

Presidents of the United States

<i>Name & Dates</i>	<i>Party</i>	<i>Things to Know</i>
George Washington 1789-1797	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led the Continental Army in the revolution. • Formed the first cabinet. • Supported Hamilton's call for the National Bank. • Set the precedent for serving only 2 terms. • Farewell Address warned of entangling alliances.
John Adams 1797-1801	Federalist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • XYZ Affair. • Alien & Sedition Acts → led to Virginia & Kentucky Resolutions (nullification) • "Midnight Judges" • Appointed John Marshall as Chief Justice.
Thomas Jefferson 1801-1809	Democratic-Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author of the Declaration of Independence. • <i>Marbury v. Madison</i> • Changed from strict to loose constructionist in order to carry out the Louisiana Purchase. • Sent out Lewis & Clark. • Dealt with the Barbary Pirates.
James Madison 1809-1817	Democratic-Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major author of the Constitution & the Bill of Rights. • War of 1812.
James Monroe 1817-1825	Democratic-Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Era of Good Feelings" • Missouri Compromise (1820) → set 36°30' line for slavery. • Monroe Doctrine (1823) → no further European colonization in the Western Hemisphere.
John Quincy Adams 1825-1829	National-Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Became President after "Corrupt Bargain" with Henry Clay
Andrew Jackson 1829-1837	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hero of the Battle of New Orleans in War of 1812. • Use of the Spoils System. • Nullification crisis. • Trail of Tears.
Martin Van Buren 1837-1841	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panic of 1837 characterized his term.
William Harrison 1841	Whig	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Tippecanoe • Log Cabin & Hard Cider campaign • Shortest term ever → 30 days.

John Tyler 1841-1845	Whig	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webster-Ashburn Treaty → settled border with British in northern Maine. • Wanted annexation of Texas. • Expelled from the Whig party.
James K. Polk 1845-1849	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manifest Destiny. • Annexation of Texas. • Oregon Territory. • Mexican-American War → Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo. • California Gold Rush.
Zachary Taylor 1849-1850	Whig	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Rough and Ready
Millard Fillmore 1850-1853	Whig	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compromise of 1850 → California admitted as a free state; passage of the Fugitive Slave Act; abolished slave trade in D.C.; popular sovereignty in Mexican Cession territories.
Franklin Pierce 1853-1857	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gasden Purchase. • Sent Mathew Perry to Japan. • Kansas-Nebraska Act → Bleeding Kansas.
James Buchanan 1857-1861	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased sectional tension. • <i>Dred Scott v. Sanford</i>. • Lost to Lincoln in 1860.
Abraham Lincoln 1861-1865	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lincoln-Douglas Debates → A house divided cannot stand. • Election in 1860 led to secession of the South. • Civil War → Slavery was the most visible issue, but foremost to Lincoln was preservation of the Union. • Suspension of habeas corpus → expansion of executive power. • Emancipation Proclamation → freed the slaves in the South during the war. • Gettysburg Address. • Reconstruction → “with malice toward none” • Assassinated → John Wilkes Booth
Andrew Johnson 1865-1869	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intended to continue Lincoln’s plan for Reconstruction • Radical Republicans controlled Congress → wanted to punish the South → impeached Johnson → acquitted by 1 vote. • Purchased Alaska from Russia.
Ulysses S. Grant 1869-1877	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commander of the Union Army in the Civil War. • Plagued by scandals → Credit Mobilier

