

**A More Perfect Union:**  
The USCIS Civics Test Guide to the Monuments  
and Memorials on the National Mall



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

## The Washington Monument

Welcome to the *Washington Monument* in Washington, D.C.

Read the following information about the Washington Monument.

The words that are in **bold** will help you answer questions from the Civics part of the Naturalization Test.

The words that are underlined are vocabulary words from the Reading and Writing parts of the Naturalization Test.

Civics Test Questions are highlighted for quick reference.



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## George Washington

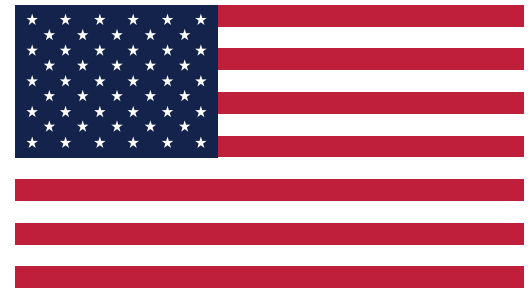
70. Who was the first President?\*

69. Who is the “Father of Our Country”?

George Washington is a famous Founding Father in United States history. He did many important things during the founding of the United States of America.

George Washington was the general of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War.

The United States of America used to be colonies of Britain. There were 13 original colonies. **The American flag has 13 stripes because the stripes represent the original colonies.**



96. Why does the flag have 13 stripes?

Starting in the 1760s many colonists did not like the way they were being treated by the British government. By the 1770s, a lot of colonists wanted to govern themselves. In 1775, **the colonists started to fight the British because they didn’t have self-government.**

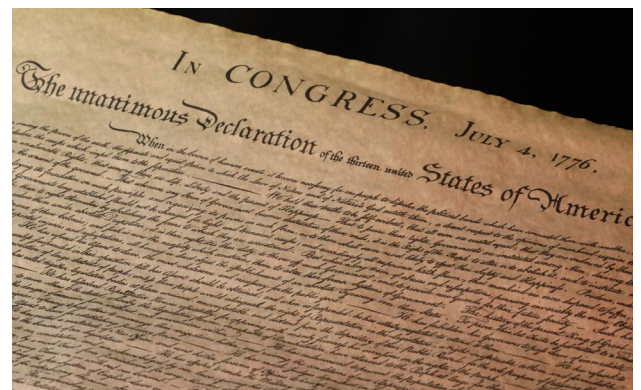
61. Why did the colonists fight the British?

This was the beginning of the American Revolutionary War, which is also known as the War for American Independence.

George Washington was chosen to be general of the Continental Army that fought against the British during the American Revolutionary War.

The 13 original colonies became the United States of America when they **adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.**

63. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?





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**Independence Day is one national U.S. holiday. We celebrate Independence Day on July 4.**

100. Name two national U.S. holidays.

99. When do we celebrate Independence Day?

The 13 original colonies became the **13 original states**. The **13 original states in the United States of America were:**

- New Hampshire
- Massachusetts
- Rhode Island
- Connecticut
- New York
- New Jersey
- Pennsylvania
- Delaware
- Maryland
- Virginia
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Georgia

64. There were 13 original states. Name three.

The fighting in the American Revolutionary War ended in 1781.

After the war, George Washington was very highly respected. When **the Founding Fathers wrote the Constitution at the Constitutional Convention in 1787**, George Washington was chosen to lead the Constitutional Convention.

65. What happened at the Constitutional Convention?

66. When was the Constitution written?



After the Constitution was passed, **George Washington became the first President of the United States**. George Washington was the president from 1789 – 1797.

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70. *Who was the first President?\**

Since he did many important things during the founding of the United States, **George Washington is known as the “Father of Our Country.”**



69. *Who is the “Father of Our Country”?*

## Honoring George Washington

There are many ways that we honor George Washington in the United States.

**Washington, D.C.** is the capital city of the United States. It is named after George Washington.

94. *What is the capital of the United States?*

Washington, D.C. is on the East Coast of the United States. **The ocean on the East Coast of the United States is the Atlantic Ocean.**

