

# FLAG HOLIDAYS

Our flag should be displayed on the following holidays:

New Year's Day

Inauguration Day

Lincoln's Birthday

Washington's Birthday

Easter Sunday

Armed Forces Day

Memorial Day

Flag Day

Independence Day

Labor Day

Constitution Day

Columbus Day

Navy Day

Veterans' Day

Thanksgiving Day

Christmas Day

...and such other days as proclaimed by the President of the United States.

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# OUR AMERICAN FLAG

## NATIONAL ANTHEM

When the flag is displayed during the national anthem, all present should stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Persons in uniform should render the military salute at the first note of the anthem and retain this position until the last note. Persons not in uniform should remove their caps/hats and hold it at their left shoulder with their hand over their heart. When the flag is not displayed, all present should face toward the music and act in the same manner as if the flag were displayed there.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag should be rendered while standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform, persons should remove their caps/hats and hold it at their left shoulder with their hand being over their heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.

## HALF-STAFF

When flown at half-staff, the American flag should first be hoisted to the peak for an instant, then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should then be raised again to the peak before it is lowered for the day. On Memorial Day, the flag should be displayed at half-staff only until noon, then raised to the top of the pole. The flag is to be flown half-staff all day on Peace Officers Memorial Day, May 15, unless the holiday falls on Armed Forces Day.

In the event of the death of officials or foreign dignitaries, our flag is to be displayed at half-staff according to Presidential orders or instructions, or in accordance with recognized

customs or practices not inconsistent with law.

In the event of the death of a present or former official of a states' government, the Governor of that state, territory or possession may proclaim that the national flag be flown at half-staff.

## CHURCHES AND AUDITORIUMS

When used on a speaker's platform, if the flag is displayed flat, it should be above and behind the speaker. If the flag is displayed from a staff, it should be in the position of prominence, in front of the audience and to the speaker's right as he faces the audience. Any other flag should be displayed on the left of the speaker and to the right of the audience.



## CASKETS

When our flag is used to cover a casket, it should be placed so that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground.

## ADVERTISING

Our flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever. It should not be embroidered on articles such as cushions or handkerchiefs nor printed or otherwise impressed on paper napkins, boxes, or anything that is designed for temporary use and discarded. Advertising signs should not be fastened to a staff from which a flag is flown.

## DISPOSAL

When our flag reaches a condition where it is no longer fit for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified manner, preferably by burning.

*“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.”*

The National Flag represents our living country and is considered to be a living thing, symbolic of the respect and pride we have for our nation. Our flag is a precious possession. Display it with pride.

There are certain basic rules of heraldry which, if understood, generally indicate the proper methods of displaying the flag. The right arm, which is the sword arm and point of danger, is the place of honor. Therefore, the union is the honor point of the flag.

The National Emblem is a symbol of our great country, our heritage and our place in the world.

We owe reverence and respect to our flag.

It represents the highest ideals of individual liberty, justice and equal opportunity for all.



## GENERAL DISPLAY

- It is the universal custom to display our flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flag staffs in the open. However, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day, if properly illuminated during hours of darkness.

- The flag should be raised briskly and lowered ceremoniously.

- The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when it is an all-weather flag.

- The flag should be displayed daily, on or near the main administration building of every public institution; in or near every polling place on election days; and during school days in or near every school building.

- No other flag or pennant should be placed above or to the right of the American flag, except during church services conducted by naval chaplains at sea for personnel of the Navy.

- No person shall display the flag of the United Nations, or any other nation or international flag equal, above, or in a position of superior prominence or honor to, or in place of, the flag of the United States at any place within the United States or any territory except at the headquarters of the United Nation.

- When the flag of the United States of America



is displayed with another flag on a wall with staffs crossed, our flag should be at the right and its staff should be in front of the other flag's staff.

- The American flag should be at the center, and highest point of the group when several flags from states or societies are displayed from staffs.

- When the United States flag is displayed from a staff horizontally or at an angle such as from a window sill, balcony, or building front, the union of the flag is at the top of the staff unless it is being flown at half-staff.

- If the flag is to be displayed over the middle of a street, it should be hung vertically with the union to the North in the East/West street and to the East in a North/South Street.

- Never display the flag with the union down, except as a distress signal in cases of extreme danger to life or property.

- The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, floor, water, or merchandise.

- The flag should never be used, stored, fastened, or displayed in such a way as to allow it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged in any way.

- Never use our flag as a ceiling cover.

- The flag should never be used to hold, carry, deliver, or receive any article.

## PARADES

The flag should not be draped over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle, railroad train, or boat. When displayed on an automobile, the staff shall be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender.

If the flag is to be displayed on a float in a parade, it must be either from a staff or against a wall or in a window.

During the unveiling of a statue or monument, the flag should be a distinctive feature of the ceremony but never should be used as a covering for the statue or monument.

Regimental colors, state flags, and organizational or institutional flags are to be dipped as a symbol of honor. However, the United States flag should never be dipped to any person or thing.

During the raising or lowering of the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade in review, all persons present, except those in uniform, should face the flag and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart. Those present in uniform should render the military salute. When not in uniform, men should remove their caps/hats and hold it at their left shoulder with the hand being over the heart.

## FOLDING

To fold the flag ceremoniously, first fold it lengthwise with the striped half up over the blue field. Repeat with the blue field on the outside. Beginning at the lower right, make a series of triangular folds until the flag resembles a cocked hat with only the blue field visible.