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| **British Government of the Colonies**   * Almost no real power in smaller units * Most power in national government   **Unitary**  (one source of power) | **Government created by the Articles of Confederation**   * Almost no power on the national government, * Most power in the smaller units   **Confederation** |

**Reactive Change** - Just doing the opposite of what you did not like

**Powers Given** - negotiate with foreign nations , declare war, negotiate peace, borrow money, print money, create laws (but not enforce them). create a postal service

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| **Power given** | **Explanation of why that power needed to be given to the national government** |
| The power to deal with foreign nations | * In a war - Need alliances   + Particularly seek the help of France - "The enemy of my enemy is my friend." * The European nations are more likely to respect an ambassador that comes from all thirteen nations. * Do not want individual colonies forming alliance that leave other out. |
| The power to declare war and negotiate peace | * Had already started a war - had all signed the Declaration of Independence as one, as the Second Continental Congress * Do not want individual colonies surrendering/making peace with Britain, making the remaining colonies left to fight the war more vulnerable. - Divided We Fall. * Britain gives in because it cannot control all of the colonies at once. - United We Stand. |
| The power to borrow money | * Wars are extremely expensive. * As war began, the colonies were a brand new "nation," with no money of their own. * Would have to borrow to fight. * Wanted the money borrowed by the nation, not individual states, as they were fighting the war together |
| The power to coin money | * a single currency would more likely be able to rival the British pound * one currency would make trade easier |
| The power to create a postal service | * needed to be able to communicate between colonies * moving letters between thirteen separate system would be difficult * Benjamin Franklin was the champion of the postal service and all respected him |
| The power to create laws,  but . . .  NOT THE POWER TO ENFORCE THEM | * governmental decision are always expressed as laws and acts * but do not want to be forced to do anything by a central government * which leads to . . . POWERS DENIED!!! |

**POWERS DENIED**

**Many** more denied than given.

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| **Power denied** | **What negative experience with the British would have caused the colonies to deny the new national government this power?** | **What problem(s) might be caused if the new national government did not have this power?** |
| Could not create or collect taxes  Only the new state legislatures could tax and would send money to the national government | * Believed that , as the Magna Carta had said, taxes should only be passed with the consent of the people * So . . .Believed that taxes should only come from the people's representatives * colonies had told Parliament they would taxes their own citizens through their colonial legislatures and send Parliament the desired funds, * states said they would taxes their citizens through their new state legislatures and send the national government the money | * Each colony, though they were allotted a fair share, would always think they were paying too much and others not enough * Colonies might use taxes to pay for things within their colony first and then only send what was left, which might not be enough * If a colony did not send what it had promised or what the Articles Congress had decided, the Congress could not do anything about it * Only 9 out of 13 were needed to pass an act assigning what each colony would pay - the colonies that voted against could just not collect |
| Could not regulate trade | * Had hated mercantilism * only allowed to serve the Mother-Country's economic needs * had to send all desired resources only to the Mother-country * Believed their colony could become richer if they could sell to the highest bidder and buy the least expensive, best products * The colonies were not allowed to manufacture. * could only buy the products the Mother Country | * states might pass import taxes to protect their new manufacturing business * starting manufacturing businesses is expensive - need a large market of buyers * the taxes would drive up the prices of both goods imported from other colonies and from other countries -   the manufactured goods from the colony would be priced right below the imported taxed good   * new businesses protected by the import taxes might not work hard enough to make quality goods as did not have to compete |
| **Power denied** | **What negative experience with the British would have caused the colonies to deny the new national government this power?** | **What problem(s) might be caused if the new national government did not have this power?** |
| The new legislature  only had one house,  each state would only have one vote | * Colonies had felt like Britain had tried to control and over power them * Wanted to feel equal - have no higher power | * States with higher populations were not fairly represented - a small state with a small population like Rhode Island would have as much of a say as a large state like New York, giving Rhode Island more power * There was no way to represent diverse opinions in a state with just one vote |
| 9 /13 states required to pass any law or act  Supermajority  (7/ 13 is a majority) | * The colonies had often seen that a large number of representatives in Parliament had been on their side, not agreeing with many of the acts of Parliament that had violated their right or with the decision to go to war, so . . . * Felt like a higher majority should be required to pass acts at the national level | * This would make it too hard to pass any act * Nothing would get done |
| Would not have a chief executive  The states would execute all the laws | * Had felt like the King had unfairly enforced laws against them | * no leader * no one to organize the enforcement of the laws * The states could all enforce the laws differently, or not enforce them * The nations of Europe would not have any leader to meet with |
| Would not have a national court system –  State courts would hear all cases | * The colonies had hated that the Intolerable Acts sending any accused of killing a British officer to London for trial - felt like would not get a jury of peers * Thought that the same would happen if a defendant was sent away to a national court | * State courts might not prosecute a defendant who had broken a law that the state had not voted for * State courts would prosecute a defendant accused of breaking a law differently than another state would law |