

# The Roman Republic: Structure

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## Patricians

**Who were the patricians? How wealthy were they?**

Patricians were citizens who were born into the upper class. They were usually very wealthy.

## Plebeians

**Who were the plebeians? How wealthy were they?**

Plebeians were citizens who were not born into the upper class. They were usually poor.

## The Century Assembly

**What power did the Century Assembly have?**

The Century Assembly could declare war and elect some government officials. They could also pass laws.

**Who could vote in the Century Assembly?**

Both plebeians and patricians could vote, but the votes of patricians counted for more.

## The Plebeian Council

**What power did the Plebeian Council have?**

The Plebeian Council could elect some government officials and pass laws.

**Who could vote in the Plebeian Council?**

Only plebeians could vote in the Plebeian Council.

## The Consuls

**How could someone become a consul?**

Consuls had to be elected by the Century Assembly.

**What powers did the consuls have?**

The consuls led the Roman Army, enforced laws, ran the Senate, and represented Rome to other countries.

## The Tribunes

**How could someone become a tribune?**

The Plebeian Council elected Tribunes. Tribunes had to be Plebeians.

**What powers did the tribunes have?**

Tribunes could propose laws, summon the senate, or veto the actions of elected officials. Tribunes were also sacrosanct, meaning it was illegal to harm them.

## The Senate

**How could someone become a member of the Roman Senate?**

Men could be appointed senators for life after serving a term in a high government post, like consul. Usually, senators were patricians.

**What powers did the Roman Senate have?**

The Senate could advise consuls, conduct foreign policy, and control the government's money. The Senate could give decrees, but those were only suggestions, not laws.

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