

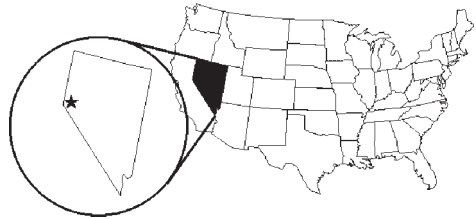
CARSON CITY, NEVADA



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 566
Nevada..... # 6

Proportions: 2:3 (official)

Adopted: 28 December 1992 (official)



DESIGN: The specifications of Carson City’s flag are established in detail by ordinance, based on a field that is 4 by 6 feet. The flag is a horizontal tribar of white, blue, and white stripes, each one foot, four inches wide. The blue stripe is “process blue” and has two narrow white horizontal stripes one inch wide running across it, two and one-half inches from the top and bottom edges of the blue stripe. Over the blue stripe is a modified version of the circular city seal, 20 inches in diameter, its center one foot, seven inches from the hoist edge. A white line one inch wide encircles the seal on the portion that rests on the blue stripe.

The seal itself is enclosed in a narrow blue ring and depicts in its center the dome of the state capitol. Over the capitol fly (on the same pole) the United States flag, and below it, and slightly smaller, the Nevada state flag, both in full color. The white capitol is centered on a silhouette of the state in blue. In the upper hoist quadrant of the seal is a very large brown golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), in flight toward the fly; about half of its right wing extends beyond the seal onto the blue stripe and its left wing arches over the capitol, but behind the flagpole. Behind the eagle and capitol are blue sky and white clouds. Just above the center on both sides of the seal are snow-capped mountains. The remainder of the seal's background is white. A narrow black line, passing behind the base of the capitol dome, divides the upper and lower half of the seal.


Dominating the lower hoist quadrant is a Pony Express rider on a horse in full gallop, facing the fly. The rider's hat is white; his scarf, yellow; his shirt, "process magenta"; his vest, brown; his trousers, blue; his boots, black. The horse is a dark brown. Above the rider's head is a white five-pointed star on the state silhouette, marking the location of Carson City as the state's capital. Dominating the lower fly quadrant is an 1875 Virginia & Truckee Railroad steam locomotive (No. 22, *The Inyo*) and its tender, in three-quarter profile, shaded in black and white, headed toward the viewer. Most of its smokestack extends into the upper fly quadrant. Steam is emitting from the train's whistle, behind the smokestack. Below the rider and locomotive, in the center in black lettering, is **FOUNDED** in Casio Open Face font, and immediately below, in the same font, but twice as large, is **1858**, followed by two smaller letters, **CC**, all in black.

Curved above the seal, within a radius of 14 inches from the seal's center, is **CARSON CITY**, and below, within the same radius, **NEVADA**, all in blue letters in Helvetica Condensed bold type.

SYMBOLISM: Blue and white are the city's official colors. The inner ring of the seal represents the city's sphere of influence as the hub of government in northwest Nevada. The mountains are the Sierra Nevada and Carson ranges that surround Eagle Valley where Carson City is located.

The eagle recalls that the first permanent settlers hung a stuffed eagle over the doorway of their log cabin in November 1851 and suggests the courage, strength, perseverance, and stability of Carson City over the decades. The Pony Express came through Carson City in 1860 and was important to the territory's development into a state. The Virginia & Truckee Railroad united Carson City with the rest of the United States and was the city's largest employer for several decades. Carson City was named and surveyed as a town in 1858. The **CC** on the seal is for the United States Mint that was established there (all coins minted in the city bore the mint mark "CC" for Carson City).

HOW SELECTED: The Carson City Historical Commission developed the design and submitted it to the board of supervisors.

DESIGNER: Verne R. Horton, a commercial artist, created the flag based on the elements suggested by the historical commission. JP 

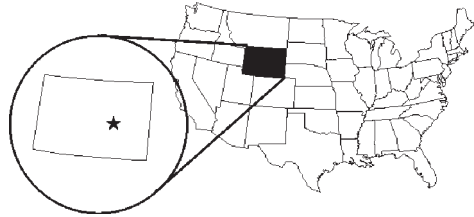
CASPER, WYOMING



Population Rank: U.S... # 698
Wyoming..... # 2

Proportions: 3:5 (usage)

Adopted: Unknown




DESIGN: The field of Casper's flag is white, with a blue border one-quarter unit wide on a field of 3 by 5 units. In the center is the inner portion of the city's seal, which has a circular red field of 1.5 units in diameter. In its center is a large white silhouette of a cowboy astride a bucking horse that faces the hoist. Running from the bronco's left foreleg is **CASPER** in blue, running along the lower portion of the red disk with the final letter extending on to the white field. On the seal at 9 o'clock is the head of a sheep; at 11 o'clock, a steer's head; at 1 o'clock, three oil-treating tanks; and at 3 o'clock, an oil derrick; all in blue. Curved above the seal is **CITY OF**, and curved below is **WYOMING**, all in small red letters.

