



The Heritage Guide to the Constitution

Edwin Meese III (editor), David F. Forte (editor), Matthew Spalding (editor), Matthew J. Franck (contributor), Edwin Meese, III

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This guide is the first of its kind, and presents the U.S. Constitution as never before, including a clause-by-clause analysis of the document, each amendment and relevant court case, and the documents that serve as the foundation of the Constitution.

The Heritage Guide to the Constitution Details

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From Reader Review The Heritage Guide to the Constitution for online ebook

Chad says

excellent, very well researched, scholarly writing and authors

Benjamin says

Surprisingly interesting to read cover to cover, not just as a reference book... if you're into the Constitution.

Ron Kolb says

A must-read for anyone interested in the US Constitution. Even if you don't adhere to the originalist perspective, it behooves you to understand it, and this is the tool.

Joe says

A great commentary on the original docs and the founders view of how the world works. Makes the argument for returning to original patter of thought on government and our foundations.

Sarah Cordts says

Very thorough

Jacob Lines says

I have read many commentaries on the U.S. Constitution. I own several of them. Most of them are useful in some way. Some of them are pleasant to read. A few of them are useful and interesting and nice to read. This one is probably the best. Because it is done by the Heritage Foundation, the book is an originalist view of the Constitution. Ed Meese is the main editor and the contributors to this volume are top-notch. Prominent law professors including Eugene Volokh, Richard Epstein, Ronald Rotunda, and Jonathan Turley are joined by Judges Ginsburg and Buckley from the D.C. Circuit. One of the best historians of the American founding, Forrest McDonald, is included as well. This is an all-star lineup. The book is organized by Article and section. The essays are short and well-written and easy to understand. They don't dwell on theory, but give the historical and textual explanation of what the provision means and why it was written like it was. It is informative and accessible and it gives guidance for further reading. This is the guide that I will recommend whenever anyone has a question about the Constitution.

Trenton says

Heritage provides an excellent source of research for Constitutional questions, as scholars examine the Constitution line by line using the thoughts of the Founders and Judicial rulings to provide background. Very enlightening.

Ron says

I have a pocket copy of the Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights and other amendments. On occasion, I read through it as it helps me to discern the direction the nation is going, who has taken a truthful oath of office and the like.

This book, The Heritage Guide to the Constitution is about a 450 hard cover that is excellent for finding out what the Founders of the country meant by what they said and how far the nation has strayed from it.

For example, the nation is not a democracy. It is a Constitutional Republic and as such, has some characteristics of a democracy—but not a pure democracy or “mob” rule. The Constitution itself never uses the word “democracy” or “democratic” but does guarantee each state a “republican form of government” (Art. 4.4). However, in discussion, the Founders used the terms sometimes interchangeably.

Could we call it a democratic republic? I see no need personally as a Constitutional Republic says it all. The interest of the people (Constitution) is maintained by elected officials to uphold it (hence the oaths of office found in the Constitution).

During this election year, I have also found this info (as well as other studies), to be helpful in evangelism.

If anyone reads this book, they will soon find out how much revisionist fiction has taken the country by storm and academics have missed the mark.

The grand thing is, there is only One Great Nation—the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ!

His rule never changes, never fails and never ends.

Atchisson says

This is on my reference shelf directly above my computer as it is the single best resource I've yet found on the Constitution. So few can actually recite the pre-amble correctly. Fewer still could tell you what is covered in the Bill of Rights. From there, try and cherry pick some of the most important Amendments and cases and you lose the majority of the rest. EVERY home should have this book!

Urey Patrick says

The one reference/guide to the Constitution that should be on everybody's book shelf.

Robert says

This is a great guide to the Constitution...I am amazed at the background of each article and section is so well covered (and from both sides of the argument). This is a book that I will constantly be reading again and again for the rest of my life.

Taylor says

I took a Constitutional Law course senior year of college. Instead of purchasing the recommended texts, I bought this. I got an A in the class.

Aaron Thompson says

I believe that there are three basic resources that everyone should read and study to help them understand the Constitution and its original intent. These resources are: 1. Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787, by James Madison; 2. The Federalist Papers, by Hamilton, Madison & Jay; 3. A Familiar Exposition of The Constitution Of The United States, by Supreme Court Justice Joseph Story. However, I do believe I have found a fourth basic resource in this book!

Ayne Ray says

A line-by-line examination and critique of the Constitution, this is essential reading, as it's impossible to fully participate in American society and politics without knowing one's basic rights.

Andrew Roth says

This is a great reference that breaks down and examines every part of the U.S. Constitution. It's very brainy stuff, but it's fascinating. I love this book.
