

# MEET THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES

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<b>John Adams</b> 1797-1801 Adams was an architect of the fight for independence that led to the formation of the United States.	<b>James Madison</b> 1809-1817 Known as the "Father of the Constitution," Madison also took the lead in framing the Bill of Rights.	<b>John Quincy Adams</b> 1825-1829 Adams was the first president who was a son of a president.	<b>Martin Van Buren</b> 1837-1841 Van Buren worked hard to establish an independent treasury to ensure the government's solvency and avoid future economic depressions.	<b>John Tyler</b> 1841-1845 Tyler helped open the Far East to U.S. traders by signing a treaty with China.	<b>Zachary Taylor</b> 1849-1850 Taylor fell ill and died on July 9, 1850, after only a little more than one year in office.	<b>Franklin Pierce</b> 1853-1857 A veteran of the Mexican War, Pierce did not win his party's presidential nomination until the 48th ballot.	<b>Andrew Johnson</b> 1865-1869 When Johnson allegedly violated the Tenure of Office Act by dismissing the Secretary of War, the House voted articles of impeachment against him. He was tried and acquitted by one vote in the Senate.	<b>Ulysses S. Grant</b> 1869-1877 As Lincoln's General-in-Chief, Grant led the North to victory in the Civil War.	<b>James A. Garfield</b> 1881 On July 2, 1881, Garfield was assassinated by an embittered attorney who had sought a position in his administration.	<b>Benjamin Harrison</b> 1889-1893 Though he received 100,000 fewer popular votes, Harrison became president by winning in the Electoral College 233 to 168.	<b>William McKinley</b> 1897-1901 McKinley was assassinated at the Buffalo Pan-American Exposition in New York as he was beginning his second term.	<b>William H. Taft</b> 1909-1913 Taft was the only president who later served as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.	<b>Warren G. Harding</b> 1921-1923 Harding's administration was marred by financial scandals. He died while in office in 1923.	<b>Franklin D. Roosevelt</b> 1933-1945 Roosevelt's domestic policies were credited with pulling the U.S. out of the Great Depression.	<b>Dwight D. Eisenhower</b> 1953-1961 A celebrated World War II general, Eisenhower started the interstate highway system.	<b>Lyndon B. Johnson</b> 1963-1969 Elected by the largest margin in U.S. history, Johnson's achievements in civil rights were overshadowed by the growing opposition to the Vietnam War.	<b>Gerald R. Ford</b> 1974-1977 Ford was the only president never to have been elected.	<b>Ronald Reagan</b> 1981-1989 Reagan, a former movie star and governor of California, survived an assassination attempt on March 30, 1981.	<b>William J. Clinton</b> 1993-2001 During Clinton's administration, the U.S. enjoyed a period of peace and economic well-being.	<b>Barack Obama</b> 2009- Obama, a former attorney, community organizer, and U.S. senator, was the first African-American to be elected president.												
