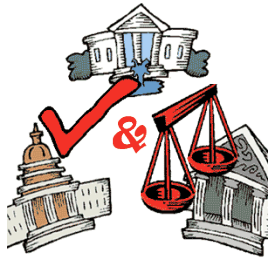


Separation of Powers



* As a way to limit the power of government, the Constitution grants some powers to the federal (national) government and saves some powers for the state governments. There are some powers that are shared by both the federal and state governments. If a power is not specifically given to the federal government, then it is saved for the states or the people. Another way in which the Constitution creates a limited government is through the separation of powers among three branches.



Checks and Balances

* Besides separating the powers among three branches, the Constitution also sets ways in which one branch can check the other two. These checks help to balance power.