**State:** Texas  
**Abbreviation:** TX  
**Capital:** Austin  
**Nickname:** The Lone Star State  
**Statehood:** December 29, 1845  
**Fun Fact:** Texas is the largest state in the U.S. by area.

**State:** Utah  
**Abbreviation:** UT  
**Capital:** Salt Lake City  
**Nickname:** The Beehive State  
**Statehood:** January 4, 1896  
**Fun Fact:** Rainbow Bridge, an abstract sculpture carved of solid sandstone, is the world’s largest natural-rock span. It stands 276 feet wide and 309 feet high.

**State:** Vermont  
**Abbreviation:** VT  
**Capital:** Montpelier  
**Nickname:** The Green Mountain State  
**Statehood:** March 4, 1791  
**Fun Fact:** Vermont produces the largest amount of maple syrup in the U.S.

**State:** Virginia  
**Abbreviation:** VA  
**Capital:** Richmond  
**Nickname:** The Old Dominion State  
**Statehood:** June 25, 1788  
**Fun Fact:** Jamestown was the first English settlement in the U.S. It was also the first capital of Virginia.

**State:** West Virginia  
**Abbreviation:** WV  
**Capital:** Charleston  
**Nickname:** The Mountain State  
**Statehood:** June 20, 1863  
**Fun Fact:** Nearly 75% of West Virginia is covered by forests.

**State:** Washington  
**Abbreviation:** WA  
**Capital:** Olympia  
**Nickname:** The Evergreen State  
**Statehood:** November 11, 1889  
**Fun Fact:** The state of Washington is the only state to be named after a United States president.

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**Space Needle**

**Fun Facts:**
- The Space Needle is an observation tower built in the city of Seattle, Washington, in 1962. The tower was built in honor of the 1962 World’s Fair. The tower is 605 feet tall, 184 m and at the time it was built, it was the tallest structure west of the Mississippi River. There are 848 steps from the bottom of the base to the top of the observation deck.
- Twenty-five lightning rods (24 actual rods, plus the tower) are on the roof of the needle to withstand lightning strikes. The Space Needle is approximately 1,320 Milky Way® candy bars tall.

**USS Arizona Memorial, Hawaii**

**Fun Facts:**
- The USS Arizona Memorial became the resting place for the 1,102 sailors killed in the attack at Pearl Harbor, with the sunken hull of the battleship being declared as a National Historic Landmark. Every President of the United States since Franklin D. Roosevelt, and both Emperors Hirohito and Akihito, have made a pilgrimage to the site. The memorial has 21 windows. This is said to symbolically represent a 21 gun salute or 21 Marines standing over the fallen structure. Though the USS Arizona is no longer in commission, it is considered to be an active U.S. military cemetery.

**Grand Canyon**

**Fun Facts:**
- The Grand Canyon is a monument dedicated to westward expansion in the USA. The Arch is 630 ft tall. The Arch cost 13 million dollars to build and was completed in 1965. The Arch is 630 feet (192 meters) tall. 630 feet is also the distance from leg to leg at ground level. The Arch weighs 17,246 tons. Nine hundred tons of stainless steel were used to build the arch. It was built to withstand earthquakes and high winds.
- The Grand Canyon is 277 miles (446 kilometres) in length. The Grand Canyon is around 6,000 (1800 metres) feet deep. The rock found at the bottom of the Grand Canyon (schist) is around 2 billion years old. The rock found on the upper rim (limestone) is around 230 million years old. The Grand Canyon became a national park in 1919.
- The Grand Canyon is found in the U.S. state of Arizona. Many people consider it to be one of the seven wonders of the natural world. The Grand Canyon is 277 miles (446 kilometres) in length. The Grand Canyon is around 6,000 (1800 metres) feet deep. The rock found at the bottom of the Grand Canyon (schist) is around 2 billion years old. The rock found on the upper rim (limestone) is around 230 million years old. The Grand Canyon became a national park in 1919.