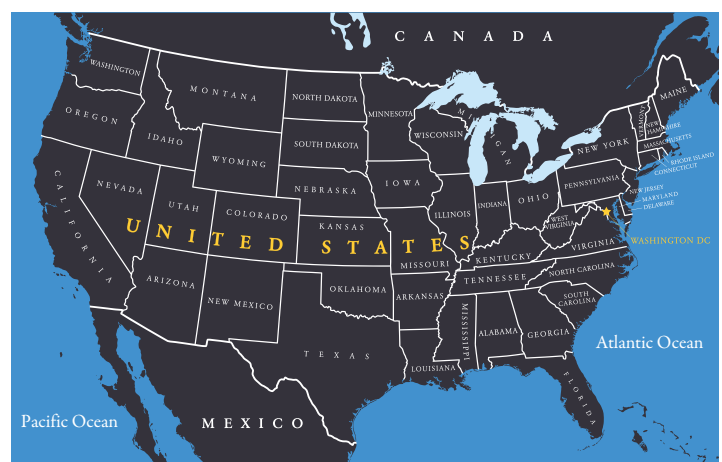
89. *What ocean is on the East Coast of the United States?*

There is also a state named Washington. It is named after George Washington. **The state of Washington is one state that borders Canada.**

92. *Name one state that borders Canada.*

The state of Washington is on the West Coast of the United States. **The ocean on the West Coast of the United States is the Pacific Ocean.**

88. *What ocean is on the West Coast of the United States?*



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**A second national holiday in the U.S. is President's Day.** We celebrate President's Day in February to honor George Washington's Birthday.

100. Name two national U.S. holidays.



George Washington's face is also on the U.S. one dollar bill and the U.S. quarter (25 cents).

## The Washington Monument

The Washington Monument was built to honor George Washington.

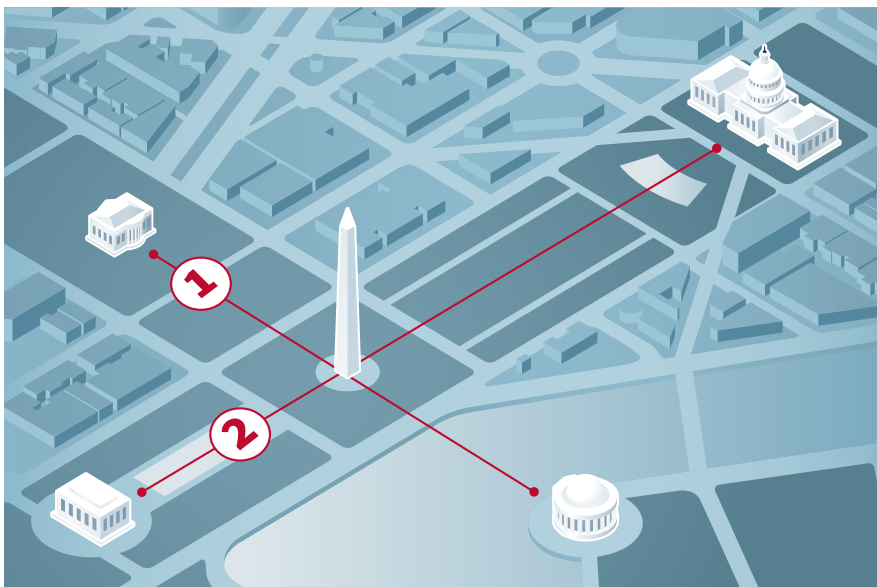
Construction on the Washington Monument began in 1848. It was finished in 1884.

The Washington Monument is 555 feet, 5 1/8 inches tall.

It is the tallest building in Washington, D.C.

There are 50 U.S. flags around the Washington Monument. There is 1 flag for each state in the United States. **There are also 50 stars on the flag, because there is one star for each state.**

The Washington Monument is located at the center point of five major landmarks on the National Mall.



Line 1: It sits between the White House in the north and the Jefferson Memorial in the south.

Line 2: It sits between Capitol Building in the east and the Lincoln Memorial in the west.

The Washington Monument can be seen from every monument on the National Mall.



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**View from the Lincoln Memorial**



**View from the Constitution Gardens**





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**View from the Memorial to the 56 Signers of the Declaration of Independence**



**Aerial view from the Capitol Building**







## Vocabulary for the Naturalization Test

The table below contains the underlined words from the information you just read about George Washington and the Washington Monument. They are some of the vocabulary words for the Reading and Writing parts of the Naturalization Test.

Vocabulary for the Reading Test	Vocabulary for Both the Reading and Writing Test	
City Many	American flag Dollar bill First George Washington Independence Day North President's Day President Second South State/States United States	Canada Delaware Father of Our Country February Fifty/50 July Washington, D.C.

To see a full list of the 100 questions on the Naturalization Civics Test, and a full list of the vocabulary on the Reading and Writing Test, please visit the USCIS Citizenship Resource Center: [www.uscis.gov/citizenship](http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship).