

The **Bill of Rights** is the first ten amendments to the United States Constitution and lists the basic rights of individuals. The Bill of Rights was written in 1791.

I. The Five Basic Freedoms

The First Amendment requires freedom of religion, freedom of assembly, freedom to petition, freedom of the press, freedom of opinion, and freedom of speech.

II. Right to Bear Arms

The Second Amendment gives people the right to keep and bear weapons.

III. Housing Soldiers

The Third Amendment states that no soldier shall be living in any house without the owner's permission.

IV. Search and Seizure

The Fourth Amendment says no one can search through your home and possessions without a search warrant.

V. Rights of the Accused

The fifth Amendment gives you the right to remain silent if being accused of a crime. You can "plead the fifth".

VI. Right to a Fair Trial

The Sixth Amendment grants individuals the right to a speedy and public trial with a fair jury.

VII. Jury Trial in Civil Cases

The Seventh Amendment gives individuals the right to a trial with a fair jury in civil matters of \$20 and over, which was much more money in 1791!

VIII. Bail and Punishment

The Eighth Amendment states that bail should not be excessive and there should be no cruel or unusual punishment. In other words, the punishment should fit the crime.

IX. Power to the People

The Ninth Amendment states that constitutional rights should not interfere with other rights of the people.

X. Power to the States

The Tenth Amendment gives individual states the rights neither listed nor prohibited in the Constitution.

Keep in Mind: There are seventeen more amendments to the U.S. Constitution, but only the first ten are known as the **Bill of Rights!**