

American Presidents



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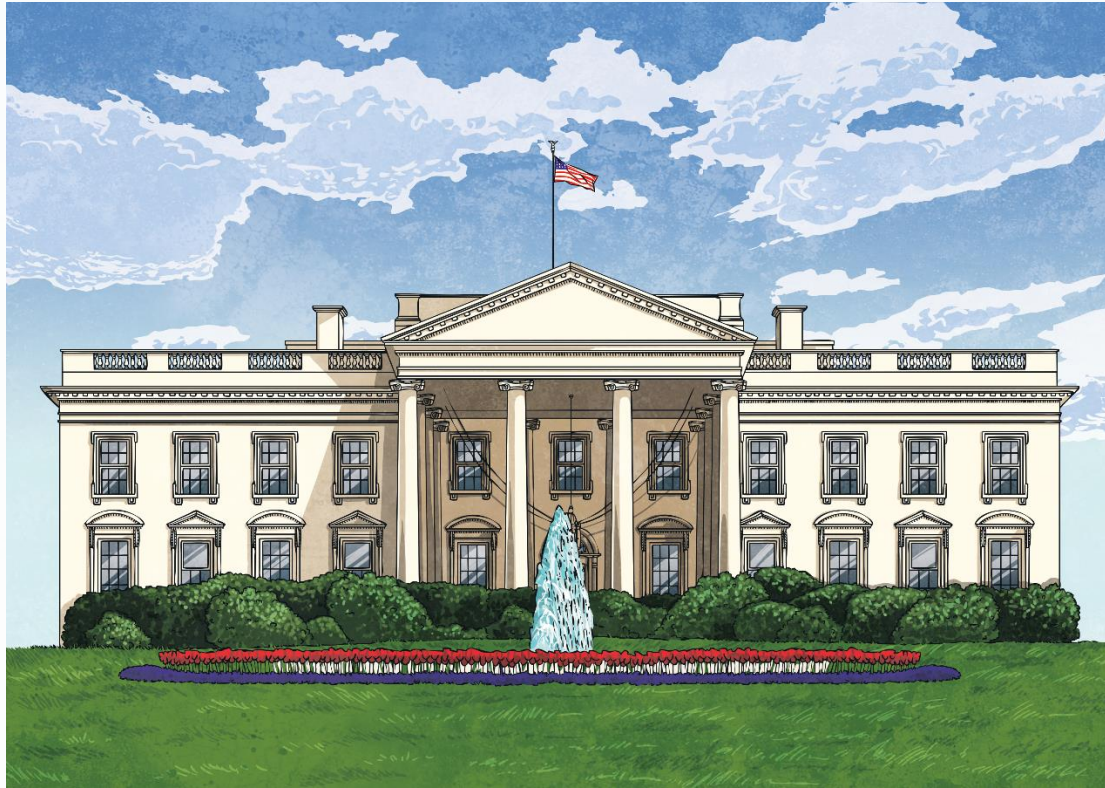
What Is A President?

Today, the President of the United States of America is the elected head of state and head of government. He is also commander-in-chief of the United States Armed Forces. The American president is considered to be one of the most powerful political figures in the world.



Where Does the President Live?

The official residence and work place is the White House in Washington, DC. Since 1800, every president has lived here.



How Do You Become The American President?

To become the American president today, you have to be a natural-born US citizen. You could be president if you were born in another country but both your parents were American citizens. You must also be at least 35 years old and have lived in the United States for at least 14 years, although this doesn't have to be consecutive years.

Most importantly, you have to be chosen by the people of America. Every four years there is an election. People vote for one of the candidates running for the presidency. After the election, the new president and vice-president take their oaths on 20th January.



Political Parties

The two main American political parties are the Democratic and Republican Parties.



The parties do the following:

- Select candidates to run for important positions in the US government.
- Keep American citizens informed about what is happening politically in their country, at a local and national level.
- Assist in making decisions about past, present and future rules and regulations (legislature) in the USA.
- Make sure that the political party currently in power (if not their own) is acting in the best interests of all American citizens.