Rutherford B. Hayes 1877-1881	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compromise of 1877 → Hayes became President & Reconstruction came to an end.
James A. Garfield 1881	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assassinated by a political supporter who didn't get an appointed (Spoils System).
Chester A. Arthur 1881-1885	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pendleton Act (1833) → Civil Service Commission
Grover Cleveland 1885-1889	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported laissez faire capitalism. • Used federal troops to break up the Pullman strike. • Samuel Gompers founded the AFL. • Interstate Commerce Act.
Benjamin Harrison 1889-1893	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Won the electoral vote, but lost the popular vote. • Sherman Antitrust Act (1890) • McKinley Tariff (1890) • Wounded Knee (1890)
Grover Cleveland 1893-1897	Democratic	See above.
William McKinley 1897-1901	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annexation of Hawaii. • Fought the Spanish-American War → Yellow Journalism (Hearst & Pulitzer) → the <i>Maine</i> • Control of the Philippines, Guam & Puerto Rico → U.S. becomes imperial power. • Assassinated.
Theodore Roosevelt 1901-1909	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough Riders → San Juan Hill. • Conservation → established national parks • Progressive President → Square Deal → trust buster → Hepburn Act • Big Stick Diplomacy → Great White Fleet • Panama Canal • Roosevelt Corollary → adds to Monroe Doctrine → US has power to police Latin America • Expanded executive power. • Bull Moose Party candidate in election of 1912.
William Taft 1909-1913	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dollar Diplomacy → US has right to intervene in Latin America to protect investments. • Disappointed Roosevelt to the point where he decided to run for a third term.

Woodrow Wilson 1913-1921	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roosevelt & Taft split the Republican vote.• Finished most of the Progressive agenda.• Federal Reserve Act.• Clayton Antitrust Act• Federal Trade Commission.• Kept nation out of WWI for three years → sinking of <i>Lusitania</i> (unrestricted submarine warfare) → freedom of the seas → making the world safe for democracy• Fourteen Points → included League of Nations• Could not convince Congress to sign the Treaty of Versailles or to join the League of Nations → return to isolationism.
Warren Harding 1921-1923	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Return to normalcy.• The Ohio Gang (Harding's friends) created multiple scandals, which may have contributed to his death.
Calvin Coolidge 1923-1929	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "The business of America is business." → laissez faire capitalism → the Roaring 20's.
Herbert Hoover 1929-1933	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Great Crash → the Great Depression (stock market speculation & years of overproduction).• Did not believe in direct government relief or intervention in the economy.• The Bonus Army → 4 killed & 1000+ injured by US military in Washington, D.C.

Franklin D. Roosevelt 1933-1945	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hid his polio from the public. • Promised a New Deal in his campaign → relief, recovery & reform • Keynesian economics → pump priming → massive government spending to jumpstart the economy • Programs like the CCC and TVA employed hundreds of thousands. • Social Security Act • Wagner Act → collective bargaining → National Labor Relations Board. • FDIC → restore confidence in banks. • SEC → restore confidence in the stock market • NRA ruled unconstitutional by Supreme Court → tried and failed to pack the court (threat to separation of powers). • Despite Neutrality Acts, helped Churchill through the Lend-Lease Act and the cash and carry program → US as “an arsenal for democracy” • Atlantic Charter → goals for postwar world → United Nations. • Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941. • Internment of Japanese Americans → <i>Korematsu v. the United States</i> • Elected to 4 terms → died in office. • Expanded executive power.
Harry S Truman 1945-1953	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorized the use of atomic weapons on Japan. • Cold War begins as WWII ends. • Truman Doctrine → containment of Communism. • Marshall Plan → US aid to rebuild western Europe (tied to containment). • Berlin Airlift. • NATO. • Korean Conflict (1950-1953) → containment → fired General MacArthur → Korea still divided. • Fair Deal → combined New Deal ideas with civil rights.
Dwight D. Eisenhower 1953-1961	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interstate highway system. • U-2 spy plane was shot down over USSR. • <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> → Eisenhower used federal troops to enforce desegregation in Little Rock, Arkansas. • End of McCarthyism.

