



The Executive Branch

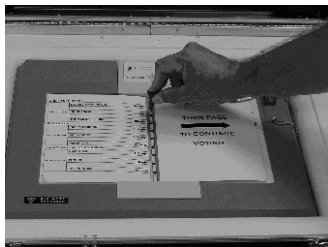
Executive Branch: Inception

- The Articles of Confederation: combined executive and legislative branches
- The Virginia Plan: proposed separate executive and legislative branches
- Some feared a strong executive branch could lead to tyranny or monarchy
- Checks on executive power



Pennsylvania delegate James Wilson

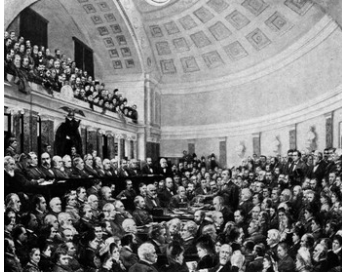
Presidential Elections



- Held every four years
- First Tuesday in November
- Inauguration dates

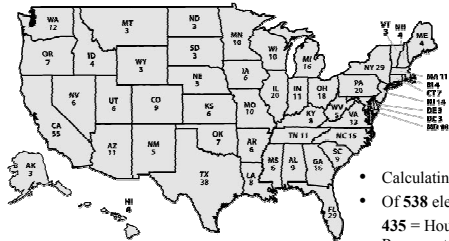
The Electoral College

- Reasons for the creation of the Electoral College
- Choosing electors
- Ballots cast in December, made official in January



The Electoral College meets in 1876

Electoral Votes

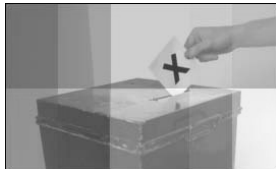


California has the most electoral votes; states like Wyoming and Vermont have the least

- Calculating electoral votes
- Of **538** electoral votes:
 - 435 = House of Representatives
 - 100 = The Senate
- The 23rd amendment

Electoral College Reform

- “Winner-take-all” system
- Problems
- Proposed reforms
 - o Direct Popular Election
 - o Percentage/Proportional
 - o District



Presidential Primaries and Caucuses



Future president Gerald Ford runs for Congress in the 1948 Michigan primary

- Primary: an election held to pick a party's candidates for a general election
- Caucus: a group of people (usually those from a single political party) who meet to choose a candidate to support in a general election

National Conventions

- Delegates formally select candidates for president and vice-president
- Platform: a party's formal statement about its positions, goals, and principles
- Unity



Ronald Reagan gives his acceptance speech at the 1984 Republican national convention

Presidential Requirements and Roles



John F. Kennedy became the youngest president to take office

To be eligible to become president, you must:

- Be at least 35 years old
- Have been born in the U.S
- Have resided in the U.S. for at least 14 years

Presidential Term of Office

- The two-term precedent
- The 22nd Amendment



George Washington set the two-term precedent



President Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected to four terms

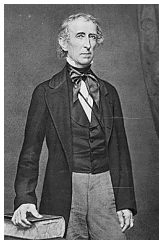
The 25th Amendment

- Deals with instances in which the president dies or becomes disabled
- Established an order of succession
- Set rules for choosing a new vice-president

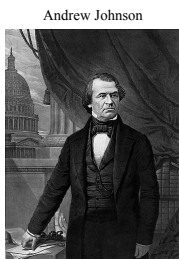


Lyndon Johnson takes the presidential oath of office after the assassination of JFK

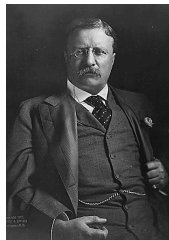
The Vice-President



John Tyler



Andrew Johnson



Theodore Roosevelt

Presidential Powers



- Executive
- Legislative
- Judicial
- Diplomatic
- Military

Executive Powers

- Chief Executive
- Executive orders
- Appointments
- Removals



President Richard Nixon signs an Executive Order

Legislative Powers



President George H.W. Bush signs into law the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act

- Recommend legislation to Congress
- Approve measures passed by Congress
- Veto power
- Call special sessions of Congress

Judicial Powers

- Appointment of federal judges
- Reprieves
- Pardons
- Commutations
- Amnesty



Supreme Court Justice Warren Burger and President Nixon at press conference announcing Burger as new Chief Justice

Military Powers



President Lyndon Johnson pins a medal on soldier in Vietnam

- Commander in chief of the U.S. military
- Power to deploy troops
- The War Powers Resolution

Diplomatic Powers

- Treaties
- Recognition
- Setting foreign policy



President Kennedy signs the 1963 Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

The Cabinet



- Advises the president
- Not mentioned in the Constitution
- George Washington's Cabinet

The Modern Cabinet

Name of Department	Year Established	Name of Department	Year Established
State	1789	Health and Human Services	1953
Treasury	1789	Housing and Urban Development	1965
Defense	1789	Transportation	1967
Justice	1870	Energy	1977
Interior	1849	Education	1979
Agriculture	1889	Veterans Affairs	1988
Commerce	1903	Homeland Security	2002
Labor	1913		

The Growth of Presidential Power

- Only government official elected by the country as a whole
- Executive branch: decisions made by one person
- Congressional legislation
- Executive Orders