

*“The Preamble to the US
Constitution”*



“Supreme Law of the Land”



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- The “*U.S. Constitution*” is the *highest authority* in the nation.
- All power of the *U.S. Government* is derived from this document.



Three Parts of the Constitution

Preamble - Introduction or Goals of the Constitution

The 7 Articles – Body of the Constitution

The 27 Amendments - Changes to the Constitution



The “Preamble”





“Preamble”



The introduction to our Constitution is called the Preamble.

- *“We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”*
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“Preamble”



The introduction to our Constitution is called the Preamble.

- The phrases “We the People” illustrates our belief in popular sovereignty, that the government gets its power from the people – the people rule!
- This portion of the Constitution lists the six goals of our government.

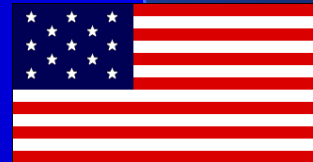
Goal #1: To Form a more perfect Union

- To unite the states more effectively so they can operate as a single nation, for the good of all.



Goal #1: To Form a more perfect Union

- **Examples might include:**
 - **Building national highways and bridges.**
 - **Communication systems**
 - **A single system of money**
 - **Landmarks that remind us of our national pride**



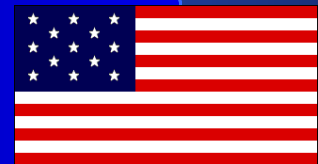
Goal #2: To establish Justice

- **To create a system of fair laws and courts and make certain that all citizens are treated equally.**



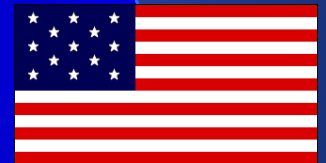
Goal #2: To establish Justice

- **Examples might include:**
 - **Charges being filed against people breaking laws**
 - **Court cases involving the rights of others**



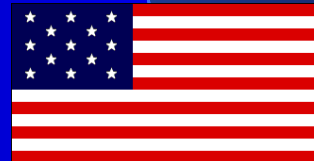
Goal #3: To insure domestic Tranquility

- To maintain peace and order, keeping citizens and property *safe* from harm.



Goal #3: To insure domestic Tranquility

- **Examples might include:**
 - **Using the police to insure the safety of others during a riot or dangerous situation**
 - **Helping people after a natural disaster**



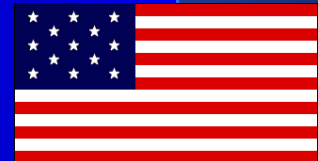
Goal #4: To provide for the common defense

- **To be ready militarily to protect the country and its citizens from outside attack.**



Goal #4: To provide for the common defense

- **Examples might include:**
 - **Protecting the US from attack**
 - **Helping countries that are near the US so their problems don't become our problems**
 - **Making alliances with other countries**



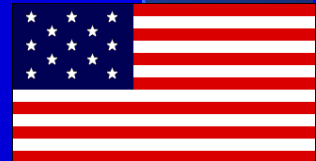
Goal #5: To promote the general Welfare

- **To help people live healthy, happy, and prosperous lives**



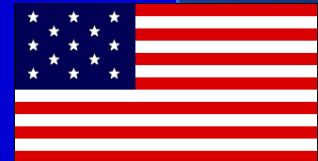
Goal #5: To promote the general Welfare

- **Examples might include:**
 - **Promoting healthy lifestyles**
 - **Helping those in need**
 - **Finding useful energy sources**
 - **Medical aid**
 - **Job training to help keep people employed**
 - **Product safety**



Goal #6: To secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity

- To guarantee the freedom and basic rights of all Americans, including future generations (“posterity”).



Goal #6: To secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity

● Examples might include:

- Programs that help those in the future**
- Standing up for the rights of people that will effect the future of the country**
- Reminding us that the rights we have now should be extended to people in the future.**
- The more we learn about other cultures the better off we'll be.**
- Protecting our freedoms**