John F. Kennedy 1961-1963	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youngest elected President (43), and first Catholic. • Peace Corps. • Castro set up Communist government in Cuba → Bay of Pigs fiasco → Cuban Missile Crisis (brinkmanship) • Civil Rights movement expanded • Assassinated in Dallas, Nov. 22, 1963.
Lyndon B. Johnson 1963-1969	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Society → compared to New Deal → war on poverty → Medicare and Medicaid. • Civil Rights Act (1964) • Voting Rights Act • 24th Amendment → no poll taxes • Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinated. • race riots • Gulf of Tonkin Resolution → led to increased US involvement in Vietnam.
Richard Nixon 1969-1974	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of US troops in Cambodia influenced passage of the War Powers Act. • 26th Amendment → voting age dropped to 18. • détente → visit to China, talks with USSR → SALT • Named Gerald Ford as VP after Spiro Agnew resigned • Watergate → “plumbers” break into Democrat office → <i>US v. Nixon</i> forces him to turn over Oval Office tapes (President is not above the law) → resigned on Aug. 9, 1974 to avoid impeachment.
Gerald Ford 1974-1977	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First president who was not even elected as VP. • Pardoned Nixon. • Clemency for Vietnam draft dodgers. • OPEC cuts lead to economic crisis. • War Powers Act → President’s ability to use the military without consulting Congress is limited.
Jimmy Carter 1977-1981	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • peanut farmer from Georgia (down home image) • Panama treaties → agree to turn canal zone over to Panama on Dec. 31, 1999. • Camp David Accords → peace between Egypt & Israel • Iranian Revolution of 1979 → US support of Shah leads to Iranian Hostage Crisis → 66 hostages held in US embassy in Tehran for over a year → special forces raid fails (embarrassing Carter) → hostages freed on day of Reagan’s inauguration.

Ronald Reagan 1981-1989	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supply-side economics → trickle down → cut government spending on social welfare programs → cut taxes on wealthy and corporations → huge spending on national defense → country moved out of recession, but with an enormous deficit• Deregulation → airlines, banks, communications• SDI → “Star Wars”• Sandra Day O’Connor → first woman on Supreme Court• Iran-Contra Affair → weapons sold to Iran & money funneled to Contras in Nicaragua (illegally).• Talks with Mikhail Gorbachev laid the groundwork for the end of the Cold War.
George H. W. Bush 1989-1993	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989• Recession in 1990 → broke campaign promise (“Read my lips: no new taxes.”) → hurt his popularity.• Used US military to capture Noriega, leader of Panama, on charges of drug trafficking.• Soviet Union collapsed in 1991.• Gulf War → about a month long → Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait → US led a multi-national force → victory for the US, but Bush was criticized for leaving Hussein in power.
Bill Clinton 1993-2001	Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NAFTA (had be proposed by Bush)• Dayton Peace Accords → settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina.• Peace deal between the PLO and Israel.• Longest period of peacetime economic growth in US history → led to budget surplus, and largely responsible for Clinton’s popularity.• Whitewater scandal → allegations of illegal land deal in Arkansas.• Impeached on charges of perjury and obstruction of justice in relation to allegation of sexual misconduct → acquitted by the Senate.

George W. Bush
2001-

Republican

- Lost the popular vote to Al Gore in the 2000 election.
- Voting irregularities in Florida led to a call for a recount by Gore → *Bush v. Gore*, the Supreme Court ordered that the recounts stop, giving Florida's electoral votes to Bush, and thus giving him the presidency.
- Terrorist attacks of 9/11/01 lead to the War on Terror → invasion of Afghanistan in Dec. 2001 (Osama bin Laden/al Qaeda/Taliban) → March 20, 2003, invaded Iraq on the premise that Saddam Hussein supported terrorism and possessed WMDs → Hussein's government was toppled and he was executed by the new, democratic government → the country remains unstable due to the presence of insurgents and a civil war between Sunnis and Shiites.
- The continued presence of US troops in Iraq, the lack of proof of the existence of WMDs in Iraq, the decline in US standing in the world, and a sluggish domestic economy led to a 28% approval rating (the lowest since Carter).