


# Articles of Confederation

## Problems and Weaknesses



# Problems with the Articles of Confederation

- A. Because the states worried about a strong Federal government, **Articles** were too weak
- B. No Chief Executive, no court system, very weak congress
- C. Congress could not tax, draft soldiers, required **9 of 13 votes** to pass laws.

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- D. To **amend** (change) Articles required unanimous vote of states
  - E. States acted like **13 different countries!**
  - F. Small states were afraid of the power of the large states

## **Weakness**


- A. Nothing could get done



# Articles of Confederation



- A. Articles couldn't force states to provide soldiers.
- B. Couldn't offer protection to enforce treaties.
- C. Couldn't negotiate favorable trade agreements.
- D. Couldn't put down rebellions or protect the United States' borders.

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- E. This allowed England to ignore Treaty of Paris, close harbors to U.S. ships, force the U.S. to use British ships for trade and enact unfair tariffs (taxes) on U. S. goods.

F. Spain was able to close the Mississippi River to Trade.

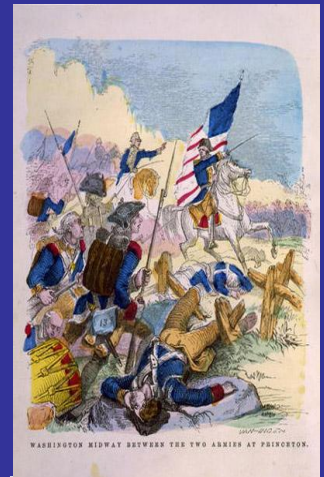
## 2. Problem



A. Articles did not regulate Interstate commerce (trade between states) or international trade (trade between countries.)

# Problem:

- A. States adopted trade policies which were beneficial to themselves and hurt other states.
- B. Slowed trade between the states and hurt business.





# Problem

- A. States needed to pay off their war debt.



- B.** States could coin (make) and print their own money.



- C. This led to *inflation* or the increased prices of goods and services- combined with a reduced value of money.

D. The Federal government had no power to stop the printing of money.

