



A Timeline of Significant Events in the Life of Abraham Lincoln

February 12, 1809	Abraham Lincoln is born in Hardin County, Kentucky.
April-July, 1831	Lincoln pilots a flatboat to New Orleans for Denton Offutt and returns to New Salem, 18 miles northwest of Springfield.
September 1831	Lincoln clerks in Denton Offutt's store in New Salem.
March 9, 1832	Lincoln becomes a legislature candidate.
January 15, 1833	Lincoln and William F. Berry purchase a store in New Salem.
March 7, 1833	President Jackson appoints Lincoln as New Salem postmaster.
August 4, 1834	Lincoln wins his second bid for election to the Illinois House of Representatives.
February 24, 1837	Lincoln and eight friends are successful in passing a bill to move the state capital from Vandalia to Springfield.
April 15, 1837	Lincoln moves to Springfield, rooms with Joshua F. Speed, and becomes the law partner of John T. Stuart.
November 4, 1842	Lincoln and Mary Todd are married by the Rev. Charles Dresser in the home of her brother-in-law Ninian W. Edwards,.
August 1, 1843	Robert Todd Lincoln, the Lincoln's first child, is born at the Globe Tavern.
January 16, 1844	The Lincoln's purchase a home from Reverend Dresser for the price of \$1,200.00.
March 10, 1846	The Lincoln's second child, Edward Baker, is born.
August 3, 1846	With an unprecedented majority of 1,511 votes over his Democratic opponent Rev. Peter Cartwright, Lincoln is the only Whig among seven congressmen elected from Illinois.
February 1, 1850	Edward Baker Lincoln dies after a 52-day illness.

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December 21, 1850	Lincoln's third son, William Wallace (Willie), is born.
April 4, 1853	Thomas (Tad), the Lincoln's fourth son, is born.
Spring 1856	Contractors Hannan and Ragsdale enlarge the Lincoln's family home from one and half stories to two full stories at a cost of \$1,300.00.
June 16, 1858	Lincoln is chosen by Illinois Republicans to run for the U.S. Senate. In accepting, Lincoln gives his "House Divided" speech.
November 2, 1858	Although Lincoln gets a majority of the votes in the election, Stephen Douglas is re-elected because of gerrymandered legislative districts.
May 18, 1860	Lincoln is nominated for President on the third ballot by the Republican National Convention in Chicago.
November 6, 1860	Lincoln becomes the first Republican to be elected President of the United States.
February 11, 1861	President-elect Lincoln delivers his farewell speech to the people of Springfield from the rear of a train car at the Great Western Railroad Station.
March 4, 1861	Lincoln is inaugurated as the 16th President of the United States.
February 20, 1862	William (Willie) Wallace Lincoln dies. He is the second son the Lincolns have lost.
April 14, 1865	Actor John Wilkes Booth shoots Lincoln in Ford's Theatre.
April 15, 1865	Abraham Lincoln is pronounced dead at 7:22 a.m. in the home of William Petersen.
May 3, 1865	The funeral train reaches its destination in Springfield at 9:00 a.m. The body is escorted to the Illinois State Capitol building.
May 4, 1865	Lincoln is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield.

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