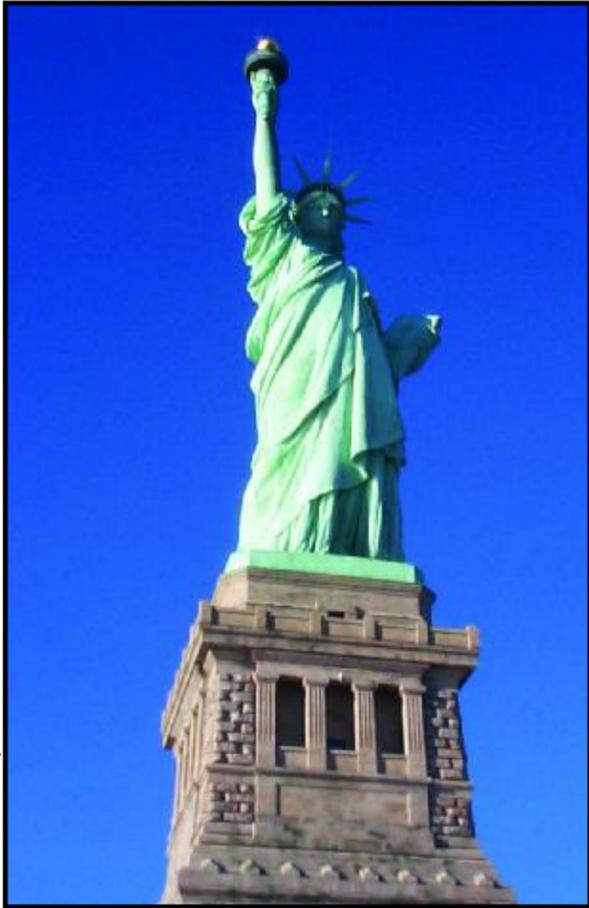


# The STATUE of LIBERTY



Courtesy: Shivan Uveys

Height from top of base to torch:	151'1" (46.1m)
Height from ground to top of pedestal:	154'0" (46.9m)
Height from heel to top of the head:	111'1" (33.9m)
Total weight of copper in the statue:	62,000 lbs
Total weight of steel in the statue:	250,000 lbs
Length of nose:	4'6" (1.37m)
Length of right arm:	42'0" (12.8m)
Width of mouth:	3'0" (0.91m)
Thickness of waist:	35'0" (10.7m)
Thickness of tablet:	2'0" (0.61m)
Head thickness from ear to ear:	10'0" (3.05m)

## A Monumental Gift



Gustave Eiffel

Artwork: S. illustration / 500-500

France made the Statue of Liberty as a gift to the United States to celebrate French-American friendship and to commemorate the emancipation of Black slaves. The idea of giving the statue originated in 1865 with Edouard Laboulaye, a leader of the French abolitionist movement and the chairman of the French Anti-Slavery Society. Laboulaye proposed the idea of having the French people present a gift to the United States in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of American independence. This gift would pay homage to the United States and to its political institutions while at the same time highlighting France's growing friendship with the United States.



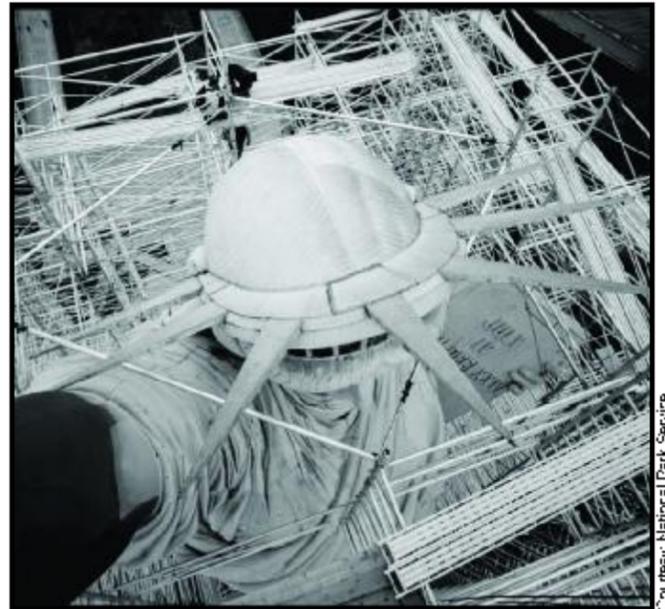
Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi

Courtesy: Eastford Museum Collection; Reproduction: © Kempf

## Concept and Creation

The Statue's design was shaped by many influences, but drew principally on classical works depicting Liberty as a woman holding a flame. Laboulaye wanted to project the image of peace and order rather than revolutionary chaos. Liberty's flame was intended to symbolize a beacon of light and not a torch with which to set the world afire.

