

Why did Sam Houston oppose Texas joining the Confederacy?

- (A) Governor Sam Houston definitely opposed secession by traveling throughout Texas to explain why, refusing to call the legislature back into session so they could vote on it, and refusing to take an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy.
- (B) Although he was a slave-owner and opposed abolition, Sam Houston opposed Texas joining the Confederacy because he didn't believe the rebellion could succeed, was unwilling to bring more violence and bloodshed into Texas, and felt certain the state's long-term interests were best-served by remaining loyal to the Union.
- (C) Sam Houston was against secession, sure, but he had slaves and fought for Texas first always even though sometimes he could be stubborn and hot-headed and let his personal feelings interfere - he didn't think it was right so he dug in but it was that same determination that let him hold together a ragtag army at San Jacinto and defeat Santa Anna so I mean if you take one you gotta take the other, right?
- (D) Although his vanity and stubbornness helped secure Texan independence and guide the state through some rocky years, Sam Houston opposed Texas joining the Confederacy because he was irredeemably blinded by his concept of American greatness and its potential role on the world stage, he was convinced that Northern resources and manpower would overwhelm Southern determination and superior culture, and he couldn't bear to see his legacy – Texas – broken or tarnished by standing tall for its fundamental rights one last time.
- (E) Although he was personally volatile and at times rather obstinate, Governor Houston opposed Texas joining the Confederacy because he did not think it was best for Texas economically, militarily, or ethically.
- (F) Sam Houston was a complicated figure who could be your best friend or your worst enemy so you didn't always know why he did what he did but if he were on your side you could be guaranteed fierce loyalty, but even those close to him were sometimes bewildered by why he did what he did, so who knows.
- (G) Although they lost the Civil War, Sam Houston opposed the war because he supported Andrew Jackson and shared his vision for westward expansion and opportunity for the 'common man', and even though he'd owned slaves it wasn't an ethical issue so much as a hindrance to the way of life he envisioned for white settlers.
- (H) Houston thought even if Texas seceded they'd be better off as a republic again than a member of the Confederacy.

