

The French Revolution Timeline

General Timeline

Before 1789	Pre-revolutionary period (Ancien Régime or Old Regime)
1789 - 1792	Liberal phase (Constitutional Monarchy)
1792 - 1793	Moderate Republic (Girondins)
1793 - 1795	Radical Republic (Jacobins)
1795 - 1799	Directory (Moderate Republic)
1799 - 1804	Consulate
1804 - 1815	Napoleonic Empire

Chronology of The French Revolution

1787

February - May	Unsuccessful negotiations with the Assemble of the Notables
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1788

July 5	Louis XVI summons the Estates General
December 27	Doubling of the Third Estates membership was approved

1789

May 5	The Estates General opens at Versailles (Procession of the Estates General)
June 17,	Third Estate declares itself the National Assembly
June 20	Third Estate takes the Tennis Court Oath
July 14, 1789	Storming and fall of the Bastille in the city of Paris
Late July	The Great Fear spreads in the countryside
August 4	The Nobles surrendered their feudal rights (special privileges) at a meeting of the National Constituent Assembly
August 27	Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen
October 5-6	Parisian women march to Versailles and force Louis XVI and his family to return to Paris

1790

July 14 A new political constitution is accepted by the king

1791

June 20-24 Louis XVI and his family attempt to flee France and are stopped at Varennes

October 1 Legislative Assembly meets

1792

April 20 Legislative Assembly (France) declares war on Austria

September 2-7 The September Massacres

September 21-22 The Convention meets, and the monarchy is abolished

1793

January 21 King Louis XVI is executed

March Counterrevolution breaks out in Vendée

April The Committee of Public Safety is formed

June Jacobins replace Girondins as the dominant group in the National Convention

July Maximilien Robespierre enters the Committee of Public Safety

October 16 Marie Antoinette is executed

November 10 The Cult of Reason is proclaimed;
The revolutionary calendar, beginning with September 22, 1792, is adopted

1794

March 24 Execution of the leaders of the *sans-culottes*

June 8 Robespierre leads the celebration of the Festival of the Supreme Being

July 28 Robespierre is executed with the guillotine

August 10 Reorganization of the Revolutionary Tribunal

1795

August 22 The Constitution of the Year III establishes the Directory

1799

November 10 Napoleon's coup d'état overthrows the Directory

Napoleonic Europe

1796	March	Napoleon gets command of the French Army of Italy
1799	November 10	Napoleon helps to overthrow the Directory's rule, establishing a strong central executive in France
1804	December 2	He crowns himself emperor of French
1805	October 21	Battle of Trafalgar - French and Spanish fleets are defeated by the British
	December 2	Napoleon wins the Battle of Austerlitz
1806	October	Napoleon defeated the Prussians at Jena and French forces occupied Berlin
1807	July	Treaty of Tilsit - Russia becomes an ally of Napoleon
1808	May 2	The Peninsula War - Spaniards, aided by the British, fight to resist French occupation
1812	June 24	Napoleon begins his invasion of Russia
	October 19	Grand Army retreats from Moscow
1813	October 16-19	Allied forces defeat Napoleon at Leipzig
1814	March	Paris surrenders to the Coalition forces
	April 11	Napoleon abdicates his throne and is exiled to Elba
	September	Congress of Vienna convenes
1815	March 20	Escaping, Napoleon enters Paris and begins "hundred days" rule
	June 18	Napoleon's forces are defeated at the Battle of Waterloo
	December	Napoleon is exiled on the island of Saint Helena in the Atlantic ocean
1821	May 5	Napoleon dies on St. Helena