SYMBOLISM: The “bronco rider” and horse represent Wyoming, the oil derrick and treating tanks symbolize the energy industry, and the sheep and steer are for the ranching industry of the region.

HOW SELECTED: Unknown.

DESIGNER: Unknown.

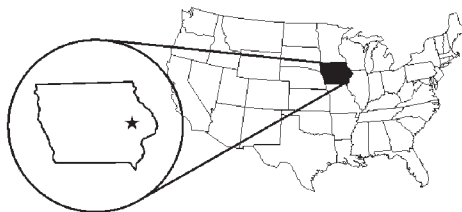
MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The city’s seal has additional elements not used on the flag’s seal: a rising sun and city outline, to symbolize the bright future of the growing city of Casper; plowed fields, suggesting the agriculture of the area; and a mountain, representing Casper Mountain. A rope design, also omitted on the flag, encircles the outer edge of the seal. The border on Wyoming’s state flag, although a different color, perhaps inspired the border on Casper’s flag. JP 

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 180
Iowa..... # 2

Proportions: 3:5 (usage)



Adopted: 8 October 1962 (official status uncertain)

DESIGN: The field of the flag of Cedar Rapids is white. Across approximately the central third of the field horizontally, extending seven-eighths of the flag's length, is a symbolic city skyline in blue. Beginning at the hoist side is a historic mill, separated from the church with a steeple that follows it by three corn stalks. In the center is a representation of the city's Memorial Coliseum. On the fly side is a factory with two smokestacks, then three more stalks of corn, and finally the girders of an unfinished rectangular building. Above the mill is a cloud; another is behind the upper part of the Coliseum; and smoke wafts from the smokestacks toward the fly. The scene is enclosed on the sides and above by three curved lines with the first indentation at the church steeple and the second at the factory smokestacks. The scene rests on

a blue heraldic ribbon on which the city's motto appears in white (with quotation marks): "**PROUD of YESTERDAY** [below the mill and church] **PROGRESSIVE TODAY** [below the Coliseum] **PROMISING TOMORROW**" [below the factory and unfinished building]. Above the scene, running across the field nearly the same length as the scene is **CEDAR RAPIDS**; below, centered below the central segment of the scene is **IOWA**, all in large red letters.

SYMBOLISM: In 1963 the city administration explained the flag's symbolism:

Red, white, and blue are the three basic colors because they are the basic colors of both the American flag and the flag of Iowa. The ribbon on which the slogan of Cedar Rapids appears represents the Cedar River which has been and probably always will be an important part of Cedar Rapids. The structure on the left [hoist] represents the first mill built in Cedar Rapids along the river in 1842. The role of agriculture is represented by the stalks of corn on both the left [hoist] and right [fly] of the design. The church pictured represents the many churches for which Cedar Rapids is famous and proud. The Memorial Coliseum is symbolic of the progressive city which Cedar Rapids is today. This building houses both our city government and the Chamber of Commerce. The factory illustrates the role of industry in Cedar Rapids today and in the future. The steel girders of an unfinished building represent the promising future of our great city.

HOW SELECTED: A contest was held among the four high schools of the city.

DESIGNER: Fred Easker, Jr.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: After the flag was adopted, 114 were made. Two were kept for the mayor's office and council chambers; the remainder sold for \$3.35 each.

JP 

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 243
 South Carolina # 2

Proportions: 3:5 (usage)

Adopted: mid-1990s (unofficial)



DESIGN: The flag of Charleston is dark blue on which is centered the embellished city seal in white and dark blue. On a flag with a ratio of 3 by 5 units, it has a diameter of 1.6 units. The seal is described officially in the ordinance of adoption: *On the right in the foreground is a female figure seated, her right arm raised and forefinger pointing, her left arm down and left hand holding a scepter; on the left is a ship under full sail; in the background is a water view of the city, with the steeples towering; immediately below the female figure are the words, “Carolopolis Condita A.D. 1670”, (Charleston founded in the year of our Lord 1670). Encircling the whole are the following inscriptions in Roman capitals: “Aedes mores juraque curat” (She cares for her temples, customs, and rights) and “Civitatis Regimine Donata A.D. 1783” (Pre-*

mented with the government of a body politic in the year of our Lord 1783)”.