Democratic Party – Their Values

Economy - All Americans should have the opportunity to succeed and all working families should enjoy economic security. This is achieved through job creation, rebuilding infrastructure and investing in small businesses.

Education - All American children should have access to a quality education that gives them the tools they need to lead a life of success and happiness. US schools must prepare the next generation for success in college and the workforce.

Energy - The USA must develop its production of renewable natural resources and become a more fuel-efficient nation in the hope that it can reduce its use of foreign oil.



Democratic Party – Their Values

Environment - The USA must take care of its ecosystems, invest in clean energy production and protect endangered species.

Equality - Every US citizen should be treated equally, on all fronts, regardless of race, religion, age and gender.

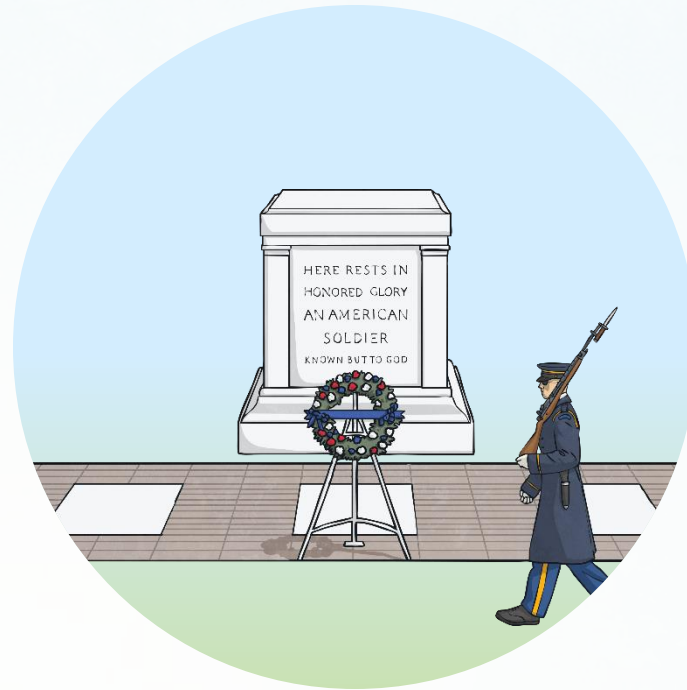
Health – All Americans should have access to quality, affordable healthcare.

Immigration - The USA should embrace the diversity upon which it was built and continue the tradition of innovation that immigrants have brought to the American economy. While protecting national security, a fair pathway to citizenship should be in place for those who wish to contribute to American society.



Democratic Party – Their Values

National Security - The US military should be able to respond to national and international threats facing the USA. American troops should have the training, equipment and support that they need when they are deployed. Veterans should receive the care that they, and their families, need when they return home.



Science and Technology - The USA should invest in technology and jobs of the future, and increase financial support for advanced research, labs and classrooms.

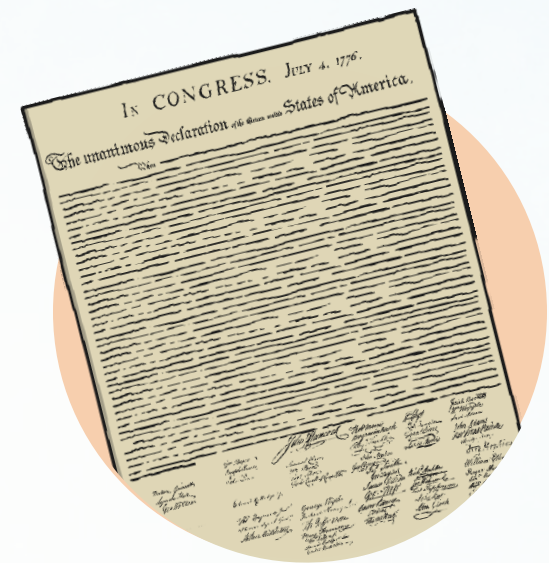
Republican Party – Their Values

Constitution - Americans should follow the guiding laws upon which the USA was founded (the Constitution).

Economy – The USA should have a smaller government so that American citizens don't have to pay high taxes to fund the government. More businesses should be privately owned. The government should become more financially efficient and pay down its debt.

