

MAGIC YEARS

Memorizing years is not required for mastery of U.S. history; however it is useful if you can identify the following years by sight... and be able to explain how each is an important turning point in history. **Highlighted items INDICATE SPECIFIC YEARS EXPLICIT ON FRAMEWORK. Underlined items are ALSO EXPLICIT.**

- 1492 – Columbus “discover” America, Spanish colonization begins, Columbian Exchange begins
- 1607 – First permanent English colony – Jamestown on Chesapeake Bay
- 1619 – First slaves arrive in Jamestown & House Of Burgesses
- 1620 – Plymouth founded (Puritans) in New England
- 1676 – Bacon’s Rebellion
- 1754 – French and Indian War begins (Seven Years War)
- 1763 – Treaty of Paris - French and Indian War ends, Pontiac’s Rebellion, and Proclamation Line
- 1765 – Stamp Act, first direct tax, “no taxation without representation”
- 1775 – American Revolution begins; Lexington and Concord, Second Continental Congress
- 1776 – Thomas Paine’s Common Sense & the Declaration of Independence
- 1783 – Treaty of Paris - end of American Revolution & beginning of U.S.A. under Articles of Confederation
- 1787 – Northwest Ordinance
- 1789 – Constitution ratified (Constitutional Convention, 1787, Federalists vs Anti-Federalists)
- 1791 – Bill of Rights added to Constitution
- 1790s – First Two Party System, Hamilton vs Jefferson
- 1800 – “Revolution of 1800,” election of Thomas Jefferson
- 1803 – Louisiana Purchase, Marbury vs Madison (judicial review)
- 1808 – slave importation ends (Slavery Compromise 1789)
- 1812 – War of 1812 begins
- 1815 – Treaty of Ghent – end of War of 1812, Hartford Resolutions, end of Federalist Party, beginning of Era of Good Feelings
- 1820 – Missouri Compromise
- 1823 - Monroe Doctrine
- 1824 – Corrupt Bargain, election, beginning of Democratic Party (pro- Jackson movement)
- 1828 – Andrew Jackson elected, Era of the Common Man
- 1820s-1830s – Second Two Party System, Jackson vs Clay
- 1844 – Election of Polk; Manifest Destiny
- 1846 – Mexican-American War begins
- 1848 – Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Mexican Cession, end of MexicanAmerican War
- 1850 – Compromise of 1850 (CA free, end of slave trade in DC, pop-sovereignty in cession lands, fugitive slave law)
- 1854 – Kansas Nebraska Act (pop-sov. in territories, bleeding Kansas), Republican Party replaces Whig Party which split over slavery
- 1857 – Dred Scott vs Sanford
- 1860 – Election of Abraham Lincoln, secession begins
- 1861 – beginning of Civil War, Battle of Fort Sumter
- 1862 – Homestead Act, Pacific Railway Act, Treasury System, Morrill Act

MAGIC YEARS...Continued...

- 1863 – Battle of Gettysburg, [Gettysburg Address](#), Battle of Vicksburg, [Emancipation Proclamation](#)
- 1865 – end of [Civil War](#), assassination of Lincoln, [13th Amendment](#)
- 1877 – end of [Radical Reconstruction](#), Compromise of 1877. All states back in the Union and have ratified [13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments](#), Jim Crow begins
- 1890** – [Wounded Knee](#); [Closure of the West](#) (frontier closed), [Sherman-Antitrust Act](#)
- 1892 – [People's Party \(Populist Third Party\)](#) nationwide and run Weaver for Pres.
- 1896 – [Plessy v. Ferguson](#)
- 1898 – [Spanish American War](#), beginning of [imperialism](#), [Philippines](#), [Guam](#), [Puerto Rico acquired](#), [imperialists vs anti-imperialists](#)
- 1903 – Panama Canal construction begins
- 1912 – election of 1912
- 1917 – U.S. enters [W.W.I. – Fourteen Points](#)
- 1918 – [W.W.I](#) ends
- 1919 – [First Red Scare](#)
- 1920 – 19th Amendment (4th of 4 [Progressive Amendments](#)), [Treaty of Versailles](#) not ratified, U.S. does NOT join [League of Nations](#)
- 1920s** - [more urban than rural](#), [culture conflicts](#)
- 1929 – Stock Market Crash and beginning of [Great Depression](#)
- 1933 – [FDR's New Deal](#) begins (**1930s-Great Depression**)
- 1941 – [Pearl Harbor](#), U.S. enters [W.W.I.I.](#); [Depression ends](#)
- 1945 – end of [W.W.I.I.](#); [atomic bombs](#) on Hiroshima and Nagasaki; beginning of [Cold War](#) (“iron curtain” descends)
- 1950 – [Korean War](#) begins
- 1953 – [Korean War](#) ends; armistice and DMZ
- 1954 – [Brown v. Board of Education](#)
- 1957 – Sputnik; beginning of [space race](#)
- 1963 – I have a dream; [MLK](#); March on Washington, JFK assassinated
- 1964** – Gulf of Tonkin Resolutions, troops fighting in [Vietnam War](#) beginning of [LBJ's Great Society](#), [Civil Rights Act of 1964](#), [conservative resurgence begins](#)
- 1965** – [Immigration Act reverse quotas](#), [Civil Rights Movement splinters as some question non-violent tactics of King](#)
- 1968 – MLK and RFK assassinated, Tet Offensive, Chicago riot, silent majority elects Nixon, race riots, [anti-war](#) protests escalates
- 1973 – [Vietnam War](#) ends with armistice
- 1974 – Watergate scandal leads to Nixon resigning before he's impeached
- 1975 – Fall of Saigon ([South Vietnam](#) falls to North Vietnam, then Laos and Cambodia)
- 1980** – [Election of Ronald Reagan; conservative resurgence](#)
- 1989 – Berlin Wall falls, end of [Cold War](#) with U.S. S.R.
- 2000 – election of George W. Bush, [Bush vs Gore](#)
- 2001** – [September 11th attacks on Pentagon and World Trade Center](#); Osama Bin Laden; Patriot Acts, Department of Homeland Security, NSA
- 2008 – election of Barack Obama, the Great Recession of 2008

