

Reconstruction plans

Directions: Read each of the plans for Reconstruction below. 1. Next to each numbered part of them, please **place a + or a –** showing whether you think that part of the plan was a good or bad part. 2. Then, in the open space below each plan, please **give each a letter grade** based on how good you think the plan is and **explain why using 2 sentences**.

Lincoln's plan: Before he was shot and killed, Abraham Lincoln had begun to formulate a plan for how the nation would deal with Southern states and slaves after the Civil War. It is also called the 10 Percent Plan. First of all, Lincoln did not want to be harsh or punish the South. He wanted the following:

1. All Confederates who had participated in the Civil War to be given **amnesty** (a pardon or forgiveness) of their crime of rebellion and believed their property (which may have been seized by Union soldiers during the war) should be given back to them.
2. The highest military and government leaders of the Confederacy were accountable for their crimes and may be charged with rebellion against the United States.
3. Since each Confederate state had taken themselves out of the United States, they would need permission to form a new state government. That new government could be formed when 10% of eligible voters in that state swore an oath of allegiance to the United States.
4. Southern states were encouraged to set up a plan to deal with freed slaves.

Johnson's plan: President Andrew Johnson also had a plan to deal with the South. He believed the following should occur:

1. Before being allowed back into the United States a Confederate state must **ratify** (approve) the 13th Amendment, which forever banned slavery in the United States.
2. Southern states must accept that the federal (national) government has the supreme power.
3. Southern citizens had to swear an oath of allegiance to the United States. Then, they would receive amnesty and their property would be returned to them.

Congress' plan: The U.S. Congress also had a plan to deal with Reconstruction. Their plan was eventually controlled by **Radical Republicans**, who required the most from the South after the Civil War. Their plan included the following for the South:

1. The majority of voters in a state had to swear an oath of allegiance to the United States.
2. Each southern state had to write a new state constitution which had to be approved by the Congress.
3. A southern state had to accept the **13th** (banned slavery), **14th** (equal protection for all) and **15th** (right of voting for all males regardless of color) Amendments.
4. The South was to be divided into 10 military districts and watched over by U.S. soldiers to make sure they were giving rights to African Americans.