

COMPLETE THE BILL OF RIGHTS
 REVIEW ACTIVITIES ON THE NEXT
 3 PAGES.



The Bill of Rights

To convince several states to ratify the Constitution, the Founding Fathers promised to add a section of amendments that describe the basic rights and freedoms of American citizens. This section of amendments is called the Bill of Rights. These first 10 amendments to the Constitution were added in 1791.

On this page and the next, read the statements relating to each of the 10 amendments in the Bill of Rights. Then, decide whether the statements are true or false.

Amendment I

- The government cannot make a law telling you what religion to believe in. T F
- The government can make it illegal for you to speak your opinion. T F
- The government can tell the media which stories it can and cannot cover. T F
- Citizens can gather together in meetings as long as they are peaceful. T F
- A citizen can tell the government what he or she does not like and make suggestions for change. T F

Amendment II

Citizens can own firearms to defend themselves. T F

Amendment III

Citizens cannot be forced to house members of the military in their own homes. (This amendment was important to people in the 1700s but is not an issue anymore.) T F

Amendment IV

The government can search your home and take your things without a good reason. T F

Amendment V

- No one can take away your property without legal permission. T F
- There must be enough evidence against a person accused of a serious crime to put him or her through a trial. T F
- A person can be sent to court more than once for the same crime. T F
- Proper legal procedures have to be followed before a person can be declared guilty of a crime. T F
- A person can be forced to testify against himself or herself in court. T F

Amendments VI and VII

- Only certain people have the right to have a jury decide whether they are guilty or innocent. T F
- After a person is accused of a crime, the government can take as long as it wants to give that person a trial. T F
- A person cannot be sent to a trial without being told what he or she did wrong. T F
- A person accused of a crime can have witnesses come to court to help prove he or she is innocent. T F
- A person accused of a crime has the right to have a lawyer help to defend him or her in court. T F

Amendment VIII

- Courts cannot ask for a person to pay a bail (money that is paid to be let out of jail with the promise that the person will return for his or her trial) that is too high. T F
- A person convicted of a crime cannot be given a punishment that is very cruel or too harsh for the crime. T F

Amendment IX

If a right of the citizens is not listed in the Constitution, then the government can ignore it. T F

Amendment X

Any power that the Constitution does not give to the federal government is given to the states and to the people. T F

