

Pathfinder for the Revolutionary War

1. For general background information, use an **encyclopedia**, such as *World Book* or *New Book of Knowledge Encyclopedia*.

2. Generate a set of **keywords** or terms, such as:

United States – History – 1775-1783

United States – Military history

Soldiers – United States

Also look under the **specific** topics: Washington, George; Franklin, Benjamin; Jefferson, Thomas; Adams, John; Paine, Thomas; George III (King of Great Britain)

3. For specific facts, use specialized reference books, such as:

The Revolutionary War (encyclopedia)

American Revolution Almanac

American Revolution Primary Sources

American Revolution Biographies

4. For current information search for periodicals a magazine index, such as EBSCO (History Reference Center).

5. Some specific **periodicals** in this field include: American Heritage

6. For general information, use a subscription database from the LAUSD Digital Library, such as ABC-Clio

7. For current information, also check the **internet**. Remember to evaluate what you find because quality varies greatly from site to site. Some good websites include:

<http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/> PBS website (resources to accompany show “Liberty”)

<http://library.thinkquest.org/10966/> Online reference tool

<http://www.nps.gov/cowp/Timeline.htm> National Park Service (timeline of Revolutionary War)

8. For in-depth information, examine **books**. Use your keywords to locate books through the library’s catalog. Some good Dewey Decimal Classification Numbers include:

921

Biography

973.3

United States – History – 1775-1783

305

Social Studies

355.0092

Soldiers – United States