

Checks and Balances

Examples of How Each Branch Will Check the Other:

*Executive Branch Checks on the Judicial Branch

- The president nominates judges to the Supreme Court and Federal Courts
- President has the power to pardon people accused of crimes

*Judicial Branch Checks on the Executive Branch:

- Supreme Court will use its power of judicial review to declare presidential actions unconstitutional

*Legislative Branch Checks on the Executive Branch:

- The Senate can reject presidential nominations
- Congress can override a Presidential veto with a 2/3rd majority vote in both houses
- The Legislative Branch can impeach and remove a president from office (this has never happened)

*Legislative Branch Checks on the Judicial Branch:

- The Senate can reject nominations to the Supreme Court
- Congress may propose Constitutional Amendments to overturn Supreme Court decisions
- Congress can impeach judges and remove them from the bench

*Judicial Branch Checks on the Legislative Branch:

- Supreme Court uses judicial review to declare laws of Congress as unconstitutional

*Executive Branch Checks on the Legislative Branch:

- The power to veto laws
- President can propose laws to Congress
- President can appoint and nominate federal officials who carry out the laws