



Causes & Events of the American Revolution Leading to the War of Independence Simplified Version in Table Format

This table is designed for quick reference. Dates note passage, colonial reporting, responses, and repeal or alteration, based solely on (mostly) primary and standard secondary sources.

Parliamentary Legislation and Major Events from the Treaty of Paris up to the Battles of Lexington & Concord

Event / Act	Date Passed / Occurred	Date Reported in Colonies	Colonial Response	Repeal / Modification
Treaty of Paris	10 Feb 1763	Spring 1763	Relief; expectation of westward expansion	—
Proclamation of 1763	7 Oct 1763	Late 1763–Early 1764	Frontier anger; petitions; widespread violation	Boundary shifted by the Treaty of Fort Stanwix (1768)
Sugar Act	5 Apr 1764	Spring–Summer 1764	Petitions; Otis pamphlets; merchant protests	Modified by later customs reforms
Currency Act	1 Sep 1764	Late 1764	Assembly protests; economic strain	Partially relaxed later
Quartering Act	3 Mar 1765	Spring 1765	NY resistance; assembly suspended	Renewed annually; expanded 1774
Stamp Act	22 Mar 1765	May 1765	Riots; Stamp Act Congress; non-importation	Repealed 18 Mar 1766
Declaratory Act	18 Mar 1766	Spring 1766	Concern over sovereignty	Never repealed
Townshend Acts	Jun–Jul 1767	Late 1767	Circular Letter; non-importation; troops in Boston	Duties repealed 12 Apr 1770 except tea
Boston Massacre	5 Mar 1770	Immediate	Propaganda; trials	—
Gaspee Affair	9 Jun 1772	June 1772	Alarm over extradition	The commission dissolved without arrests
Committees of Correspondence	Nov 1772 onward	1772–1774	Rapid spread; intercolonial coordination	Became the de facto governments
Tea Act	10 May 1773	Summer 1773	Town meetings oppose landing tea	Not repealed
Boston Tea Party*	16 Dec 1773	Dec 1773–Jan 1774	Widespread support	—
Coercive Acts	Mar–Jun 1774	Spring–Summer 1774	Suffolk Resolves; Congress called	Not repealed
Quebec Act	22 Jun 1774	Summer 1774	Condemned as threat to liberties	Not repealed
First Continental Congress	5 Sep–26 Oct 1774	—	Declaration & Resolves; Continental Association	Congress to reconvene
Powder Alarms	Sep–Dec 1774	Immediate	Militia mobilization; seizure of forts	—
Lexington & Concord	19 Apr 1775	Immediate	The Provincial Congress declares war begun	—

*There were as many as 17 of these Tea “Disturbances”!

Acts of Parliament Bibliography (Primary Sources) Added 2026 02 24

American Revenue Act (Sugar Act), 4 Geo. III c. 15 (1764).
 Boston Port Act, 14 Geo. III c. 19 (1774).
 Currency Act, 4 Geo. III c. 34 (1764).
 Declaratory Act, 6 Geo. III c. 12 (1766).
 Massachusetts Government Act, 14 Geo. III c. 45 (1774).
 Mutiny Act, 5 Geo. III c. 33 (1765).
 Quartering Act, 14 Geo. III c. 54 (1774).

Quebec Act, 14 Geo. III c. 83 (1774).
 Revenue Act (Townshend Duties), 7 Geo. III c. 46 (1767).
 Stamp Act, 5 Geo. III c. 12 (1765).
 Tea Act, 13 Geo. III c. 44 (1773).
 Repeal of Certain Duties Act, 10 Geo. III c. 17 (1770).
 Repeal of the Stamp Act, 6 Geo. III c. 11 (1766).