

Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin was one of the most influential men of his time. He was born in 1706.

He was also a diplomat, postmaster, and a diplomat in France during the American Revolution. He was also a diplomat in France during the American Revolution. He was also a diplomat in France during the American Revolution.

Patrick Henry

Patrick Henry was one of the Founding Fathers of the United States.

He was a lawyer, an orator, and a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses. He was a lawyer, an orator, and a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses.

Samuel Adams

Samuel Adams was one of the Founding Fathers of the United States.

He was a lawyer, an orator, and a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. He was a lawyer, an orator, and a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

Paul Revere

Paul Revere was a member of the Sons of Liberty.

He was a silversmith and a patriot. He was a silversmith and a patriot. He was a silversmith and a patriot.

Thomas Paine

Thomas Paine was born in England. He met Benjamin Franklin in London and Franklin told him he should move to America. Paine did make the move to Philadelphia, and became the editor of *Pennsylvania Magazine*. He also wrote articles for the magazine, mainly about things he found unfair, such as slavery. After the Battles of Lexington and Concord, Thomas Paine published a pamphlet called *Common Sense*. This pamphlet was written in very simple terms so that all colonists could understand it. *Common Sense* urged colonists to break away from British rule and become an independent nation. Many colonists were still not sure if independence was a good idea, but after 100,000 copies were sold, it seemed that most colonists were convinced by Thomas Paine to become a Patriot.



George Washington

George Washington is known as the Father of our Country. He was a colonel in the French and Indian War, where he actually fought for the British. But it was because of the French and Indian War that the British Parliament began to tax the colonists, one of the major reasons the American Revolution began. Washington was a delegate to the Continental Congress and was appointed as the Commander in Chief of the Continental Army because of his experience as a soldier. He was a respected general that stood by his men. George Washington led his men through six tough years of battles, including the Battle of Trenton where they crossed the icy Delaware River, as well as the Battle of Yorktown where he forced the surrender of British General Cornwallis and his troops. He became the President of the Constitutional Convention and helped to ratify the Constitution, which led to the creation of the United States.



John Hancock

John Hancock was one of the Founding Fathers of the United States. He was a member of the Sons of Liberty, a group that protested against British rule. Hancock worked closely with Samuel Adams to organize protests. British General Thomas Gage wanted Hancock and Adams arrested for their leadership in these protests. Paul Revere warned the two men that the British were coming for them on his famous Midnight Ride, and Adams and Hancock fled to Philadelphia. John Hancock was a delegate to the Continental Congress, and was appointed Congress President at the same time George Washington was appointed Commander in Chief. He was the first to sign the Declaration of Independence, and is known for his large signature on this document. Hancock also became the first governor of Massachusetts. He was elected as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, but did not attend.



Betsy Ross

Betsy Ross is famous for making the first American flag. She and her husband, John, opened their own upholstery business (covering furniture with fabrics), and Betsy did all the sewing. Her husband was killed at the start of the American Revolution, but Betsy worked day and night to keep the upholstery business running and to make flags for Pennsylvania. Legend has it that George Washington asked Betsy to make the first flag. It was designed in 1776 with thirteen stripes, each stripe representing one colony. There was also a circle of thirteen stars to represent the union of the colonies as a "new constellation." The flag was adopted by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777.



Thomas Paine



Samuel Adams



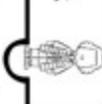
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