founding Fathers who signed it and the many Amendments to our constitution.

The Constitution is certainly the most influential legal document in existence. Since its creation some two hundred years ago, over one hundred countries around the world have used it as a model for their own. And it is a living document. It is one of the world's oldest surviving constitutions. And, while the Supreme Court continually interprets the U.S. Constitution to reflect a rapidly changing world, its basic tenets have remained virtually unchanged since its inception, and unchallenged as well. People quarrel over its interpretation, but never do they question the wisdom of its underlying principles.



Preamble of the United State Constitution

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

The Bill of Rights: (Constitutional Amendments 1-10)

Passed by Congress 1789. Ratified December 15, 1791.

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

Amendment VII

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

How much do you know about the birth of America?

Test your skills, knowledge, and celebrate Constitution Day with some trivia and treats. Voter registration information will be available. [See Student Services for more information.](#)

YOUR VOICE
YOUR VOTE

The Constitution (More Recourses):

- National Archives - <https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution>
- National Archives - <https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/bill-of-rights>
- White House - <https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/the-constitution/>
- Constitution Facts.com - <https://www.constitutionfacts.com/>