

**Presidential  
Lincoln & Johnson**

**Congressional  
(Radical Republicans)**

"With malice toward none, with charity for all" -- **Lincoln**

Both Lincoln and Johnson supported lenient plans for Reconstruction.

10% Plan (Lincoln): Once ten percent of a southern state's 1860 voters had taken an oath of loyalty, the state could rejoin the Union.

Both Lincoln and Johnson provided for a generous amnesty to allow Southerners to retain their property and reacquire their political rights.

President Johnson issued his own Reconstruction plan on May 29, 1865. It called for special state conventions which were required to: repeal the decrees of secession, repudiate all Confederate debts, and ratify the slave-freeing 13th Amendment.

Johnson supported the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment that abolished slavery but was reluctant to support Black suffrage believing this was an issue for states.

"Congress alone can do it... Congress must create states and declare whether they are to be represented." -- **Thaddeus Stevens**

Believed the South should be punished for starting the war and hoped to protect the rights of Freedmen (former slaves).

Extended the Freedmen's Bureau (Over Johnson's Veto) to provide food, clothing, shelter, and education to freedmen and war refugees.

Civil Rights Act of 1866 (Passed over Johnson's Veto) designed to grant freedmen full legal equality, undercutting the Black Codes

Reconstruction Act of 1867 (Passed over Johnson's Veto)

Divided the South into 5 districts and placed them under military rule (disbanded governments readmitted under Lincoln/Johnson plans.

Required Southern states to ratify the 14th Amendment

Guaranteed freedmen the right to vote in conventions to write new state constitutions to vote for the 15th Amendment.

# Reconstruction Plans

1. For each reconstruction issue, read the Presidents' plan and the Radical Republicans' plan.
2. Discuss with your group members the strength and weaknesses of each plan. Keep in mind the goal of Reconstruction was to reunite the country in a stable and fair way.
3. Then give each plan a letter grade, and explain your reason for assigning that grade. Group members do not have to agree on the same letter grade.

<b>Grading Scale</b>
<b>A = Excellent Plan, no weakness</b>
<b>B = Good Plan, has only minor weakness</b>
<b>C = Some good parts and some weakness</b>
<b>D = Only limited strengths and major weakness</b>
<b>F = Plan is doomed for failure</b>

## Reconstruction Issue #1: What should be done to the Southerner's who rebelled?

<b>Radical Republicans' Plan</b>	<b>Presidents Johnson &amp; Lincolns Plan</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southerners should be punished so they would not rebel again. One idea was to confiscate (take away) all the plantations and divide up the land among the freedmen.</li> <li>Leaders of the South should lose their governmental positions. A new set of leaders should be brought in to reconstruct the South. Any person who held a leadership position before the war could not hold public office until he was pardoned (forgiven) by Congress.</li> </ul> <p style="margin-top: 20px;"><b>I would give this plan a grade of _____ because:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southerners (10%) had to take an oath (verbal pledge) to support, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. The oath also included a promise to obey all laws passed during the war, especially regarding emancipation (freeing) of the slaves.</li> <li>Confederate officers, large landholders, and any other leaders of the pre-war South had to seek a special pardon (forgiveness) if they wanted to regain their rights as citizens.</li> <li>Lincoln's idea of "malice (hatred) toward none" was a good one. Being lenient towards Southerners would heal the wounds of the nation more effectively and quickly.</li> </ul> <p style="margin-top: 20px;"><b>I would give this plan a grade of _____ because:</b></p>

**Reconstruction Issue #2:** What should Southern states be required to do in order to be re-admitted into the Union?

<b>Radical Republicans' Plan</b>	<b>Presidents Johnson &amp; Lincolns Plan</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Southern states had given up statehood by seceding from the Union. They needed to be punished for their actions.</li><li>● In order to come back into the Union as a state, a southern state would have to meet these conditions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Call a convention to write a new constitution (state laws).</li><li>○ Guarantee African Americans full rights as citizens.</li><li>○ Guarantee African Americans the right to vote</li><li>○ Former Confederate officials and army officers could not vote on these issues.</li></ul></li><li>● The states would be ruled by the military until all new laws were enforced.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Individual leaders of Southern states – not the states themselves – had made the decision to secede. Therefore states should not be punished harshly for secession. It was in the best interest of the country to reunite all states as quickly and easily as possible.</li><li>● In order to come back into the union, Southern states would have to meet these conditions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Call a convention to write a new constitution (state laws).</li><li>○ Repeal (do away with) Secession</li><li>○ Cancel all Confederate debts</li><li>○ Approve of the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which abolished slavery.</li></ul></li><li>● Once the above conditions are met, Southerners were allowed to run their own states, hold elections, and send representatives to Congress.</li></ul>
<p><b>I would give this plan a grade of _____ because:</b></p>	<p><b>I would give this plan a grade of _____ because:</b></p>

### Reconstruction Issue #3: What should be done for the freedmen?

<b>Radical Republicans' Plan</b>	<b>Presidents Johnson &amp; Lincolns Plan</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• African Americans should be guaranteed equal rights and be assisted in establishing new lives as free people. Congress should pass laws giving some land to the freedmen and build schools for them. In fact, it was Congress's duty to help out African Americans until they could provide for themselves.</li><li>• Freedmen will only receive justice and security if they are considered full citizens – just like whites – under the law. Many felt the right to vote was also key.</li><li>• The military should have control over enforcing all the laws helping the freedmen. Without troops in the South, Radical Republicans feared that Southerners would simply ignore the new laws and continue to discriminate against the freedmen.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• African Americans should be guaranteed equal rights only if individual states want to grant them to the freedmen. The federal government should not force Southern governments to accept new laws regarding the freedmen. Whether or not the freedmen ought to be given land, education, or assistance was up to each state.</li><li>• African Americans should not be guaranteed the right to vote. Only certain African Americans should be given the vote, like those who could read or write.</li></ul>
<p><b>I would give this plan a grade of _____ because:</b></p>	<p><b>I would give this plan a grade of _____ because:</b></p>

# Reconstruction Diagram

Radical Republicans

President(s) Lincoln & Johnson

Similarities

