#1 ~ Population

The population of the British Colonies in America in 1775 was approximately 2,400,000. This was a small number when compared to the population of London at that time which was almost 1 million.

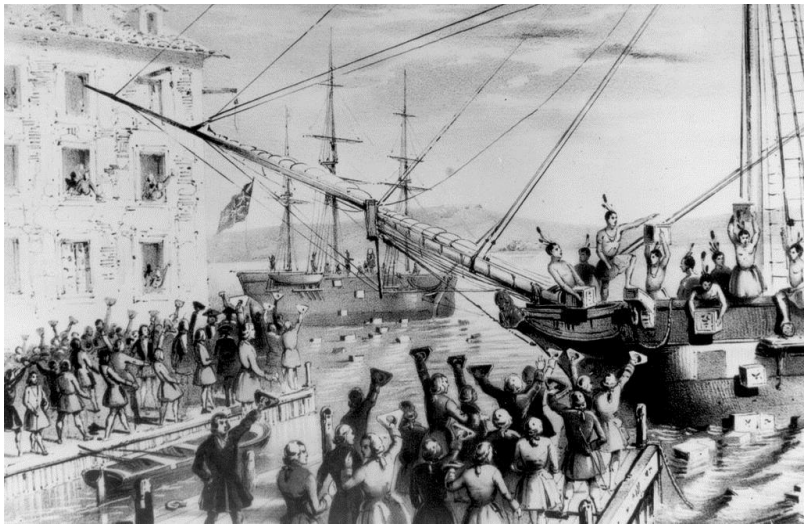
Enslaved Population in America in 1775

Colony	Percentage	Number
Virginia	40%	186,000 people
New York	14%	over 26,000 people
Connecticut	8%	over 15,000 people
Rhode Island	6%	over 3,000 people

Approximately 20% of American Colonists remained loyal to Britain during the Revolutionary War. About 100,000 Loyalists fled to Canada, England, and the Bahamas.

George Washington had only 15,000 men under his command at any one time.

#2 ~ Boston Tea Party



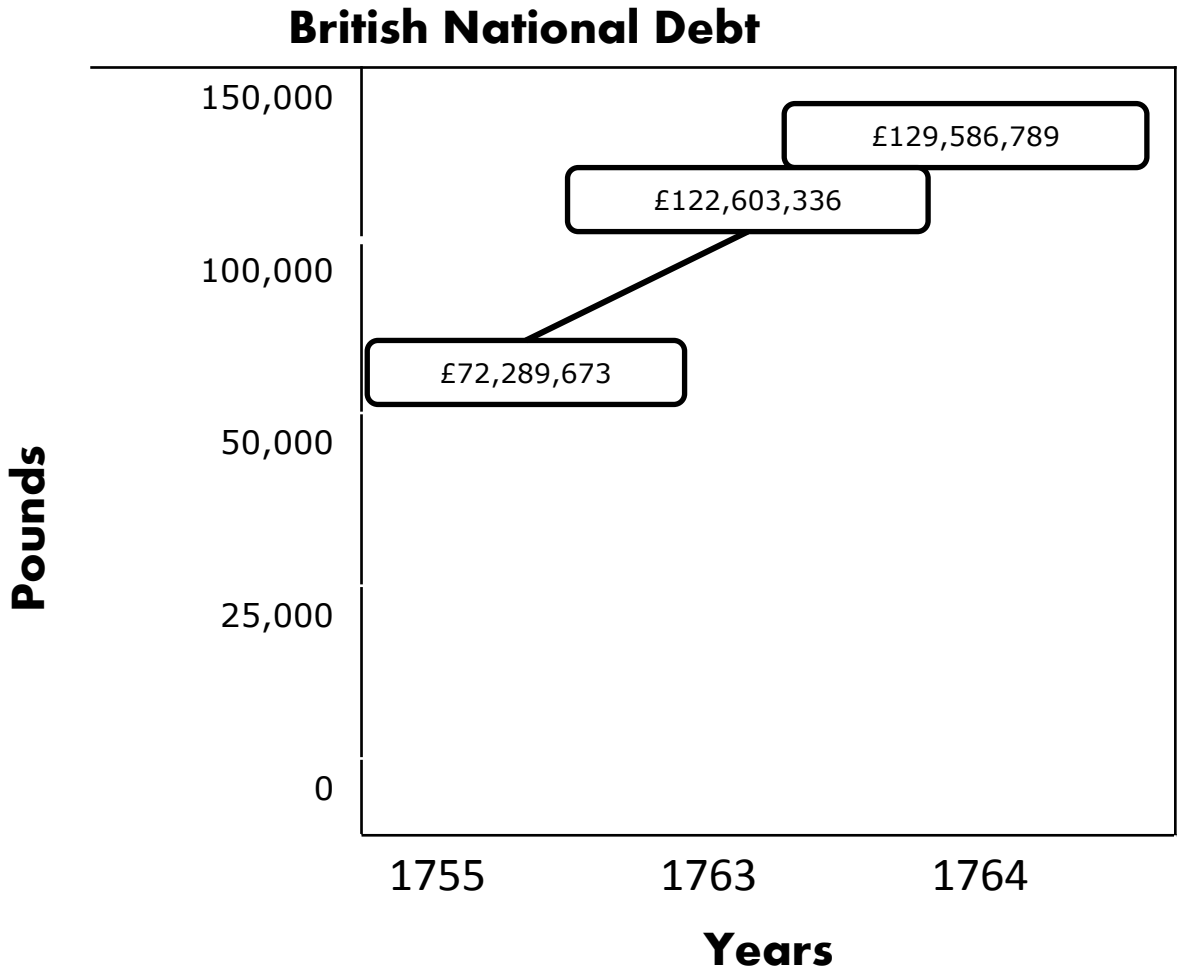
On December 16, 1773, the Sons of Liberty dressed as Mohawk Indians and tossed 342 chests of tea into the Boston Harbor as a protest against the Tea Act.

