

Amendments Simplified

Bill of Rights:

1. *Congress shall make no law (originally the Bill of Rights only limited national govt.) ...*
 - Establishing religion + prohibiting free exercise of religion
 - Abridging speech, press, assembly, petition government
2. Right of people to keep and bear arms
3. No quartering Soldiers
4. No unreasonable search & seizure; specific warrant based on probable cause
5. Rights of Accused: grand jury, no “double jeopardy,” no self-incrimination, due process, just compensation
6. Trials: speedy, public, impartial local jury, informed of accusation, confront witness, subpoena witnesses; right to counsel
7. Civil trial by jury if >\$20
8. Punishment: no excessive bail or fines; no cruel and unusual punishment
9. Writing down these rights does not imply other rights do not exist
10. Residual powers to states or the people
11. Sovereign immunity of states
12. Revises Electoral College: Separate Election of President and VP (1804)
13. Slavery prohibited (1865)
14. Equal protection (1868): leads to *incorporation* – *Bill of Rights “selectively” applied to states:*
 - “All persons born or naturalized in the United States...are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside”
 - No abridgement of privileges & immunities
 - due process
 - equal protection
15. Black male suffrage (1870): right to vote “shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.”
16. Federal Income tax permitted (1913)
17. Direct election of senators – by the people instead of state legislatures (1913)
18. Prohibition (1919)
19. Female suffrage (1920)
20. “Lame Duck”: changes date president takes office to Jan. 20 & date Congress starts (1933)
21. Prohibition repealed – states can still ban alcohol if they want (1933)
22. 2 terms for Pres (1951) – no more than 10 years
23. Washington, DC gets to vote for president in Electoral College (1961)
24. Poll tax prohibited (1964)
25. Replacement of VP (1967): Pres. can appoint new VP subject to HR & S approval; plus includes procedure for removal of president for inability to discharge duties
26. 18 year olds can vote (1971)
27. No congressional pay raise during term (1992)