<b>George Washington</b> 1789-1797 Our first president took the oath of office at Federal Hall on Wall Street in New York City.	<b>Thomas Jefferson</b> 1801-1809 Author of the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson was also instrumental in the development of political parties.	<b>James Monroe</b> 1817-1825 Monroe signed the Missouri Compromise, which outlawed slavery north and west of Missouri forever.	<b>Andrew Jackson</b> 1829-1837 As a general during the War of 1812, Jackson became a national hero when he defeated the British at New Orleans.	<b>William Henry Harrison</b> 1841 Less than a month after being inaugurated, Harrison died of pneumonia.	<b>James K. Polk</b> 1845-1849 Polk oversaw an expansion of U.S. territory.	<b>Millard Fillmore</b> 1850-1853 Fillmore grew up poor in a log cabin, and rose to the highest office in the land.	<b>James Buchanan</b> 1857-1861 During Buchanan's administration, conflicts between North and South over the issue of slavery set the stage for the coming Civil War.	<b>Abraham Lincoln</b> 1861-1865 On January 1, 1863, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, ending slavery in the South.	<b>Rutherford B. Hayes</b> 1877-1881 Hayes came to office in one of the most disputed presidential elections in history.	<b>Grover Cleveland</b> 1885-1889 Cleveland was the only president to get married while in office.	<b>Theodore Roosevelt</b> 1901-1909 A great outdoorsman and conservationist, Roosevelt created the first federal wildlife refuge and the U.S. Forest Service.	<b>Calvin Coolidge</b> 1923-1929 On August 3, 1923, Coolidge heard that Harding had died. By the light of a kerosene lamp, Coolidge's father, a notary public, administered the oath of office to his son.	<b>Herbert Hoover</b> 1929-1933 Hoover was blamed for the Great Depression which followed the stock market crash of 1929.	<b>Harry Truman</b> 1945-1953 Truman's decision to drop atomic bombs on Japan led to the Japanese surrender and the end of World War II.	<b>John F. Kennedy</b> 1961-1963 Kennedy started the Peace Corps and pledged to put a man on the moon by the end of the 1960s. He was assassinated in 1963.	<b>Richard M. Nixon</b> 1969-1974 Nixon became the only president to resign from office, following the Watergate scandal.	<b>James Carter</b> 1977-1981 Carter, a champion of human rights, negotiated an historic peace agreement between Israel and Egypt. In 2002 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.	<b>George H.W. Bush</b> 1989-1993 Before becoming president, Bush served as a congressman from Texas, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and vice president to Ronald Reagan.	<b>George W. Bush</b> 2001-2009 Before becoming president, Bush was co-owner of the Texas Rangers baseball team and governor of Texas.													
<b>1791</b> National banking system established	<b>1800</b> U.S. capitol moved from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C.	<b>1803</b> The Louisiana Territory purchased from France	<b>1814</b> Washington, D.C. captured and burned by the British during the War of 1812	<b>1823</b> The Monroe Doctrine declares an end to European colonization of the Americas	<b>1825</b> The Erie Canal completed	<b>1848</b> The Treaty of 1848 with Mexico gives the U.S. control over much of what would become the western United States.	<b>1848</b> Gold discovered in California, leading to the California Gold Rush.	<b>1850</b> Compromise of 1850 admits California as a free state, organizes the Utah and New Mexico territories under "popular sovereignty," and abolishes the slave trade in Washington, D.C.	<b>1854</b> The Republican Party formed as an anti-slavery party	<b>1857</b> The Supreme Court's Dred Scott decision rules that Congress has no power to deprive slave owners of their right to own slaves.	<b>1861-1865</b> The Civil War	<b>1866</b> The Civil Rights Act of 1866 declares former slaves American citizens and forbids discrimination against them.	<b>1870</b> 15th Amendment to the Constitution ratified, giving African American men the right to vote.	<b>1879</b> Thomas Edison invents the electric light bulb	<b>1886</b> The Statue of Liberty dedicated	<b>1914-1918</b> World War I	<b>1920</b> 19th Amendment to the Constitution gives women the right to vote	<b>1927</b> Charles Lindbergh makes the first solo, non-stop, transatlantic flight	<b>1929</b> The stock market crash marks the start of the Great Depression	<b>1939-1945</b> World War II	<b>1950-1953</b> Korean War	<b>1950</b> U.S. involvement in Vietnam begins	<b>1957</b> The Soviet Union launches Sputnik, the first artificial satellite, starting the U.S.-Soviet space race	<b>1962</b> Cuban missile crisis	<b>1963</b> March on Washington, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech	<b>1964</b> Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlaws racial segregation	<b>1968</b> Assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy	<b>1979</b> Hostages taken at the U.S. embassy in Tehran, Iran	<b>1987</b> President Reagan's "tear down this wall" speech sets the stage for the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.	<b>1991</b> Persian Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm	<b>1995</b> Oklahoma City bombing	<b>2001</b> September 11, 2001—Terrorist attacks in New York City, Pennsylvania, and Virginia lead to war in Iraq and Afghanistan