

GEORGE WASHINGTON



Presidential Profile

- **George Washington, First President of the United States:** George Washington served from 1789-1797. He was born on February 22, 1732 in Westmoreland County, Virginia and died on December 14, 1799, at his farm in Mount Vernon, Virginia. He was married to Martha Washington and adopted her two children.
- **Military Leadership:** General George Washington was the Commander in Chief who led America's Continental Army to victory over the British during the American Revolutionary War from 1775-1783.
- **Presidential Election:** Due in part to his successful military leadership, the Electoral College unanimously elected George Washington President of the United States. In 1789, President Washington took the oath of office in New York City, our Nation's capital at the time. He recited the oath of office which every President since then has pledged, "I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."
- **Two Term President:** President Washington served eight years in office. By declining to run for a third term, he established the precedent of Presidents serving a maximum of two terms. After President Washington's service, no President served more than two terms until Franklin Delano Roosevelt from 1932-1945. In 1951, Congress ratified the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution to limit Presidents to two terms in office.

Monumental Moments

- President Washington laid the cornerstone for the United States Capitol building in the District of Columbia in 1793.
- In 1885, the Washington Monument on the United States Mall was dedicated to honor his service to our country. The monument is an obelisk, a popular design in Greek and Egyptian architecture.
- The capital city of the United States, Washington, D.C., is named in his honor.
- He is one of only four Presidents whose face is carved into the side of a mountain at the Mount Rushmore National Memorial in South Dakota.
- As of 2007, there are 95 cities and towns and 31 counties in the United States that are named Washington.

Coin Connection

- The George Washington \$1 Coin was launched on February 15, 2007.
- He is also featured on the United States dollar bill and quarter.
- He signed into law the Coinage Act of 1792 which established the United States Mint in Philadelphia, the Nation's capital at the time.



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