

Key Constitutional Sections

1	Legislative power: vested in a bicameral parliament, which consists of the Queen, a Senate, and a House of Representatives
2	Governor General shall be appointed by the queen as her representative, shall exe
5	Governor General may appoint times for sessions of parliament May prorogue the parliament May dissolve the parliament
7	Senate is the states' house chosen directly by the people, no Original State shall have less than six senators, who will be elected fore six years
9	Method of Senate voting must be uniform across all states
15	Casual Senate vacancies will be filled by the state
24	House of Representatives: Nexus clause - twice number of Senators Five members in each original state Number of members is proportional to population MHRs directly chosen by the people
28	3-year terms in the House of Representatives House of Representatives dissolved by the Governor General
32	Governor General in Council may issue writs for an election
41	Right to vote in federal elections if previously possessed franchise in state elections
44	Disqualifications for sitting in the Parliament: Is under any acknowledgment of allegiance, obedience, or adherence to a foreign power, or is a subject or a citizen or entitled to the rights or privileges of a subject or a citizen of a foreign power Has been imprisoned for more than a year, or has been convicted of treason Is an undischarged bankrupt Holds an office of profit from the Crown Has any direct or indirect interest in any agreement with the Public Service
50	Each house of parliament may make its own Standing Orders
51ii	Concurrent powers: taxation without discrimination between states
51vi	Concurrent powers: defence
51xx	Concurrent powers: corporations
51xxi	Concurrent powers: marriage
51xxiiA	Concurrent powers: social services, particularly 'benefits to students'
51xxvii	Concurrent powers: people of any race for whom it is deemed necessary to make special laws
51xxix	Concurrent powers: external affairs
51xxxi	Concurrent powers: right to just compensation for acquisition of property by Commonwealth

51xxxv	Concurrent powers: industrial disputes
51xxxvii	Concurrent powers: referral of powers, and the 'adoption' of a referral
52	Exclusive powers: any powers vested exclusively in the Commonwealth by the constitution shall remain exclusive to the Commonwealth
53	Senate may not make or amend money Bills Houses have coequal power
57	Double Dissolution Mechanism: If a law is rejected or irreconcilably amended by the Senate twice in three months, the Governor General may call a double dissolution of both houses of parliament. Following the double dissolution, both houses of parliament will sit together and conduct a joint vote on the passage of the law in question.
58	Governor General grants Royal Assent to Bills
61	Executive power of the Commonwealth is vested in the Queen and is exercisable by the Governor-General as the Queen's representative
62	Creates EXCO appointed by, and with the role of advising the Governor General
63	Governor General in Council will act on the advice of EXCO
64	Governor General in Council will appoint Ministers to manage portfolios of the public service
68	Governor General is the Commander-In-Chief of the armed forces
71	Creates the High Court, and enables the creation of other federal courts by the parliament
72	Federal judges are appointed by the Governor General in Council Federal judges are dismissed by the Governor General on the advice of both houses of parliament Federal judges' pay may not be reduced during their term in office Federal judges must retire at the age of 70 (1977)
73	Appellate jurisdiction of the High Court extends to any appeal from any court hierarchy in Australia
75	Original jurisdiction of the High Court: Treaties Consuls of any other country In which the Commonwealth is a party Between states Writs of Mandamus, prohibitions, or injunctions against the Commonwealth
76	The parliament may grant additional original jurisdiction to the High Court on any matter involving the interpretation of the Constitution
80	Trial by jury for federal indictable offences
83	No money shall be drawn from the Treasury of the Commonwealth except under appropriation made by law.
87	Braddon Blot' - for ten years following federation, 75% of revenues collected from customs and excises shall be distributed to the states

90	Exclusive powers: over customs and excises
92	Trade amongst the states shall be absolutely free
94	Surplus revenue of the Commonwealth should be paid to the states
96	Commonwealth may grant financial assistance to states via grants on the terms and conditions that the parliament sees fit
106	Preserves state constitutions
107	Preserves state powers
108	Preserves state laws
109	Where a law of a state is incompatible with a law of the Commonwealth, the latter shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency
116	Freedom of religion: the Commonwealth shall not impose a state religion
117	No discrimination between states
128	<p>The Constitution shall be altered by a Referendum through the following:</p> <p>Proposed law should be passed by both houses of the Commonwealth parliament</p> <p>Should be put to the people between 2-6 months after passage through the parliament</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">** If the Bill is rejected or irreconcilably amended by a house of parliament twice in two months, then the proposed amendment may be put to the people with or without the consent or amendments of both houses</p> <p>Must be passed with a double majority: a federal majority of states, and a democratic majority of at least 50% of the Australian electorate</p>