Education – All American children should be able to attend a great school.

Energy – The USA should become energy independent by investing in renewable energy programs in the USA. This would create more jobs to fuel the economy and lower energy prices for American citizens.



Republican Party – Their Values

Health – All Americans should have access to quality, affordable healthcare. This should not be in the hands of the government.

Immigration – The USA should have an immigration system that upholds the law, keeps borders secure and improves the economy.

National Security – The USA must have a strong military to keep the people and its borders safe.

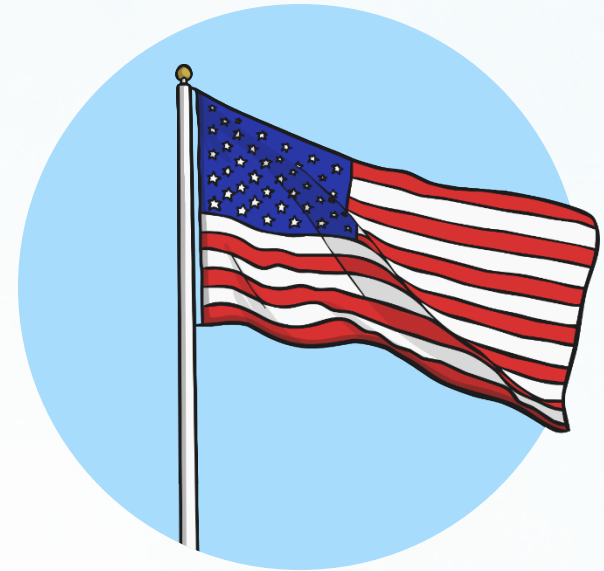
Poverty – Americans should support their families by working hard. The best anti-poverty solution in the USA is helping American citizens find work.



Republican Party – Their Values

Veterans - All American citizens who have served in the armed forces (veterans) should be respected and shown gratitude. Veterans should have access to good quality healthcare without having to wait for months or years to see a doctor.

Finally, they believe that the USA should be a nation built upon hard work, religious freedom, life and family.



George Washington (1789-1797)

On 30th April, 1789 in New York, George Washington took his oath of office as the first president of the United States of America.

George Washington facts:

- He was born in Virginia in 1732.
- Washington became a lieutenant colonel in 1754.
- He was elected commander-in-chief of the Continental Army in 1775.
- He died in 1799 and America mourned his death for months.



No Political Party

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John Adams (1797-1801)



He was the elected vice-president to George Washington and then went onto become president in 1797. Born in 1735, he was a Harvard-educated lawyer. Harvard is one of the world's most prestigious universities. Adams worked in Holland and France in diplomatic roles and helped to bring peace to these countries.

He was the first president to live in the White House. On his second night there, he wrote to his wife...

'Before I end my letter, I pray Heaven to bestow the best of Blessings on this House and all that shall hereafter inhabit it. May none but honest and wise Men ever rule under this roof.'

He died in 1826.

Federalist

Hide Key

Thomas Jefferson (1801-1809)

A strong believer in democracy, Jefferson was elected in 1801.

He was born in 1743 in Virginia. In 1776, he wrote the Declaration of Independence. This was a declaration written to King George III of England, which announced that America was no longer part of the British Empire.



A new nation was formed, known as the United States of America. Independence Day is celebrated each year in the United States on 4th July.

He died on the same day as John Adams, the previous president.

Democratic Republican

Hide Key

James Madison (1809-1817)

He is known as the 'Father of the Constitution'. The Constitution is the document containing the main laws that govern the United States.

James Madison facts:

- Born in 1751.
- Attended Princeton studying history, government and law.
- During his presidency, Britain was at war with America.



Democratic Republican

Hide Key

James Monroe (1817-1825)

John Quincy Adams (1825-1829)

Andrew Jackson (1829-1837)

Democratic-
Republican

Democratic

Hide Key

Martin Van Buren (1837-1841)

Shortly after his presidency began, there was a financial panic in America.

Born in 1782 in New York, his family came from the Netherlands. Van Buren was a lawyer who became involved in politics. In 1821, he was elected to the United States Senate. President Jackson gave him the role of Secretary of State. The Secretary of State is the president's chief foreign affairs adviser. He became Andrew Jackson's vice-president in 1832.