On March 7, 1774, a second protest occurred. This time only 16 chests were sent into the sea.

These protests cost Britain the modern day equivalent of $3 million.

#3 ~ Borrowing Money

Britain had to borrow thousands of pounds to fund the cost of going to war.



#4 ~ Tar and Feathering

A COUNTRYMAN TARRED AND FEATHERED.

Throughout New England, tar and feathering became a popular punishment. This was extremely painful as the tar had to be heated to 140º to be thin enough to pour over a person. The Daughters of Liberty decided a less painful method should be used. They used molasses and flowers instead.

#5 ~ Invisible Ink

Both the British and the Colonists used invisible ink to write secret messages. The messages were written with anything acidic: lime or lemon juice, milk, or vinegar. The acid would cause the paper to break down. When heat was applied to the secret message, the weakened fibers caused from putting acid on the paper would turn brown faster than the rest of the page causing the message to be visible.

#6 ~ Spying

The most famous spy was Nathan Hale who was hanged by the British on September 22, 1776 because of the incriminating papers he was carrying. His last words were, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

George Washington was an excellent spymaster. The first large sum entered in his account book during the Revolution was $333.33 to pay for a spy to go into Boston to learn of the British army's plans.

The British had more spies than the Colonists only because they had more funds to pay them.

The most valuable information Washington discovered from his spies was the British army with 10,000 men were heading to White March to attack the Continental Army. Washington prepared for the attack, and the British Army was unable to engage in a major battle due to this.

#7 ~ Benedict Arnold

Benedict Arnold was an excellent general in the American army. He led the Colonists to victory at the Battle of Saratoga. After this battle, the French became involved in the war. Arnold became a "turncoat" because he was opposed to the French involvement.

#8 ~ Small Pox

George Washington had all his forces vaccinated for small pox. After this the death rate by this disease decreased from 17% to 1%.

#9 ~ Causalities

	Number
Battle Casualties	6,824
Americans Wounded	8,445
Deaths from Disease	approximately 10,000
Died in British Prisons	8,500
Americans Captured	18,152
Casualties from Battle *and* Disease	24,000

#10 ~ The End of the War

Cornwallis surrendered to the Americans at Yorktown in 1781; however, the fighting continued for two more years until the Treaty of Paris was signed in 1783.

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