

Presidential Facts

George Washington	Known as the "father of our country" he established many precedents for presidents.
John Adams	Signed the "Alien and Sedition Acts" and engaged in a "Quasi-War" with France.
Thomas Jefferson	Doubled the country's size with the Louisiana Purchase.
James Madison	Led the U.S. into the 1812 war with Great Britain.
James Monroe	Wrote a "doctrine" opposing European interference in the western hemisphere.
John Quincy Adams	Led an ambitious campaign to modernize American roads, canals, and education, nevertheless paying off most of the national debt.
Andrew Jackson	He supported and signed the "Indian Removal Act" which led to the Cherokee Trail of Tears.
Martin Van Buren	He was blamed for the Depression of 1837 and failed to win a second term.
William Henry Harrison	He died of pneumonia after only 32 days in office, sparking a constitutional crisis about succession.
John Tyler	Firmly believed in "Manifest Destiny" and sought territorial expansion of the United States, especially the annexation of Texas.
James K. Polk	Led the U.S. into a war with Mexico over the annexation of Texas.
Zachary Taylor	Elected president on the strength of his status as a Mexican-American War hero, he had no interest in politics at all (he had never even voted) and only ran reluctantly.
Millard Fillmore	Supported the Compromise of 1850 which made half of the new states slave and half free and staved off the Civil War for a time.
Franklin Pierce	Signed the Kansas-Nebraska Act which nullified the Missouri Compromise and led to violence over the question of slavery.
James Buchanan	On his watch the Southern states seceded from the Union.
Abraham Lincoln	Led the United States through the Civil War, preserved the Union, and ended slavery.
Andrew Johnson	Began Reconstruction in the South and bungled it so badly that he was impeached by Congress, but acquitted by one vote.
Ulysses S. Grant	Vigorously enforced voting and civil rights of newly freed slaves with the Justice Department and the army and prosecuted members of the KKK.
Rutherford B. Hayes	Very concerned with equal rights and rewards based on merit, he tried, mostly unsuccessfully, to clean up corruption in government and end institutional racism in the South.
James A. Garfield	Strongly supported civil rights of former slaves, cleaned up corruption in the Post Office, but was assassinated after only a few months in office.
Chester A. Arthur	During his presidency a surplus of tax money was a problem. He balanced the budget by abolishing excise taxes on everything except alcohol.
Grover Cleveland	A strict classical liberal, he vetoed more unconstitutional bills than any president before, including a bill to buy seed for farmers hurt by a drought in Texas.
Benjamin Harrison	Signed the Sherman Antitrust Act which allowed the federal government to break up monopolies. Also staunchly supported civil rights for black Americans.
William McKinley	Led the U.S. in the Spanish-American war to ensure Cuban independence. Acquired Puerto Rico, Philippines, and Guam. Annexed Hawaii.
Theodore Roosevelt	Established the National Park system and promised Americans a "Square Deal".
William Howard Taft	Passed the Sixteenth Amendment, making it legal for the federal government to levy income taxes on citizens.

Woodrow Wilson	Oversaw the American entry into WWI and asked congress to make "the world safe for democracy".
Warren G. Harding	His administration was exposed for taking bribes to give exclusive rights to private companies for access to Navy oil reserves in the Teapot Dome Scandal.
Calvin Coolidge	Known for his anti-social demeanor, he lowered taxes, favored business, and presided over the "Roaring Twenties".
Herbert Hoover	He combated the crash of 1929 with public works projects and increased taxes, which created the Great Depression.
Franklin D. Roosevelt	Promised the country a "New Deal" to lead them to economic prosperity, but was only successful with the outbreak of WWII.
Harry S. Truman	Forced the surrender of Japan by dropping two atomic bombs on them, thus ending the war in the Pacific.
Dwight D. Eisenhower	Very concerned with defense, he launched the federal highway system. He also sent troops to forcibly desegregate schools in the South.
John F. Kennedy	Challenged the country to put a man on the moon before the Soviets in order to win the Space Race.
Lyndon B. Johnson	Started the war in Viet Nam and the "War on Poverty", greatly expanding social programs in the U.S.
Richard Nixon	Best known for his role in the Watergate Scandal in which illegal spying on the political opposition was discovered, he was forced to resign the presidency.
Gerald Ford	Attempted to battle high inflation and high unemployment by raising taxes and asking people to not buy so much stuff with his "Whip Inflation Now" slogan.
Jimmy Carter	Created the Department of Energy and the Department of Education.
Ronald Reagan	Famously commanded "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!" at a speech in Berlin.
George H.W. Bush	Conducted military operations in Panama and won the 1990 Gulf War in Iraq.
Bill Clinton	Though impeached during office for perjury he rode it out to emerge with high approval ratings partly because of the great economy he presided over.
George W. Bush	Launched the "War on Terror" following the 9/11 terrorist attacks.
Barak Obama	Signed into law the first ever national health care program.
Donald Trump	Known for outspoken brazenness. He was a successful businessman and TV personality before being elected president.