The French and Indian War was fought between the Colonists & the British VS. The French & Native Americans
The French and Indian War was caused by:

1.) **Land:** Both France and Britain wanted control of the valuable Ohio River Valley.

2.) **People:** British colonists moved into region, which disrupted trade between Natives & French.

3.) **Conflict:** The war in the Americas is just one of several wars between France & Britain.
Effect #1:
The Treaty of Paris (1763)
- Ends the War
- France relinquishes all land in North America
- Everything east of Mississippi River now belongs to Britain
- Natives lose their ally and trading partner
Effect #2: The Proclamation of 1763

- Colonists are not allowed to move west of the Appalachian Mountains.

- Britain fears sparking another war with the natives (a big no-no after just spending a lot of resources to fight a war).

- Colonists are furious they cannot move west into the land they just fought for.
Effect #3:

**DEBT**

- **Great Britain** is saddled with a huge war debt from fighting the F&I War (paying for weapons and soldiers is **expensive**!)

- British **Parliament** begins **taxing** colonies to repay the debt incurred.
Effect #4: COLONISTS UNITE!

- At outset of F&I War, Ben Franklin leads Albany Congress to unite colonists to “Join, or Die” against the French

- Colonists learn guerrilla warfare tactics used by natives and French

- Colonists learn to fight as one!
English Colonial Policy

• For the most part, the British believed that colonies existed to supply England with raw materials and to provide markets for British goods.

• The British passed a series of laws known as the Trade and Navigation Acts that reflected the policy of mercantilism, which sought to keep all the benefits of trade inside the Empire, and minimize the loss of gold and silver to foreigners by controlling colonial shipping practices.
1651: The Navigation Act

All goods shipped between England and the colonies had to be carried on ships that had been built in either England or the colonies.
1660: Parliament listed specific colonial products that could be shipped only to Great Britain. These enumerated commodities included tobacco, cotton, sugar, and indigo (plant used to make blue dye). Because the colonies could only sell to Great Britain, Great Britain set the prices low. Great Britain could then resell excess product to other countries, reaping the profits at the expense of the colonies.

When the colonists sailed to Europe to import goods back to the colonies, they had to make a stop in England to first pay a duty (tax) on some goods.

As a result, the colonies received less money for their exports, and paid more money for some imports than if they had been allowed to trade freely.
British manufactures pressured Parliament to pass these laws to quell colonial competition.

More laws that benefited special groups at the expensive of the colonists:

**Woolen Act of 1699**: forbade export of woolen goods.

**Hat Act of 1732**: illegal for hat makers in the colonies to sell their goods outside the colonies.

**Molasses Act of 1733**: helped owners of sugar plantations in the **British West Indies** by putting a heavy tax on the importation of sugar and molasses from anywhere else.

**Iron Act of 1750**: restricted the manufacturing of iron goods in the colonies.
“A colonist cannot make a button, a horseshoe, nor a hobnail, but some sooty ironmonger or respectable buttonmaker of Britain shall bawl and squall that his honor’s worship is . . . maltreated, injured, cheated, and robbed by the rascally Americans.”

(Benjamin Franklin)
• A few navigation laws actually helped the colonists, such as a law that required tobacco to only be bought from the colonies.

• They could ship goods such as fish, lumber and grain wherever there was a market, because the British didn't need them.

• Most of the navigations laws, however, restricted colonial trade. Because the British didn't strictly enforce the laws, the colonists used the laws that benefited them and ignored the rest, utilizing smuggling to skirt the laws.
• Parliament opted for a policy of **salutary neglect**--a non interference policy which allowed the colonists to do what they wished. This was due to the great distance between the colonies and Britain some 3,000 miles away, and the lax governing of those tasked with the job of enforcing the laws.

• The colonies had been founded with little help from the British government, and the colonists had set up a prosperous agriculture and extensive trade on their own. They had learned to govern themselves, and they had also developed **American character** based on success through individual effort.

• But the colonists still relied on British protection from the French, so the Revolution didn’t begin until after the French had been expelled from North America.
1688-1697: King William’s War
1702-1713: Queen Anne’s War
The British colonists outnumbered the French 20 to 1, but there was no guarantee they would fight. The colonists were annoyed at the British boundary disputes and did not have much desire to help win their war. They would have to be convinced.
1754: The Albany Plan

Delegates from seven northern colonies met with representatives from the Iroquois under the pretense of persuading the Iroquois to ally with the British against the French.