The French artist who created the statue was Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi. Once the design was completed, the most complex chapter of the statue's story began: its construction. The statue was constructed by hammering thin sheets of copper into the desired shape and joining them together. With the help of Gustave Eiffel, creator of the Eiffel Tower, Bartholdi created a skeleton for Miss Liberty. France was well on its way to creating a monumental statue which would come to embody America's national identity.



Courtesy: National Park Service

## Collecting a Monumental Sum



Courtesy: PhotoLink & PhotoLink, Inc

Lack of adequate funds posed a grave threat to the completion of the Statue. France was responsible for the statue itself, whereas the U.S. had agreed to construct the pedestal.

The French fundraising campaign for the Statue of Liberty was an ingenious effort that gave the world its first glimpse of modern marketing techniques. Bartholdi devised what became one of the world's first corporate sponsorship programs. Merchants who donated money for the Statue's construction were granted the right to use the monument to promote their products.

In the United States, fundraising had come to a complete halt. The pedestal was incomplete and there were insufficient funds to continue the project. Disappointed by the lack of public support, Joseph Pulitzer, a powerful newspaper owner and the creator of the Pulitzer prize, organized a new method of raising money. By promising to publish the name of every donor, no matter how small the sum, Pulitzer was able to collect \$101,000—almost all of which was donated in sums of one dollar or less!

Thanks to the ingenuity of Bartholdi and Pulitzer, the statue could finally be completed.



Courtesy: McClaw Stange

What a Statue of Liberty bill might look like!

## Fun Facts

The Statue of Liberty was built in France.

The Statue was a gift from the people of France to the U.S. in honor of French-American friendship and the abolition of slavery.

The Statue of Liberty's birthday in the United States is October 28, 1886.

Visitors must climb 354 stairs to reach the crown.

There are 25 windows in Lady Liberty's crown

From the tip of the torch to the ground, the statue is 305 feet (or 93 meters) tall.

Lady Liberty is the tallest statue in the world.

The Statue weighs 450,000 pounds (204,100 kg).

The weight of the Statue of Liberty is equal to 250 cars piled on top of each other!

The Statue of Liberty has size 879 sandals that are each 25 feet (7.6 m) long.

The statue is green due to a chemical reaction between copper and the natural elements



## The American Embrace

The statue was finished in France in July, 1884, and brought to New York onboard the French frigate *Isère*. Once the pedestal was completed in April 1886, the Statue was re-assembled in its new home, and on October 28, 1886, it was officially inaugurated.

The story of the Statue of Liberty has been one of international friendship, determination and change. Over the years, Lady Liberty has grown to represent freedom, democracy, and liberty. It has also served as a beacon to immigrants wishing to escape oppression and poverty.

Indeed, since its unveiling in 1886, the Statue has become a uniquely American symbol of the United States' promise of a new and better life for immigrants from all around the world.

The statue, a gift from America's first ally, France, has without a doubt become the personification of America, and its most cherished national symbol.



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For more information, visit the Statue of Liberty's official Web site at [www.nps.gov/stli](http://www.nps.gov/stli), or visit the French Embassy's Web site, [www.ambafrance-us.org](http://www.ambafrance-us.org).

# THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

Bonjour! My name is Jean-Luc. Let's have fun discovering the Statue of Liberty!



The Statue's index finger alone is 8 feet long!

The Statue's right arm is 42 feet long.

The seven rays of Liberty's crown represent the seven continents (North and South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Antarctica, Australia) and the seven seas (Arctic, Antarctic, North & South Atlantic, North & South Pacific, Indian) of the world.

The Statue's mouth is three feet wide.

The tablet in the Statue's hand reads "July 4, 1776" in Roman numerals, the date of the United States' Independence. It is 2 feet thick and 23 feet long.

The Statue is located on 12-acre Liberty Island, formerly known as Bedloe's Island. Before the Statue's construction, it was mainly the site of Fort Wood, a fortress that protected New York harbor.

The statue is 22-stories high, with 354 steps from the bottom to the crown.

## WordSearch



**Hidden Words:** Statue of Liberty, France, Eiffel, Bartholdi, New York, Paris, America, copper, steel, crown, international, friendship, symbol, pride, heritage, freedom, and liberty



## International Friendship

Name two national symbols of France and two national symbols of the United States

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Possible Answers:**

**USA:** the "Star-Spangled Banner" (national anthem), the White House, the American flag (🇺🇸), the bald eagle, Uncle Sam.

**France:** "La Marseillaise" (French national anthem), the Eiffel Tower, the French flag (🇫🇷), the Gallic rooster, Marianne.