FOURTH OF JULY
FREEDOM FEST
LIVE MUSIC, FUN AND FIREWORKS!
FREE ENTRY
AT THE
AQUATIC CENTER
MULTIPURPOSE FIELD
174 N. 1ST STREET
SATURDAY, JULY 4TH
5:00 P.M. TO 9:30 P.M.
KIDS ZONE
FOOD TRUCKS
BBQ EATING CONTEST
RETAIL VENDORS
RESOURCE BOOTHS
SWIMMING
1:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
FIREWORKS
9:15 P.M.
TOWN OF FLORENCE
Florence Copper
BIRDS × BONES

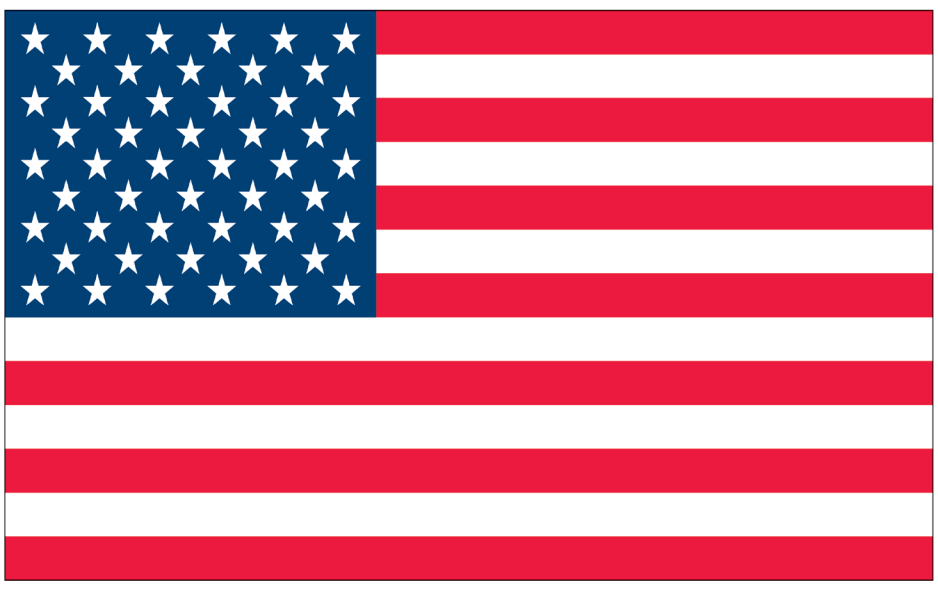
# WORLD OF WONDER

Exploring the realms of history, science, nature and technology

# THE STARS & STRIPES

The flag of the United States is sometimes called the Stars and Stripes, the Star-Spangled Banner and (affectionately) Old Glory.

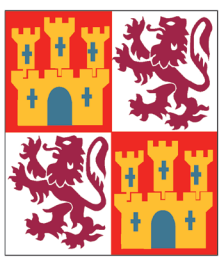
Its seven red and six white stripes are symbolic of the first 13 states. The **field**, or canton, of blue has 50 stars representing the Union of 50 states. A star was added for each state admitted to the Union.



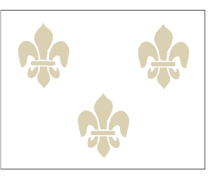
## Early American flags

Native Americans did not use flags, so the first flags used here came with explorers and settlers. The Vikings arrived around 1000 C.E. Christopher Columbus raised a Spanish flag in the New World in 1492. John Cabot claimed North America for England in 1497, and Jacques Cartier hoisted the French flag in 1534.

Viking (1000s)



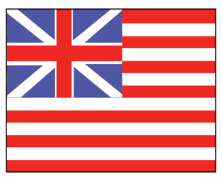
Spanish (1492)



French (1604–1763)

British (1606)

Red Ensign (1707)
British colonies



Grand Union
(1775–1777)

During the American Revolution, colonists often sewed political slogans onto the Red Ensign. The Grand Union served as the unofficial American flag from 1775 to 1777. After the Revolution, a new flag was needed. No one knows who designed or made the first flag. Despite legend, there is no evidence to support the claim that it was Betsy Ross of Philadelphia.

**Navy flags used in 1775**

Liberty Tree

Continental Navy

## Respect for the flag

How you should treat the flag is a combination of common sense and respect. In 1942, the United States created a set of rules, or **codes**, for displaying and honoring the flag.

