

AMENDMENTS TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

The Bill of Rights (1–10)

- **1st Amendment (1791):** Protects freedom of speech, religion, press, assembly, and the right to petition the government.
- **2nd Amendment (1791):** Guarantees the right to keep and bear arms and maintain a regulated militia.
- **3rd Amendment (1791):** Prohibits the forced quartering of soldiers in private homes during peacetime.
- **4th Amendment (1791):** Protects against unreasonable searches and seizures; requires warrants based on probable cause.
- **5th Amendment (1791):** Guarantees due process, protects against double jeopardy and self-incrimination, and mandates just compensation for eminent domain.
- **6th Amendment (1791):** Protects the right to a speedy and public trial by jury, legal counsel, and the ability to confront witnesses in criminal cases.
- **7th Amendment (1791):** Preserves the right to a jury trial in federal civil cases.
- **8th Amendment (1791):** Prohibits excessive bail, excessive fines, and cruel and unusual punishment.
- **9th Amendment (1791):** Clarifies that citizens hold rights beyond those explicitly listed in the Constitution.
- **10th Amendment (1791):** States that powers not delegated to the federal government belong to the states or the people.

Early Judicial and Election Reform

- **11th Amendment (1795):** Limits federal court jurisdiction over lawsuits against states by citizens of another state or foreign country (state sovereign immunity).
- **12th Amendment (1804):** Revises presidential election procedures so the Electoral College votes separately for President and Vice President.

Post-Civil War & Reconstruction Amendments (11–15)

- **13th Amendment (1865):** Abolishes slavery and involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime.
- **14th Amendment (1868):** Grants citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the US; guarantees equal protection under the law and due process against state infringement.
- **15th Amendment (1870):** Prohibits denying the right to vote based on race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Progressive Era & Voting Expansion (16–21)

- **16th Amendment (1913):** Grants Congress the authority to levy an income tax without dividing it among the states by population.
- **17th Amendment (1913):** Establishes the direct popular election of U.S. Senators by the voters of each state.
- **18th Amendment (1919):** Prohibited the manufacture, sale, and transportation of intoxicating liquors (Prohibition).
- **19th Amendment (1920):** Guarantees women the right to vote.
- **20th Amendment (1933):** Moves presidential inauguration date to January 20 and congressional sessions start to January 3 ("Lame Duck" Amendment).
- **21st Amendment (1933):** Repeals the 18th Amendment, ending Prohibition while allowing state-level regulation.

Modern Era & Civil Rights Amendments (22–27)

- **22nd Amendment (1951):** Limits the President to serving two terms in office (or a maximum of 10 years).
- **23rd Amendment (1961):** Grants electors in the Electoral College to Washington, D.C. for presidential elections.
- **24th Amendment (1964):** Bans poll taxes as a requirement to vote in federal elections.
- **25th Amendment (1967):** Outlines presidential succession, procedures for filling a Vice Presidential vacancy, and handling presidential disability.
- **26th Amendment (1971):** Lowers the legal voting age to 18 nationwide.
- **27th Amendment (1992):** Prevents congressional salary increases from taking effect until after the next congressional election.