

# U.S. Bill of Rights Flashcharts

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U.S. Bill of Rights

FlashCharts™



**The First Ten Amendments**

The Bill of Rights is a document that describes the freedoms of the American people. It was added to the U.S. Constitution in 1791, four years after the Constitution was signed. The Constitution is a document that explains the laws that rule the U.S. government. The Bill of Rights is a list of ten additional rights that are guaranteed to all Americans. At the time the Constitution was written, the Founding Fathers were thinking of the general rights of all American people. They were considering what it meant to be an American and tried to express those ideas in the document. But over time, people realized that specific, individual rights of citizens were not clear enough. A group of bills, or proposed laws, were written to specify what individual Americans' rights included. The U.S. Bill of Rights was the first time the Constitution was changed. After the Bill of Rights, additional amendments, or changes, were made to the original document.

**A Very American Document**

All Americans should become aware of their rights and freedoms, and one of the most informative documents about these liberties is the Bill of Rights. It states the first ten amendments to the Constitution. The original framers of the Constitution felt that these liberties should be expressed so that Americans would know their rights. The Bill of Rights is also necessary for police and judges—they must understand not to stand in the way of justice and to be able to decide whether a citizen has abused his or her rights.

**What Are Rights and Freedoms?**

Americans pride themselves on having a free society in which citizens have many rights. But how do Americans get these rights? Laws are written to guarantee that people have specific freedoms, such as the freedom to disagree with their government, the freedom to practice any religion, and the freedom to protest their home from harm. The Bill of Rights is a document that is law in the United States. The ten statements about citizens' rights are actually now protected by the nation. When citizens feel their rights have been violated, the law and court system will work to help protect their freedoms.

**NOTE:** The American Revolution started first, although the Bill of Rights is a separate document, the rights still apply to state government.

**Where It All Started**

When the 13 original colonies became free and independent from Britain in 1776, a new government was needed to set all the laws of the land. Some of the same founders of our nation who created the Declaration of Independence now got to work on forming a new document that described the ideas that the new nation would be based upon. The Articles of Confederation was the first document to state the purpose of the government and the way the nation would be run. The document gave a lot of power to the states and not so much power to the new national government. Some people argued that this plan of government was weak and not effective enough for the United States to become a powerful new leader in the world. After much debate and compromise, it was decided that a new document was needed to ensure that the national government was strong while the individual states also retained their rights. It was decided that it would be easier to start over with a new document than it would be to amend, or change, the Articles of Confederation.

Filesize: 6.04 MB

## Reviews

*This book is fantastic. It is really simplistic but surprises inside the 50 percent of the publication. I am just happy to inform you that here is the very best publication i have read through inside my individual life and can be he greatest book for actually.*  
(Everette Luetngen)

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