

## THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION

### About the Articles of Confederation

The document entitled “**The Articles of Confederation**” was the **first governing document** of the United States. The Articles of Confederation made the **laws** regarding how the newly united colonies handled and shared money, reacted to war, and settled disputes.

Once the Articles were in use, it became clear that some additions needed to be made for effective governance. Some new Acts were added to the Articles of Confederation.

**The Land Ordinance of 1785** was an example of this. As the Articles of Confederation did not give the power to tax, the new leaders responded to the growing need for revenue by creating this Act. The primary objective was to raise money by selling land.



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Another example of an Act created to address the needs of the new nation was **The Northwest Ordinance**. This created the **first territory** of the United States, something that was left out of the Articles of Confederation. It had a big influence on the expansion of the U.S., and allowed the admittance of new states.

While the Articles of Confederation were necessary and effective, it soon became clear that the new government would need a much more in-depth set of rules and laws for the newly formed nation. The Articles of Confederation would have much to do with the creation of the **Constitution**.