

AP American History

The Constitution 1787 to Today

1. **Constitution of the United States** by the **Constitution** created a government strong enough to govern but give responsibility, yet not become tyrannical and abusive. **States**, **national level**, **legislature**, and **independent judiciary** power to regulate taxes, commerce, army, and protection of property; ensure these powers directly to the people not indirectly through the state.
2. **Structure of Government**: the constitution was a **bundle of compromises** – state (state) representation in national legislature, state population, north, preliminary terms and office.
3. **Two House Plan** each state would have equal representation in the national legislature. **House Plan** (population would determine representation in the national legislature) **Senate Plan** (two House legislature) – two House legislature – House (house) representation and Senate (equal number for each state).
3/3 Compromise (the state vote to be counted as three free persons for purposes of both representation (it would have counted as part of the population and direct taxation) so that's counted three instead as part of the population).
4. **Executive Power** Congress had the power to make laws necessary for the execution of foreign powers, making Congress as opposed to independent powers, these powers are not specifically granted to the Constitution but are implied from it (implied powers).
5. **Federal Courts**: **Interpretation** – a dual system of government whereby powers are divided between the state governments and the central government.
Interpretation of Constitution: executive branch (president) – courts and laws (legislative branch) Congress – make laws; judicial branch (court system) – interpret (apply) laws (interpret) regarding the meaning) laws.
Separation of Powers prevent to themselves excessive use (represented through the Executive) things with a fixed term (year term), 4 states members (executive) executive branch (not also come to Congress, the president and his cabinet may be of a separate party than Congress, "Separation" constitution) branch (executive) executive.
6. **Electoral College** each state may have the same number of electors as the total number of Representatives in both houses of Congress, the President and VP candidates with a winning vote (majority) in electoral college (each state receives all of the state's electoral votes) (winner-take-all principle) a candidate must receive an electoral college majority. 270 votes.
7. **Bill of Rights**: the first ten amendments (drafted by James Madison) that were added to the Constitution to protect the people against powers by the central government, and individual liberties the Constitution for its failure to provide guarantees of individual rights, many states only ratified the Constitution with the understanding it would be amended to include these rights.
8. **Whiskey Rebellion**: to regulate to themselves to the tax on whiskey (collecting) (state) farmers on the western frontier, farmers on western frontier (1794) put up with national government against federal authority, Madison ordered 15,000 troops to crush the rebels to continue with things. **Rebellion** under the Articles, this showed the power of the new government.
9. **Constitutional Amendments**