

THE 27 AMENDMENTS

#	Description	Category	Notes
1	Freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition	<i>Personal Freedoms</i>	Rights are limited when done with the intent to harm, threaten, & cause panic.
2	Right to bear arms	<i>Personal Freedoms</i>	A person may own guns, firearms
3	Prohibition against forced quartering of troops	<i>Personal Freedoms</i>	Created in response to the Quartering Acts during the Colonial period. This only applies during peacetime
4	Prohibition against search and seizure without warrant	<i>Personal Freedoms / Fair Legal Treatment</i>	With probable cause, a judge may issue a SPECIFIC warrant to search for SPECIFIC goods
5	Provides for rights of accused persons - cannot be held without indictment, no double jeopardy, no self-incrimination	<i>Fair Legal Treatment</i>	Guarantees the rights of persons accused of a crime (<i>Miranda Rights</i>) Also allows for <i>Eminent Domain</i> – Gov't may take personal property with fair compensation
6	Right to a speedy & public trial	<i>Fair Legal Treatment</i>	Guarantees the rights of persons accused of a crime "Speedy" means as fast as our legal system can work Trial will be in a public place and may involve a jury Also, the accused may confront his/her accuser(s) & call witnesses
7	Provides for jury trial in civil cases	<i>Fair Legal Treatment</i>	Civil case is one involving two PRIVATE citizens (person vs. person in court)
8	Prohibits excessive bail, fines, or cruel and unusual punishment	<i>Fair Legal Treatment</i>	Guarantees the rights of persons accused of a crime Has been open to interpretation - does allow for the death penalty in some states
9	Affirms rights of the people not enumerated in Constitution	<i>Reserved Powers</i>	Citizens have more rights than those listed in the Constitution
10	Provides for reserved powers of the states	<i>Reserved Powers</i>	States are responsible for everything not delegated to the National Gov't, nor expressly prohibited to the states
11	A state cannot be sued in the courts of another state or nation (1798)	<i>Reserved Powers</i>	Issues between states are resolved in the Supreme Court
12	Electors specify presidential and vice-presidential votes (1804)	<i>Elections & Conditions of Office</i>	Created with the formation of political parties Eliminated the "2nd place goes to the Vice President" system
13	Slavery abolished (1865)	<i>Personal Freedoms / Social & Economic Changes</i>	Reconstruction Amendment Outlawed slavery

14	Granted citizenship to freed slaves (1868)	<i>Social & Economic Changes</i>	Reconstruction Amendment Defined Citizenship (which now included African Americans)
15	Granted suffrage to freed male slaves (1870)	<i>Voting Rights</i>	Reconstruction Amendment Cannot deny voting rights based on race, ethnicity, or previous condition of servitude (slavery)
16	Provided for the income tax (1913)	<i>Social & Economic Change</i>	Allowed the Federal Gov't to collect regular revenue from citizens' income & property value
17	Provided for direct election of U.S. senators (1913)	<i>Elections & Condition of Office</i>	Senators would no longer be chosen by State Legislatures – now they would be voted on by citizens of the states
18	Prohibition of manufacture, sale, transportation of alcoholic beverages (1919)	<i>Social & Economic Changes</i>	Created by the Anti-Saloon League (Westerville, OH) Based on the belief that alcohol consumption led to society's problems with crime, violence, unemployment (Many states had "anti-consumption" laws in place before 1919)
19	Provided for women's suffrage (1920)	<i>Voting Rights</i>	Gave women the right to vote
20	Provided for Jan. 20 taking of office rather than March 4; "Lame Duck" amendment (1933)	<i>Elections & Condition of Office</i>	Shortens the period of time between Presidential election and inauguration (1/20). (<i>Great Depression –era, wanted to get Hoover out & FDR in as quickly as possible. Also, no longer needed to wait until springtime to hold inaugurations</i>)
21	Repeal of prohibition (1933)	<i>Social & Economic Changes</i>	Reversed the 18 cause more problems than it stopped. Taxes on alcohol were seen as revenue for states & federal Gov't during the Great Depression
22	Limited presidency to two terms (1951)	<i>Elections & Conditions of Office</i>	F.D. Roosevelt was elected to 4 terms as President ('32, '36, '40, & '44). FDR served during the Great Depression & WWII. He died shortly after starting his 4 The "two-term" precedent set by Washington had only been a custom, not official policy
23	Allowed citizens of the District of Columbia to vote for president and vice-president (1961)	<i>Elections & Conditions of Office</i>	When D.C. was established, it was not thought to be a place where people would live. By 1960, D.C. had a population of 760,000 people – why did they not have the same voting rights as everybody else?
24	Banned poll tax in national elections (1964)	<i>Voting Rights</i>	Poll taxes had been used in 5 Southern states to keep African-Americans from voting – this Amendment outlawed this practice
25	Provided for presidential disability and succession (1967)	<i>Elections & Conditions of Office</i>	After Eisenhower's illness/heart attack in '56 and JFK's assassination in '63, there needed to be a plan in place if the President become incapacitated

26	Voting age lowered to 18 (1971)	<i>Voting Rights</i>	During the Vietnam Conflict, American men could be drafted into service at 18, but could vote until 21
27	Provided that a current Congressional pay raise could not go into effect until after congressional elections. (1789 & 1992)	<i>Elections & Condition of Office</i>	Originally intended to be a part of the Bill of Rights, but no states ratified. OH was the first state to ratify in the early 1870's. WY was 2 nd necessary for ratification did so.