The seal was first authorized on 13 August 1783. The current design is based on a version of the seal introduced in 1882 by Mayor William A. Courtney. There are palmetto branches below the seal and books stacked along its sides. At the top is a scroll, quill pen, and oil lamp.

SYMBOLISM: Of the city seal, Historian David C. R. Hesser writes *Tradition identifies the woman as the personification of the city itself, and the design evokes an image of Charleston deriving its livelihood from the sea and prepared to defend itself.* (A ‘Warrior Queen of Ocean’: The Story of Charleston and Its Seal, *South Carolina Historical Magazine* 93 (1992): 167.

HOW SELECTED: In the mid-1990s Mayor Joseph P. Riley changed the existing flag, although no legal authorization for the new design can be found.

DESIGNER: Unknown.



FORMER FLAGS: Mayor Courtenay first unfurled a Charleston city flag in 1882, but the exact design is unknown. For many years, an unofficial flag of dark blue with a large white central disk bearing the unembellished seal was used.

JP

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

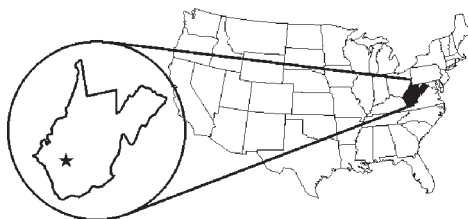


Population Rank: U.S. ... # 559

West Virginia..... # 1

Proportions: 7:12 (usage)

Adopted: 1970 (unofficial)



DESIGN: Charleston's flag has a border of blue with a coat of arms in the center on a light field, perhaps in imitation of the West Virginia state flag. However, the field in Charleston's flag is bright yellow instead of white and the shade of the blue border is lighter than on the state flag. Above the shield of the arms is a red scroll with **CHARLESTON** in black. Surrounding the lower half of the shield are various green leaves, predominantly oak leaf clusters. The shield is set on a decorative framework of descending lines, creating the effect of a fringed trumpet banner. In the topmost part of the shield appears the dome of the state capitol in blue and yellow with **MDCCXCIV** (1794 in Roman numerals) in blue. The arms are quartered. In the first quarter (upper hoist corner), a crossed rifle and arrow appear in yellow on a green field. In the second quarter is a sternwheeler in yellow on blue.

The third quarter shows a pick and shovel, yellow on black. The fourth quarter contains a yellow cog, looking very much like a flower, on a red field.

SYMBOLISM: The capitol dome refers to Charleston's status as the capital of West Virginia. The crossed rifle and arrow recall the city's frontier heritage and its beginnings as a fort in the French and Indian War. The paddleboat represents the role of shipping in Charleston's economy and its location at the juncture of two rivers. The pick and shovel are those of a coal miner, emphasizing the importance of mining to West Virginia. The black color further stresses the role of coal in the Charleston economy. The cogwheel reflects the city's industries as well as its former nickname as "the Cog City". The leaves surrounding the lower half of the shield may be for the love of nature of the city's inhabitants.

HOW SELECTED: The city's flag was the result of a competition organized by the *Charleston Gazette* on the occasion of Charleston's 175th anniversary in 1969. A panel of judges headed by the mayor selected the winner.

DESIGNER: Gilbert Bayless, a 35-year-old analyst from the city of Bancroft, won the \$500 prize out of a field of 1,236 entries.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Charleston has its own "Betsy Ross". Mrs. William O. Arden researched and designed the first West Virginia state flag. She had the further honor of creating the first official Charleston flag.

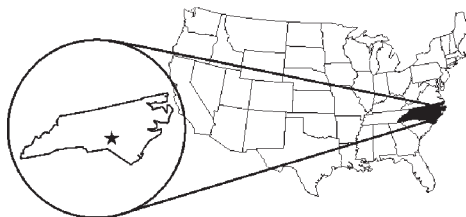
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA



Population Rank: U.S. # 26
North Carolina # 1

Proportions: 3:5 (usage)

Adopted: 6 May 1929 (official)



DESIGN: Charlotte's flag has the city seal centered on a white saltire on a light blue field. The seal depicts a tree in the center. To the left, a hornet's nest hangs on the tree. On the right, a liberty cap bearing the word **LIBERTY** hangs on one of the tree's branches. Rays radiate behind the tree. Below the tree, two hands clasp, with **1775** below. Enclosing this design, **CITY OF CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG COUNTY** curves clockwise over the top of the seal and **NORTH CAROLINA** curves counterclockwise below. Between these inscriptions are two stars. The seal appears in blue outline on a white field surrounded by blue inner and outer lines. A white fimbriation separates the seal from the field.

