

## 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 writers of the Constitution felt that these liberties should be explained 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 decide whether a citizen has abused his or her rights.

**Where It All Started**

When the 13 original colonies became free and independent from Britain in 1776, a new government was needed to rule on the level of the land. Some of the same founders of our nation who created the Declaration of Independence then 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.

**What Are Rights and Freedoms?**

Americans pride themselves on having a free society in which citizens have many rights. But how do Americans get their 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 protect their homes from harm. The Bill of Rights is a document that is law in the United States. The ten amendments about citizens' rights are actually law protected by the courts. When citizens feel their rights have been violated, the law will stand against and work to help protect their freedoms.

**NOTE:** The document located above was created by the Bill of Rights is a source document. Its rights are given to the government.

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### Reviews

*A very wonderful pdf with lucid and perfect answers. Of course, it is play, nevertheless an amazing and interesting literature. You can expect to like just how the article writer compose this book.*  
**(Gunner Haag)**

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