

# THE WHIGS

Est. 1834

Born as a party opposed to Andrew Jackson, the Whigs took their name from Revolutionary Era Patriots who fought against rule by a king. The Whig Party believed in a strong Congress and aimed to end the reign of a powerful president they called "King Andrew" Jackson. The Whigs supported industrial modernization and social reform.



William Henry Harrison  
**9**  
**Whh**  
 1841



"Tippecanoe"  
 ★1840★  
 election

In the first modern presidential campaign, the Whig's used the log cabin and the hard cider barrel as campaign symbols to sell Harrison as a hardworking farmer. It worked, and the election went to "Tippecanoe and Tyler Too."

At 32 days, Harrison is known for having the shortest presidential term. On a cold and stormy March day, Harrison gave the longest inaugural address on record - almost two hours long. Harrison caught a cold, and eventually died from pneumonia.

John Tyler  
**10** VP  
**Jt**  
 1841-1845



"His Accidency"

After Harrison's death, John Tyler set the precedent for the VP becoming president. It wasn't until 1967 that the 25th Amendment formally outlined the order of presidential succession.

John Tyler was married twice and had 15 children - the most of any president. His youngest daughter, Pearl, lived to see Harry S. Truman as president.

The Whigs kicked Tyler out of the party, and during the Civil War, Tyler became the only former president to side with the Confederacy.

Zachary Taylor  
**12**  
**Zt**  
 1849-1850



"Old Rough and Ready"  
 ★1848★  
 election

Zachary Taylor won the 1848 election, casting his first vote for president. The former general defeated Lewis Cass and a former president, Martin Van Buren, who ran on the Free Soil Party ticket.

In 1835, Zachary Taylor's daughter, Sarah, married Jefferson Davis, future President of the Confederacy.

After celebrating the Fourth of July on a hot, summer day, Taylor returned to the White House and had a bowlful of cherries and iced milk. He began to feel ill, and five days later, the president passed away.

Millard Fillmore  
**13** VP  
**Mf**  
 1850-1853



"His Accidency"

According to a popular story, Queen Victoria called Millard Fillmore the most handsome man she had ever met.

Like Tyler, Fillmore assumed the presidency after the untimely death of a president.

Besides the Compromise of 1850, President Fillmore isn't remembered for much. He did, however, create the first White House library.

In 1856, Fillmore unsuccessfully ran for president again, but this time for the American (Know Nothing) Party.

## Sig Whigs



### Henry Clay

"The Great Compromiser" led the Whigs. Clay was an influential statesman who was five times an unsuccessful presidential candidate.



### Daniel Webster

Lawyer, congressman, senator, secretary of state. One of the most influential politicians of his time, Webster believed in a strong federal government and a national bank.

### General Info:

The only two winning Whig presidential candidates were both generals: Harrison in the War of 1812 and Taylor in the Mexican War.

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