SYMBOLISM: The flag closely resembles Scotland’s saltire (St. Andrew’s Cross), although it may instead be a conscious or unconscious adaptation of a Confederate battle flag. Blue and white are Charlotte’s official colors. The tree represents growth. The hornet’s nest is a symbol for the city dating from Revolutionary times. In the words of a city pamphlet, ... *in the American Revolution, her citizens fought so fiercely that a British general compared being in Charlotte to being in a hornet’s nest.* The Liberty Cap is another reference to the Revolution, showing the desire of Charlotte’s citizens for freedom. A further reminder of the American Revolution is the date 1775, when the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence was adopted (the year before the Continental Congress adopted one for all the colonies). Overall, the seal and flag suggest a sense of history and, as a tree can grow from a sapling to a mighty oak, hope for a grand future is further emphasized by the rays radiating from behind the tree.

The historical authenticity of the “Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence” has been challenged by most scholars who have investigated the subject.

HOW SELECTED: Adopted by the city council.

DESIGNER: Information unavailable.



MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Charlotte has another flag, adopted in 1985. It may be considered a government service flag, since it is flown outside the Government Center and its central charge appears on government vehicles.

It consists of a stylized white crown centered on a green field occupying about the central three-fifths of the flag overall. Its center forms an “M”. The crown is for unity—all city agencies cooperating for the good of Charlotte’s citizens.

RM 

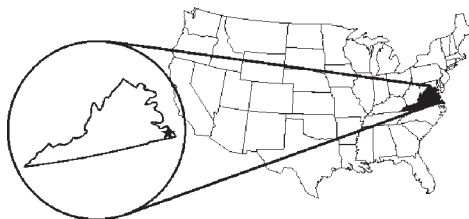
CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA



Population Rank: U.S. # 90
Virginia # 3

Proportions: 3:5 (usage)

Adopted: 23 December 1975 (official status uncertain)



DESIGN: Chesapeake's flag has a dark red field with the city seal in color in the center. Six gold five-pointed stars surround the seal at 9, 11, 1, 3, 5, and 7 o'clock. The seal has a diameter of 1.6 units on a field of 3 by 5 units. A narrow double ring of gold encircles the seal, forming an outer edge that appears as a single gold ring when reduced in size or seen from a distance. Another gold ring, this one beveled, 1.2 units in diameter, lies within the outer rings. In the space between on a dark red field appears, curved clockwise from 9 o'clock to 3 o'clock, • **CITY • OF • CHESAPEAKE • VIRGINIA • 1963 •** and curved below, counterclockwise, in smaller letters, **NORFOLK COUNTY 1636 • SOUTH NORFOLK 1921**, all in gold.

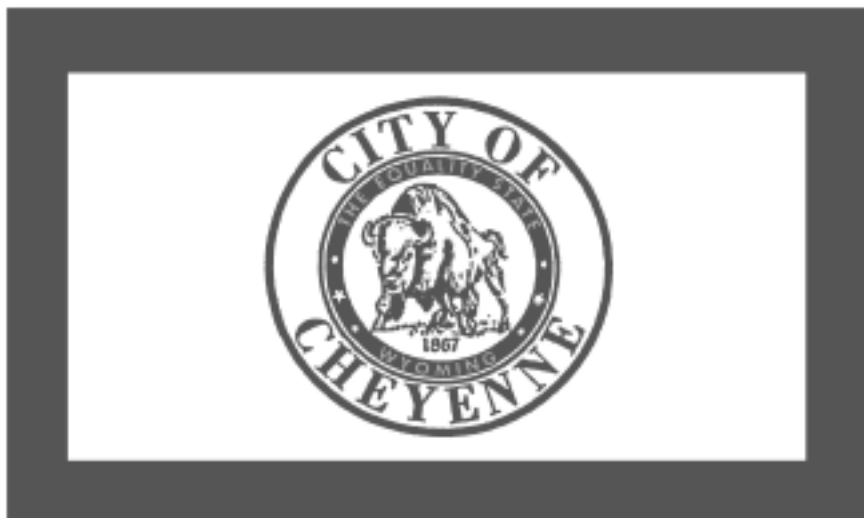
The center of the seal shows two male figures, facing each other and shaking hands. Their shirts, sleeves rolled up to the elbow, are white; their trousers, dark gray. The fly figure holds a large wrench in his left hand. In front of the hoist figure is an old-fashioned gray hand plow with red handles. The ground on which they are standing, which extends to the horizon line bisecting the seal horizontally, appears to be a plowed field, in gray. On the horizon line, on the hoist side, between the beveled ring and the figure with the plow, is a small white house surrounded by tall green trees. On the fly side is a gray factory with two smokeless smoke stacks, in front of which is a gray truck, facing the hoist. Between the two men is a gray freighter, moving toward the hoist, its stern hidden behind the fly figure. Above, and centered between the two men, is a small golden yellow sun, with 27 rays emanating from it out to the edge of the beveled ring. The sun shines in a light blue sky that fills the upper half of the seal. In very small dark blue letters curved and centered above the sun is **ONE INCREASING PURPOSE.**

