

# Franklin D. Roosevelt Quotes

*Men, War, Government, People, Country, Political, Democracy, Years, Peace,  
Freedom, Thinking, Long, Fighting, Inspirational, America, Self, Presidential,  
World, Land, Civilization*

We must especially beware of that small group of selfish men who would clip the wings of the American Eagle in order to feather their own nests.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Remember, remember always, that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

True individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. People who are hungry and out of a job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Never underestimate a man who overestimates himself.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

People acting together as a group can accomplish things which no individual acting alone could ever hope to bring about.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Repetition does not transform a lie into a truth.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fiber of a free people. A nation does not have to be cruel to be tough.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much it is whether we provide enough for those who have little.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

In politics, nothing happens by accident. If it happens, you can bet it was planned that way.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

When you see a rattlesnake poised to strike, you do not wait until he has struck to crush him.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The value of love will always be stronger than the value of hate. Any nation or group of nations which employs hatred eventually is torn to pieces by hatred.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We may not be able to prepare the future for our children, but we can at least prepare our children for the future.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

What America needs now is a drink.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Freedom of conscience, of education, of speech, of assembly are among the very fundamentals of democracy and all of them would be

nullified should freedom of the press ever be successfully challenged.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

There are many ways of going forward, but only one way of standing still.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We are trying to construct a more inclusive society. We are going to make a country in which no one is left out.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We have always held to the hope, the belief, the conviction that there is a better life, a better world, beyond the horizon.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Go for the moon. If you don't get it, you'll still be heading for a star. Happiness lies not in the mere possession of money; it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of the creative effort.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We, and all others who believe in freedom as deeply as we do, would rather die on our feet than live on our knees.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred, is a wedge designed to attack our civilization.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

I sometimes think we consider too much the good luck of the early bird and not enough the bad luck of the early worm.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Competition has been shown to be useful up to a certain point and no further, but cooperation, which is the thing we must strive for today, begins where competition leaves off.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

In our democracy officers of the government are the servants, and never the masters of the people.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

I am neither bitter nor cynical but I do wish there was less immaturity in political thinking.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Those (who) seek to establish systems of Government based on the regimentation of all Human Beings by a handful of individual rulers...call this a new order. It is not new and it is not order.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

...Since 1775 the United States Marines have upheld a fine tradition of service to their country. They are doing so today. I am confident they will continue to do so.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

No democracy can long survive which does not accept as fundamental to its very existence the recognition of the rights of minorities.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died to win them." - Franklin D. Roosevelt

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

If civilization is to survive, we must cultivate the science of human relationships - the ability of all peoples, of all kinds, to live together, in the same world at peace.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Presidents are selected, not elected.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

A conservative is a man with two perfectly good legs who, however, has never learned how to walk forward.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

In these days of difficulty, we Americans everywhere must and shall choose the path of social justice, the path of faith, the path of hope, and the path of love toward our fellow man.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Physical strength can never permanently withstand the impact of spiritual force.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than fear.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

That, in its essence, is Fascism - ownership of Government by an individual, by a group, or by any other controlling private power.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We know now that government by organized money is just as dangerous as government by organized mob.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Too often in recent history liberal governments have been wrecked on

rocks of loose fiscal policy.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

All of our people all over the country-except the pure-blooded Indians-are immigrants or descendants of immigrants, including even those who came over here on the Mayflower.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Our national determination to keep free of foreign wars and foreign entanglements cannot prevent us from feeling deep concern when ideals and principles that we have cherished are challenged.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

"Appeasement" is the policy of feeding your friends to a crocodile, one at a time, in hopes that the crocodile will eat you last.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The best customer of American industry is the well paid worker.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We think of our land and water and human resources not as static and sterile possessions but as life giving assets to be directed by wise provisions for future days.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Peace, like charity, begins at home.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Better the occasional faults of a government that lives in a spirit of charity than the consistent omissions of a government frozen in the ice of its own indifference.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Calm seas never made a good sailor

