



“I will not give up
my seat!”, said
Rosa Parks

Parks was born Rosa Louise McCauley on
February 4, 1913, in Tuskegee, Alabama.

Rosa Parks was a civil rights leader whose refusal to give up her seat to a white passenger on a segregated bus led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

Montgomery Bus Boycott

December 1, 1955 - Rosa Parks arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger.

December 2, 1955 - The WPC calls for a one-day bus boycott on December 5.

December 5, 1955 - Instead of the expected 60% turnout, an estimated 90%-100% of the black community in Montgomery choose to participate in the boycott. Black leaders meet to discuss the possibility of extending the boycott. The [Montgomery Improvement Association](#) (MIA) is created at this meeting, and Dr. King elected its president. The MIA votes to extend the boycott.

December 8, 1955 - The MIA issues a formal list of demands. The city refuses to comply.

January 30, 1956 - Dr. King's home is bombed. In response, Dr. King calls for peaceful protest rather than violent action.

February 1, 1956 - E. D. Nixon's home is bombed.

March 19, 1956 - Dr. King is indicted as a leader of the boycott and ordered to pay \$500 or serve 386 days in jail.

June 5, 1956 - A [federal district court rules](#) that bus segregation is unconstitutional.

Parks was awarded the Martin Luther King Jr. Award by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal.



Rosa Parks showing off her Congressional Gold Medal of Honor with U.S. Vice President Gore prior to a benefit tribute concert in Mrs. Parks' honor in 1999.