**The Articles of Confederation**

* Took five years to write
* There was a lot of squabbling over who had what land
* How would they govern themselves?
* It was finally ratified

**Confederation and Taxation**

* Main Goals
  + Pursuing war and peace
  + Conducting foreign relations
  + Regulating trade
  + Running postal service
* Delegates had a three year term
  + Rotation
* 2 to 7 delegates per state
* Taxation is a necessity
  + They had to be careful because they denounced taxation by a nonrepresentative power
* States liked the sparse amount of regulation enforced by the Federal Government
  + More freedom for them to do whatever the hell they want to do

**Problems Of Western Lands**

* States had claims on land beyond the 13 colonies but no one had anything official
* Delaware and Maryland held out because they did not have any land claims

**Running the New Government**

* There was a need to have a central place for the Congress to meet up because during the war they constantly moved around
  + Family and travel played a role
  + As a consequence of a incompetent Congress, special positions were created to aid in making those decisions
* Also, the creation of an executive branch was made out of necessity
* States were left to their own devices and could make whatever decision they wanted

**The States Constitutions**

* Congress tells the states to make up their own constitutions
* 10 states did and three decided to use the underlying structure of the Federal Government
* Government ultimately rests on the consent of the governed
* Republicanism meant more than than popular elections and representative institutions
  + Putting civic duties in front of profits
  + Republics acted well in small units
* There was a severe cut to local government with regard to who had power
  + The power resided in the local majority
* Six of the states included bills of rights
  + all men are by nature equally free and independent, and have certain inherent rights, of which, when they enter into a state of society, they cannot by any compact deprive or divest their posterity; namely, the enjoyment of life and liberty, with the means of acquiring and possessing property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety.

**Who are “The People”**

* Defining factors
  + Land possession: poor men were not considered
  + Gender: women were barred from voting
  + Race: blacks were barred from voting