

# [George up in rankings.when he was in](https://assignbuster.com/george-up-in-rankingswhen-he-was-in/)

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George Washington was the first president of the United States and operated as a passive-negative president. Washington believed in civic virtue. He was involved in the army since he was a young man.

Additionally, he was ambitious, had a shy charm, and was great at math like his mother. Furthermore, he set the precedent for what was expected from presidents. From a young age, he was influenced by his half -brother Lawrence after his father’s death. His brother was a ranking officer in the Virginia militia and taught him trigonometry, a taste for ethics, novels, music and the theater. When his brother passed away he succeeded to Lawrence’s militia office. His experience in the military from a young age taught him leadership skills that helped him move up in rankings.

When he was in the British army, he led a poorly equipped and trained militia to build a fort on the banks of the Ohio River. He attacked a French force and killed the minister in the process. This led to him being viewed as a hero in the colonies, but the British government blamed the colonies for losing to the French.

Washington was angry that the British blamed the colonies and retired from the British army and returned to be a farmer. His anger towards the British government and his interest in ethics led to him becoming a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses. Later on, he became the general for the colonies during the American Revolution due to his past experiences.

Following the war, he helped write the Constitution during the Constitutional Convention in 1787. Two years later, the electoral college unanimously elected George Washington to become president. People had faith in Washington because of his leadership skills, insight, and ambition. His belief  for national freedom, individual liberties, and strong central government that protected freedoms and liberties of its citizens allowed him to meet the expectations people had. Many people expected George Washington to set precedents for the future presidents. In order to meet expectations, he carefully appointed Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton to his cabinet despite the two having very opposing views. Jefferson and Hamilton’s mixed views brought balance to the cabinet. Washington shaped the institutions, offices, and political practices of the American government.

He used and headed militias from four states to put down the Whiskey Rebellion which helped establish the idea of federal supremacy and the power of the executive branch to collect taxes. Washington also established the Cabinet system by having meetings with his advisers regularly. He also established that the President is the main role in foreign affairs when sent people to negotiate the Jay Treaty to end hostilities with Britain and gave the president inherent rights to declare neutrality when the British and French went to war.

Washington did all of this out of civic virtue and sought stability by being reserved and dedicated to the nation. He operated as a passive-negative president due to his civic virtue and was a prime example for future presidents.