

The French Revolution

Tertiary Source:

1780s	France and war debts About half of the French royal government's revenue goes toward paying off war debts.
1789	King Louis and Estates General The French king calls this into session in order to authorize new taxes.
1789	The National Assembly formed After disagreement with Estates General reforms, the third estate secedes from the session and proclaims itself the new Assembly.
1789	The National Assembly and <i>The Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen</i> These ideas are encouraged by the American Revolution and proclaim equality for all men, affirm that sovereignty resides in the people, and declare individual rights to liberty, property, and security.
1789–1791	“Liberty, equality, and fraternity” The National Assembly abolishes the old social order along with the many fees and labor services that made peasants indebted to their landlords.
1789–1815	French Revolution and Napoleon Old institutions such as the feudal system and absolute monarchy are uprooted from France's political landscape.
1791	Haitian Revolution Begins A successful anti-slavery and anti-colonial insurrection by self-liberated slaves against French colonial rule begins.
1792	The Convention and <i>levee en masse</i> After the new legislative body is created, a universal conscription is created that sanctions drafts and the usage of resources in wars against invading forces.
1793	King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette beheaded The king and queen are sent to the guillotine after they are found guilty of treason.

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The French Revolution *continued*

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1793–1794	Robespierre and Radical phase of French Revolution The municipal government is overthrown in Paris and the leaders of the radical forces establish a Commune; Maximilien Robespierre and the Jacobins push for drastic restructuring of France.
1793–1794	Reign of terror The Jacobins execute about forty thousand people and imprison three hundred thousand suspected enemies of the revolution.
1794	The Directory is created After Robespierre and his supporters are sent to the guillotine, conservative men who own property rule France.
1796–1797	Napoleon and French rule The military leader drives the Austrian army from northern Italy and establishes French rule in that territory.
1799	Napoleon Bonaparte overthrows the Directory He establishes a new government called the Consulate.
1804	Civil Code Napoleon produces this revised body of law in efforts to stabilize French society.
1812	Napoleon invades Russia His campaign succeeds in capturing the city. However the Russians set fire to Moscow, leaving Napoleon's army without sufficient shelter or supplies.
1814	End of Napoleon reign British, Austrian, Prussian, and Russian armies force Napoleon to give up his throne.
1830, 1848	Revolutions in Europe Liberals and revolutionaries in different parts of Europe start rebellions against conservative kings and governments.