HISTORICAL ERAS

***REMEMBER THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO DEFINE ERAS...
BUT MAJOR TURNING POINTS SHOULD BE YOUR
BOOKENDS NO MATTER WHAT.***

Before Columbus ← Exploration and Colonization → 1763

1492 is a major turning point; Columbus “discovered” America and the Columbian Exchange began... 1754 was the beginning of the French and Indian War which ended in 1763.

1763 ← Revolutionary Era-Rebellion → 1776

Proclamation Line of 1763 through Declaration of Independence (1776)

1775 ← Revolution & Independence → 1783

Lexington and Concord to the Treaty of Paris and the Articles of Confederation

1783 ← Critical Era & the Constitution → 1789

1783 – Patriots win and the United States begins under the AOC which is replaced with the Constitution in 1789. Two years later Bill of Rights added.

1789 ← Early Republic → 1815

Ratification of the Constitution through the end of the War of 1812

1815 ← Era of Good Feelings → 1824

End of the War of 1812 ... through the Corrupt Bargain election

1815 ← Antebellum Era & Economic Transformation → 1860

Beginning of Market Revolution through the election of Abraham Lincoln

1820 ← Sectionalism Heats Up & Era of Common Man → 1840

Missouri Compromise of 1820 through the election of 1840

1833 ← Era of Reforms & Manifest Destiny → 1848

The Liberator goes into publication in 1833... through the end of the Mexican-American War

1861 ← Civil War & Reconstruction Era → 1877

Fort Sumter through the Compromise of 1877 ending radical reconstruction

1868 ← Gilded Age - American Society in Transition → 1896

Industrialization & Urbanization, Enclosure of the West, Rise of the Populists

election of U.S. Grant and completion of first transcontinental railroad ...
through 1890 – West closed... through... 1896 Populist Party dissolves...

HISTORICAL ERAS CONTINUED...

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1898 ← America's Rise to Power (Imperialism) → 1917
Spanish-American War through U.S. entry into the First World War

1890 ← The Progressive Era → 1920
Sherman Anti-Trust Act and Omaha Platform (populists) through the 19th Amendment

1914 ← The First World War (WWI) → 1918
war erupts in 1914... through the U.S. entry in 1917... and then end of war in 1918

1919 ← Roaring 20's & Jazz Age → 1929
First Red Scare through the stock market crash of '29

1929 ← The Great Depression and New Deal → 1941
stock market crash through the mobilization for WWII

1941 ← The Second World War (WWII) → 1945
Pearl Harbor through Atomic Bombs

1945 ← Cold War Begins & Modern Civil Rights Movement Swells → 1960
end of the Second World War through the election of John F. Kennedy

1960 ← Cold War Continued & Decade of Protest/Change → 1968
election of JFK through the election of Nixon (and Tet Offensive, MLK & RFK assassinated,
Dem. Convention riot, L.A. riot... 68 was a bad year...)

1964 ← Crisis and Conservative Resurgence → 2000
(Conservative Resurgence, Stagnant Seventies, and Reagan Era)
Rise of Conservatism begins during 1964 Republican convention... culminates in election of
Reagan in 1980... continues through Clinton with Conservative Congress and the Contract with
America... ending with election of 2000

2000 ← Modern Times - The 21st Century → present
election of 2000 (George W. Bush) through now!