When he became president, the country was prosperous however three months into his presidency, hundreds of banks and businesses failed. Thousands of people lost land and for around five years, the country was hit by a depression. He died in 1862.

Democratic

Hide Key

William Henry Harrison (1841)

In 1841, William Henry Harrison was the oldest president to be elected, until the election of Ronald Reagan in 1981.

After only 32 days as president, he became the first president to die in office. This is the shortest presidency in American history.

His vice-president, John Tyler, became president after his death.



Whig

Hide Key

John Tyler (1841-1845)

James Knox Polk (1845-1849)

Whig

Democratic

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Zachary Taylor (1849-1850)

He was a general and national hero in the army. He served for a short time as president until his death in 1850.



Whig

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Millard Fillmore (1850-1853)

Franklin Pierce (1853-1857)

James Buchanan (1857-1861)

Whig

Democratic

Hide Key

Abraham Lincoln (1861-1865)

Lincoln was the president during the American Civil War. This was a war fought between states in the North and South of America. The Southern States didn't want to be part of the United States. Lincoln was with the northern states as they wanted to remain one country. During the Civil War, over 600,000 soldiers died and the Northern States won the conflict.



Abraham Lincoln facts:

- He was born in 1809.
- He was against slavery and a Republican.
- Lincoln was re-elected in 1864.
- In 1865, he was killed by a man, who believed Lincoln was helping the South.

Republican

Hide Key

Andrew Johnson (1865-1869)

Ulysses S. Grant (1869-1877)

Rutherford B. Hayes (1877-1881)

Democratic

Republican

Hide Key

James Garfield (1881)
assassinated

Chester A. Arthur (1881-1885)

Republican

Hide Key

Grover Cleveland

(1885-1889 and 1893 - 1897)

Grover Cleveland is the only person to have been president on two separate occasions. He was president first of all between 1885 and 1889, then he served a second term between 1893 and 1897.

Grover Cleveland facts:

- Born in New Jersey in 1837.
- Worked as a lawyer.
- The first Democrat elected after the Civil War.



Democratic

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Benjamin Harrison (1889 - 1893)

Grover Cleveland (1893 - 1897)

William McKinley (1897 – 1901)
assassinated

Democratic

Republican

Hide Key

Theodore Roosevelt (1901 - 1909)

William Howard Taft (1909 - 1913)

Woodrow Wilson (1913 - 1921)

Republican

Democratic

Hide Key

Warren G. Harding (1921 - 1923)

Calvin Coolidge (1923 - 1929)

Herbert Hoover (1929 - 1933)

Republican

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Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933 – 1945)

Harry S. Truman (1945 - 1953)

Dwight D. Eisenhower (1953 - 1961)

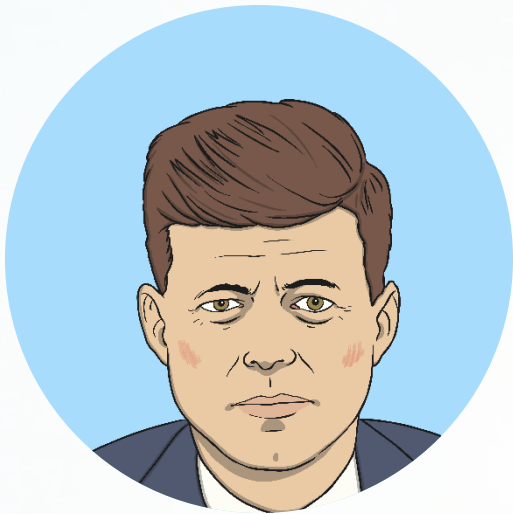
Democratic

Republican

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John F. Kennedy (1961 - 1963)

Kennedy was the 35th president of the United States. In his first speech as president he famously said, 'Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country'. He was a Democrat.



Facts about John F. Kennedy

- Born in 1917 in Massachusetts.
- He studied at Harvard then joined the Navy.
- In 1943, Kennedy's boat was sunk by the Japanese. Despite serious injuries, he led the survivors through dangerous waters to safety.
- He was assassinated in Texas in 1963. He was the youngest man elected as president and the youngest president to die in office.

