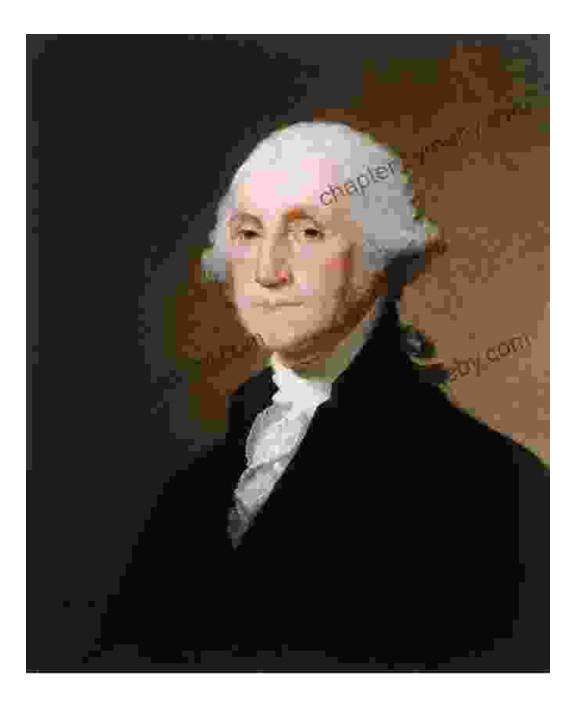
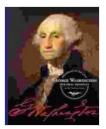
## George Washington: The First President of the United States



#### George Washington (Presidents of the U.S.A.)

by Matt Christopher

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George Washington was the first president of the United States. He was a military leader, politician, and statesman who played a key role in the American Revolution and the founding of the United States. Washington is considered one of the most important figures in American history.

#### Early Life and Career

George Washington was born on February 22, 1732, in Westmoreland County, Virginia. He was the eldest of six children born to Augustine Washington and Mary Ball Washington. Washington's father was a wealthy planter and slave owner. Washington's mother was a devout Christian who instilled in her son a strong sense of morality and ethics.

Washington received a limited formal education. He attended a local school for a few years, but his education was mostly supervised by his mother and tutors. Washington was a voracious reader and spent much of his time studying history, geography, and mathematics. He also developed a strong interest in military affairs.

In 1753, Washington was appointed as a surveyor for the Colony of Virginia. He spent the next several years surveying land in the Ohio Valley. This experience gave Washington a firsthand knowledge of the frontier and the challenges facing the colonists.

#### **Military Career**

In 1754, the French and Indian War broke out. Washington was commissioned as a lieutenant colonel in the Virginia Regiment and was sent to defend the frontier. Washington played a key role in several important battles, including the Battle of Fort Necessity and the Battle of Monongahela. He also led several successful raids against French and Indian forces.

In 1758, Washington was promoted to colonel and was given command of the Virginia Regiment. He led his regiment to victory at the Battle of Fort Duquesne, which helped to secure the Ohio Valley for the British. Washington's military service earned him the respect of his fellow officers and the admiration of the colonists.

#### **Political Career**

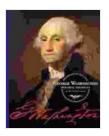
After the French and Indian War, Washington retired from the military and returned to his plantation, Mount Vernon. He served in the Virginia House of Burgesses and the Continental Congress. In 1775, Washington was appointed as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army.

Washington led the Continental Army to victory in the American Revolution. He defeated the British at the Battle of Trenton, the Battle of Saratoga, and the Battle of Yorktown. Washington's leadership and military skills were essential to the American victory.

After the war, Washington was elected as the first president of the United States. He served two terms in office and is considered one of the greatest presidents in American history. Washington established many of the traditions and institutions of the American government. He also helped to shape the nation's foreign policy and economic development.

#### Legacy

George Washington is considered one of the most important figures in American history. He was a military leader, politician, and statesman who played a key role in the American Revolution and the founding of the United States. Washington's legacy is still felt today. He is remembered as a symbol of American patriotism and leadership.



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