## Patriotism

The flag stands for the land, the people, the government and the ideals of the United States, no matter when or where it is displayed. It is a symbol of pride, or **patriotism**, for the country.

People display flags on their homes and cars to demonstrate their patriotism. They also wear flag pins and ribbons. Flags are left near monuments as tributes to people who died fighting for our country and for the rights of people around the world.

The flag is often used to celebrate special occasions, but it is also displayed in times of trouble or sorrow.

## What the colors mean

History does not record why the Continental Congress chose red, white and blue as the colors of our flag. But in 1782, the Congress of the Confederation used the same colors for the design of the Great Seal and listed their meanings.

* Red is for hardiness and courage
* White is for purity and innocence
* Blue is for vigilance, perseverance and justice.

## Pledge of Allegiance

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

A **pledge** is a solemn promise. Allegiance means "unalterable faithfulness." In this pledge, we solemnly promise that we will be faithful in thought, word and deed to the country and to the flag for which it stands.

The flag is the symbol of freedom and faith. People pledge allegiance with thankful hearts that citizens are privileged to live under its protection.

* The Pledge of Allegiance should be recited while standing at attention, facing the flag with the right hand over the heart.
* The Pledge of Allegiance was written by Francis Bellamy and first appeared in a children's magazine in 1892. He wrote it to honor the 400th anniversary of Columbus' voyage to America.
* The phrase "under God" was added in 1954.

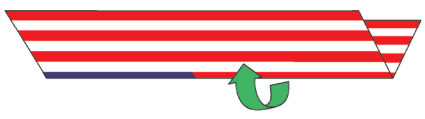
## Flag facts

* Our current 50-star flag has been in use since July 4, 1960, when the star for Hawaii, our 50th state, was added. (Alaska, our 49th state, was added in 1959.)
* Explorers frequently plant flags when they reach their destinations. The U.S. has raised six flags on the surface of the moon.
* When the flag is flown upside down, it signals an emergency or extreme distress.
* William Driver, a sea captain from Salem, Mass., gave the name "Old Glory" to the U.S. flag in 1824.
* During the Civil War (1861–1865), President Abraham Lincoln ordered that the flag remain unchanged, refusing to remove the stars of the Southern states.
* Early flags could have stars with any number of points. Sewists arranged the stars in a variety of patterns.

## Flag folding

As a military custom, the American flag is lowered daily. No part of the flag should touch the ground as it is folded into the shape of a tricorn hat. In the folding, the red and white stripes are wrapped into the blue.

**Step 1:** Hold the flag waist-high and parallel to the ground. Bring the striped half up over the blue field. Fold again lengthwise, with the blue field on the outside.



**Step 2:** Make a triangular fold by bringing the striped corner of the folded edge to meet the open (top) edge of the flag. Turn the outer (end) point inward to form a second triangle.

**Step 3:** Fold the point in to form another triangle. Continue until the entire length of the flag is folded.

**Step 4:** When the flag is completely folded, with only a triangular blue field of stars showing, tuck the last bit into the other folds to secure it.

## Adding stars and stripes

On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act: "Resolved, That the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

1777

Congress did not establish an official arrangement of the stars, so a variety of designs were used.

1777

1795

This flag had 15 stripes and 15 stars.

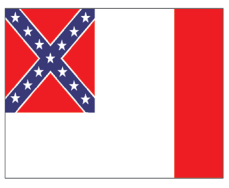
1818

1818

Two examples of the flag reverting to 13 stripes, with 20 stars for 20 states.

1861

Civil War flag with 34 stars, including the South.



1863

Confederate flag — the red bar on the right was added in 1865.

1912 to 1959

The 48-star flag served for 47 years.

SOURCES: World Book Encyclopedia, World Book Inc.; https://en.wikipedia.org; https://www.britannica.com; DAR Manual for Citizenship, by The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution; The Flag We Love, by Pam Munoz Ryan

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CASA GRANDE Dispatch
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Newspapers in Education

FOURTH OF JULY
FREEDOM FEST
LIVE MUSIC, FUN AND FIREWORKS!
FREE ENTRY
EVELYN ERRANTE
5:00 P.M.
National Anthem
THE BLINDSIDERS
5:00 P.M.
HONEYGIRL
6:15 P.M.
SHEILA E.
7:30 P.M.