Democratic

Hide Key

Lyndon B. Johnson (1963 - 1969)

Richard M. Nixon (1969 – 1974)
resigned

Gerald R. Ford (1974 - 1977)

Democratic

Republican

Hide Key

James Carter Jr. (1977 - 1981)

Ronald Reagan (1981 - 1989)

George H. W. Bush (1989 - 1993)

Democratic

Republican

Hide Key

William J. Clinton (1993-2001)

Known as Bill, Clinton was the 42nd president. During his time in office, many believe that America experienced its most peaceful period in history. He is a Democrat.



Bill Clinton facts:

- He was born in 1946 in Arkansas.
- When he was a child, he was an excellent musician.
- He met John Kennedy as a young boy, which inspired him to become president.
- He gained a law degree from Yale University then entered into politics.
- He is married to Hillary Clinton, who ran for the presidency in 2016.

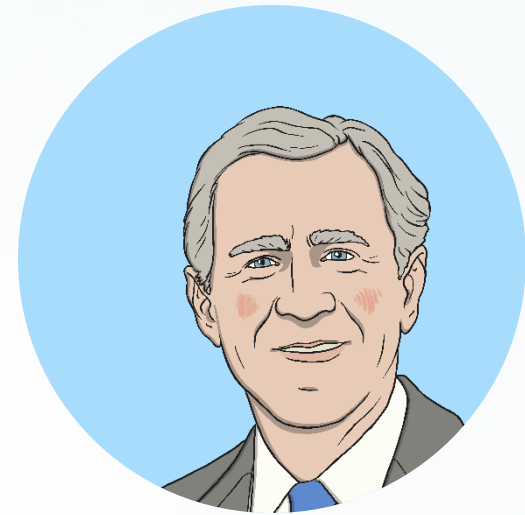
Democratic

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George W. Bush (2001 - 2009)

George W. Bush was born in New Haven, Connecticut. He worked in the Texas oil industry and he was Governor of Texas between 1995 and 2000 before he was elected president.

During Bush's presidency, the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre took place. His father, earlier president George H. W. Bush, said that his son 'faced the greatest challenge since Abraham Lincoln'.
Bush is a Republican.



Republican

Hide Key

Barack Obama 2009-2017

Barack Obama, Jr. was born in Hawaii on 4th August, 1961. He graduated from Harvard University and became a law professor and civil rights lawyer. He was an Illinois State Senator for 8 years.



Barack Obama facts:

- He was elected to Congress in 2004, elected President in 2008 and re-elected in 2012.
- He is the first African-American President of the United States.
- In 2009, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace.
- President Obama's campaigns stood for hope and progress.

Democratic

Hide Key

Donald Trump (2017 -)

Trump won the 2016 American Presidential Election. He is a Republican.

He was born in New York in 1946 into a wealthy family. Trump studied economics at college then began to build up his real estate business, making him a very wealthy man. His company builds and manages properties all over the world. In recent years, he became a huge television star when appearing in the American version of 'The Apprentice'.

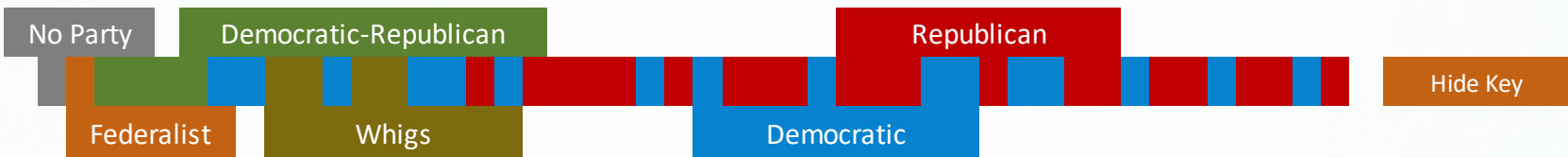


He once said, 'Without passion, you don't have energy; without energy, you have nothing. Nothing great in the world has been accomplished without passion!'

Republican

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Presidents of the United States of America





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