

1775 – 1783 Revolutionary War

Chronology of Events

Regular type= Crown victory. **Bold type= Rebel victory.**

Italic type= non-confrontational event or non-decisive battle.

<h3>Prelude to War</h3>

**1760
to
1775**

1760	<i>King George III ascends to the throne of England.</i>
1763	<i>Treaty signed between England and France ending the French and Indian War. Canada and the continent east of the Mississippi River added to Great Britain's growing empire.</i>
1765	<i>Parliament passes The Stamp Act as a means to pay for British troops on the American frontier. Colonists violently protest the measure.</i>
1766	<i>March 18. Stamp Act repealed, but on the same day parliament passes the Declaratory Act asserting its right to make laws binding on the colonies.</i>
1768	<i>October. British troops arrive in Boston to enforce customs laws.</i>
1770	<i>March. Four workers shot by British troops stationed in Boston. Patriots label the killings "The Boston Massacre."</i>
1773	<i>December. Massachusetts patriots dressed as Mohawk Indians protest the British Tea Act by dumping crates of tea into Boston Harbor.</i>
1774	<i>January. The Privy Council reprimands Benjamin Franklin in London for leaking letters damaging to the Royal Governor of Massachusetts. September. First Continental Congress convenes in Philadelphia.</i>

The War Begins

1775

April 19	Battles of Lexington & Concord Shots fired at Lexington and Concord. "Minute Men" force British troops back to Boston.
May 10	Greene captures Ft. Ticonderoga
June 17	British take Breeds (Bunker) Hill
July 3	<i>George Washington takes command</i>
Nov. 13	Montgomery occupies Montreal
Dec. 9	Skirmish at Great Bridge, Virginia
Dec. 31	Americans lose attack on Quebec

1776

January	<i>Thomas Paine's Common Sense published. Becomes an instant best seller and pushes the colonies closer to independence.</i>
Mar. 17	British evacuate Boston
June 21	Siege of Charleston, South Carolina
June 28	Sullivan's Island repels invasion
July 4	<i>Thomas Jefferson's Declaration of Independence ratified by the Congress.</i>
July	<i>A huge British force arrives in New York harbor bent on crushing the rebellion.</i>
Aug. 27	Continental Army defeated at Long Island
Sept. 16	Battle of Harlem Heights, New York
Oct. 28	Battle of Red Bank, Pennsylvania
Nov. 16	British capture Fort Mifflin
Nov. 20	Fort Mifflin abandoned to British
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Dec. 26	Washington's victory at Trenton Washington crosses the Delaware River and captures a Hessian force at Trenton, New Jersey
December	<i>In desperate need of financing and arms, Congress sends Benjamin Franklin to France to urge the French to ally with America.</i>

1777	Jan. 3	Battle of Princeton
	July 5	Continental Army evacuates Ticonderoga A British force led by John Burgoyne takes Fort Ticonderoga in a devastating loss to the Americans. The Marquis de Lafayette arrives in America.
	Aug. 6	Battle of Oriskany, New York
	Aug. 16	Germans defeated at Bennington
	Sept. 11	Washington's Army is routed at Brandywine, Pennsylvania
	Sept. 19	Burgoyne defeated at Freeman's Farm, New York
	Sept. 21	British surprise Continentals in a night attack near Paoli Tavern
	Sept. 26	<i>General Howe seizes Philadelphia</i>
	Oct. 4	Washington defeated at Germantown
	Oct. 7	Burgoyne's advance stopped at Bemis Heights
	Oct. 17	<u>Burgoyne surrenders at Saratoga</u>
	Nov. 8	British evacuate Ticonderoga
	Nov. 15	Continental Army evacuates Fort Mifflin
	Dec. 19	<i>Washington encamps at Valley Forge</i>
1778	Feb. 6	<i>France joins the war effort by signing treaty of American alliance</i>
	June 28	<i>Battle of Monmouth</i>
	July 4	George Rogers Clark captures Kaskaskia
	Aug. 29	Battle of Rhode Island
	Dec. 29	British occupy Savanna, Georgia

1779	Feb. 24	George Rogers Clark recaptures Vincennes
	May 8	<i>Spain enters the war on the side of America</i>
	July 15	Continental take Stony Point,
	Oct. 9	French and Americans stopped at Savanna
1780	May 12	Charleston, South Carolina finally taken after long siege
	July 11	<i>French troops arrive in Newport, Rhode Island</i>
	Aug. 16	Americans defeated at {ln:Camden}, South Carolina
	Sept. 25	<i>Benedict Arnold defects to the British</i>
	Oct. 7	British defeated at {ln:Kings Mountain}
1781	Jan. 1	<i>The Pennsylvania line mutinies</i>
	Jan. 17	Daniel Morgan defeats the British at (ln:Cowpens)
	Mar. 15	Battle of {ln:Guilford Courthouse}
	April 25	Greene pushed back at Hobkirk's Hill
	July 29	Loyalist victory at Deep River, North Carolina
	Sept. 5	French fleet takes Chesapeake Bay
	Sept. .8	British hold Eutaw Springs, S. Carolina
	Sept. 26	{ln:Siege of Yorktown} begins
Oct .19	Cornwallis surrenders at Yorktown A miraculous convergence of American and French forces traps Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia. He surrenders his British army.	

1782	June 4	Crawford defeated at Sandusky
	July 11	Savannah evacuated by British
	Aug. 19	Americans defeated at Blue Licks
	Nov. 30	<i>Preliminary peace treaty signed in Paris</i>
	Dec. 14	<i>British evacuate Charleston</i>
1783	April 3	Loyalists and militia battle at Tuckertown, NJ
	April 19	<i>Congress declares end of hostilities</i>
	Sept. 3	<i>Final peace treaty signed in Paris</i>
	Nov. 25	<i>British evacuate New York</i>
	Dec. 23	<u>George Washington retires from command</u>