

CITIZENSHIP AND GOVERNMENT

What are the Responsibilities of Citizens?

Citizens in a democracy have **rights and responsibilities**. Responsibilities of citizens in a democracy include:

- paying taxes
- voting in elections
- being loyal to his or her country
- serving on a jury

What is the Constitution?

The Constitution is the **plan of government** for the United States.



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What is the Bill of Rights?

An addition to the Constitution are called the Bill of Rights. **Ten amendments** to the Constitution are called the Bill of Rights. **Freedoms** protected in the Bill of Rights include:

- freedom of religion
- freedom of speech
- freedom of the press
- freedom of assembly
- the right to bear arms

The Bill of Rights also states that:

- Citizens cannot be forced to have soldiers live in their homes.
- The home of a citizen cannot be searched without a search warrant.
- Citizens have the right to a trial by a jury.
- A person cannot be forced to testify against himself.
- A citizen accused of a crime has the right to have a lawyer to represent him or her in court.
- Citizens have the right to have a witness testify for him or her.
- High bail is forbidden.

What do other Amendments state?

- The **13th Amendment** stopped slavery.
- The **17th Amendment** gave citizens the right to elect Senators to represent them in Congress.
- Women were given the right to vote with the passage of the **19th Amendment** in 1920.
- According to the **22nd Amendment**, a President can serve 2 four-year terms.
- The **26th Amendment** states that citizens can vote at age 18.



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