Other delegates, including Ben Franklin, used that meeting to attempt to create a union of the colonists.
Albany Plan of the Union:
• Presented by Ben Franklin
• Proposed colonies form a Grand Council with the power to levy taxes, raise troops, and regulate trade with the American Indians.
  o Grand Council subjected to veto by British Crown
• Delegates adopted the plan, but it was rejected by colonial and British governments.
  o The British feared loss of power and the colonists rarely consented to fight outside their own colonies, or impose taxes on themselves.
“The confidence of the French in this undertaking seems well-grounded on the present disunited state of the British colonies, and the extreme difficulty of bringing so many different governments and assemblies to agree in any speedy and effectual measures for our common defense and security; while our enemies have the very great advantage of being under one direction, with one council, and one purse...."

(Benjamin Franklin)
1754:
The French drove English fur traders from out of the Ohio Valley and built Fort Duquesne in territory owned by Virginia and Pennsylvania.

The colonists considered the fort a threat and a barrier to expansion.

The colonists sent a Virginia militia—a group of civilians trained as soldiers to fight in emergencies—to attack the fort under the command of a 22 year old inexperienced major named George Washington. They ambushed a French scouting party, and the French retaliated by capturing Washington’s entire force at Fort Necessity. They were released and war had begun without formal declaration.
1755: British General Edward Braddock led 1,450 British and colonial soldiers, including George Washington and Daniel Boone, in another attack against Fort Duquesne. The British were driven back and 900 of Braddock’s soldiers were wounded or killed, with General Braddock suffering a mortal wound.
General Braddock’s defeat caused many American Indians to switch their support from the British to the French. The American Indians had a good relationship with French fur traders, and the French seemed less of a threat than the land-hungry English.

1756: War is formally declared.

The French, led by Louis Montcalm, had superior military leadership until 1758 when William Pitt became Britain’s Minister of War. England began sending aid to France’s enemies in Europe to split France’s forces, and Pitt sent talented young officers to lead the North American campaign.
By the end of 1758, Fort Duquesne was in British hands.

1759: A British army of 9,000 were encamped on the St. Lawrence River below the great French fortress of Quebec.

British Commander James Wolfe observed the fortress until he found a weakness by noting that Canadian women washing clothes had to have a pathway to the river from the cliffs. Wolfe had his forces scale the cliffs and overpower the few guards posted on the path, then led 4,500 troops up the cliffs, surprising the French troops. The French and Canadians surrendered, and the fall of Quebec meant the end of the French empire in North America.
“Tell Colonel River to cut off their retreat from the bridge. Now, God be praised, I die contented.”
James Wolfe
1727-1759
1763: Treaty of Paris

Britain secured control of the largest amount of territory in a single treaty, gained all of Canada, all land east of the Mississippi from the French. They also gained Florida from Spain, France’s ally. To repay them for their assistance, France transferred the Louisiana Territory to Spain.

France was completely kicked out of North America.
The Impending Revolution

After Britain’s victory over the French:

“Know ye, bad neighbors, who aim to divide
The sons from the mother, that she’s still our
pride. And if ye attack her, we’re all on her
side. Which nobody can deny.”

(Benjamin Franklin)
Control and Protest

The war had left Great Britain with a huge amount of debt, and a lot more land to control. The war had cost them £70 million, or roughly $15 trillion today.
1763: Pontiac’s Rebellion broke out in the West. Pontiac, chief of the Ottawas, had forseen the British victory as a hard fate for his people. France had traded with the American Indians and had been relatively peaceful, whereas Great Britain threatened to wipe them out as the colonists settled more and more west. Pontiac was defeated and the British government issued the Proclamation of 1763.
Proclamation of 1763

Ended all settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains and stationed 15 regiments along the frontier to both protect the American Indians from colonists, and the colonists from the American Indians.

Colonists weren’t thrilled they had just won a war to gain land and the ability to expand west, and were now being told they couldn’t go west, but Great Britain was tired of spending money on wars to protect the colonists.

Land speculators—people who purchased land intending to resell it at a profit—and colonists thought Great Britain was infringing on their rights to land in order to avoid disturbing the American Indians.

Great Britain also determined that the colonists should help pay back the costs of the war, so they began to impose stricter taxes and crack down on smuggling.