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

No man can tame a tiger into a kitten by stroking it. There can be no appeasement with ruthlessness. There can be no reasoning with an incendiary bomb.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Happiness lies not in the mere possession of money; it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

**Tell that to the Marines!**

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Here is my principle: Taxes shall be levied according to ability to pay. That is the only American principle.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

All that is within me cries out to go back to my home on the Hudson River

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The truth is found when men are free to pursue it.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Do Something. If it works, do more of it. If it doesn't, do something else.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

More than an end to war, we want an end to the beginning of all wars - yes, an end to this brutal, inhuman and thoroughly impractical method of settling the differences between governments.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

If you treat people right they will treat you right... ninety percent of the time.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

No government can help the destinies of people who insist in putting sectional and class consciousness ahead of general weal.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The Nation that destroys its soil destroys itself.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The whole world is one neighborhood.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The Democratic Party will live and continue to receive the support of the majority of Americans just so long as it remains a liberal party.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We have always known that heedless self interest was bad morals, we now know that it is bad economics.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Forests are the lungs of our land.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

No country, however rich, can afford the waste of its human resources. Demoralization caused by vast unemployment is our greatest extravagance. Morally, it is the greatest menace to our social order.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

It is one of the characteristics of a free and democratic nation that it have free and independent labor unions.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The loneliest feeling in the world is when you think you are leading the parade and turn to find that no one is following you. No president who badly misguesses public opinion will last very long.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The motto of war is: "Let the strong survive; let the weak die." The motto of peace is: "Let the strong help the weak to survive."

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

It is an unfortunate human failing that a full pocketbook often groans more loudly than an empty stomach.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

It is common sense to take a method and try it. If it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

It is better to swallow words than to have to eat them later.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

To some generations much is given. Of other generations, much is expected.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Men are not prisoners of fate, but only prisoners of their own minds.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Self-interest is the enemy of all true affection.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Above all, try something

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Among American citizens, there should be no forgotten men and no

forgotten races.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The fate of America cannot depend on any one man. The greatness of America is grounded in principles and not on any single personality.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We defend and we build a way of life, not for America alone, but for all mankind.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We may make mistakes-but they must never be mistakes which result from faintness of heart or abandonment of moral principle.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Real estate cannot be lost or stolen, nor can it be carried away. Purchased with common sense, paid for in full, and managed with reasonable care, it is about the safest investment in the world.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

There is a mysterious cycle in human events. To some generations much is given. Of other generations much is expected. This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We, too, born to freedom, and believing in freedom, are willing to fight to maintain freedom. We, and all others who believe as deeply as we do, would rather die on our feet than live on our knees.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Organized money hates me--and I welcome their hatred!

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Those newspapers of the nation which most loudly cried dictatorship against me would have been the first to justify the beginnings of dictatorship by somebody else.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Favor comes because for a brief moment in the great space of human change and progress some general human purpose finds in him a satisfactory embodiment.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

We know that equality of individual ability has never existed and never will, but we do insist that equality of opportunity still must be sought.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

In the formative days of the Republic, the directing influence the Bible exercised upon the fathers of the Nation is conspicuously evident.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The presidency is not merely an administrative office...It is pre-eminently a place of moral leadership.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Chamberlain's visit to Hitler today may bring things to a head or may result in a temporary postponement of what looks to me like an inevitable conflict within the next five years.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

To return to higher standards of living we must abandon the false prophets and seek new leaders of our own choosing.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

The only thing we have to fear...is audiovisual glitches at our annual event.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Okay, you've convinced me. Now go out there and bring pressure on me.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

In our personal ambitions we are individualists. But in our seeking for economic and political progress as a nation, we all go up or else all go down as one people.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

No business is above Government; and Government must be empowered to deal adequately with any business that tries to rise above Government.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Hitler built a fortress around Europe, but he forgot to put a roof on it.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Freedom of speech...Freedom of worship...Freedom from want...Freedom from fear.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

If I went to work in a factory the first thing I'd do is join a union.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

If in other lands the press and books and literature of all kinds are censored, we must redouble our efforts here to keep them free

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

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