SYMBOLISM: The city describes the symbolism of the flag's seal: *The man's figure on the left [hoist] represents the rural population, with a background of fields, trees, and a home. The plow beside him represents agriculture. On the right [fly] is the man representing industry, with a factory in the background. The rising sun symbolizes the bright future that will result from the joined hands. The motto above the figures, 'One increasing purpose' is a phrase from [Alfred Lord] Tennyson's Locksley Hall, a poem that deals with the promising future of man.* The red color of the flag stands for the valor at the Battle of Great Bridge (December 9, 1775, in which the British were completely defeated in the Virginia Colony), and the six gold stars are for the six boroughs of Norfolk County.

HOW SELECTED: The seal was selected by a special meeting of the governing bodies of the City of South Norfolk and Norfolk County, which combined formed the new city of Chesapeake. The flag was proposed later by the new city's mayor, Marian Whitehurst. The seal was officially adopted 2 January 1963.

DESIGNER: Kenneth Harris, a Norfolk artist, who designed both the seal and flag.

CHEYENNE, WYOMING

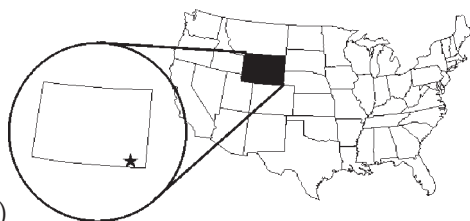


Population Rank: U.S... # 565

Wyoming..... # 1

Proportions: 3:5 (usage)

Adopted: Circa 1985 (unofficial)



DESIGN: The flag of Cheyenne has a white field with a brown border and the city's emblem in the center. On a flag of 3 by 5 feet, the border is 4 inches wide. The emblem, which resembles a seal, is 25 inches in diameter and consists of an outer ring in white edged in brown, and an inner ring in brown, edged in white. In the outer ring appears in brown **CITY OF**, centered and curved clockwise above, and **CHEYENNE**, centered and curved counterclockwise below, all 2.5 inches high. In the inner ring appears **THE EQUALITY STATE**, centered and curved clockwise above and **WYOMING**, centered and curved counterclockwise below, all in yellow letters 1 inch high. Separating the phrases in the inner ring are two sets of three white stars, the middle star larger than the others. Occupying most of the center of the emblem is a brown bull bison on white, standing in three-quarter profile, facing the

hoist with its left shoulder at the center. In the center, below the grass below the bison's feet, is **1867** in brown, perhaps three-quarters of an inch high.

SYMBOLISM: The bison appears on the Wyoming state flag, although depicted differently. The first charter for the government of the city of Cheyenne was adopted in 1867, in what was then a part of the Dakota Territory. Wyoming is called "The Equality State" because of the rights women have traditionally held here. In 1869 Wyoming's territorial legislature enacted a bill granting women the right to vote, the first government in the world to do so.

HOW SELECTED: Mayor Don Erickson asked his staff to develop a city flag.

DESIGNER: Central Services Superintendent Ron Harnish.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The city emblem was adopted officially on 11 July 1994 by the city council, but without the date, 1867, which still appears on the flag. The border on Wyoming's state flag, although a different color, may have inspired the border on the Cheyenne flag.

FORMER FLAG: Cheyenne used a flag for its centennial commemoration in 1967. This flag has a red field with a narrow white border



inside a wider blue border. In the center of the flag is a bucking horse, head down and tossing a cowboy in the air toward the hoist, all in white. Around this figure, in white letters forming a circle, is • **CHEYENNE • WYOMING •** over the top and

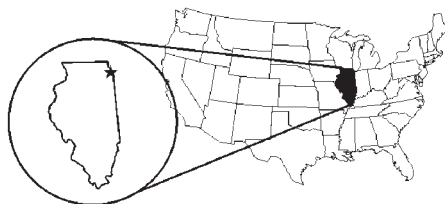
CENTENNIAL • 1867 • 1967 below. The figure evidently recalls a true incident, the famous bronco, known as Muggins, throwing the rider Albert (Stub) Farlow; it is a common Wyoming emblem. JP

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



Population Rank: U.S. # 3
Illinois # 1

Proportions: 2:3 or 3:5
(both official)



Adopted: 21 December 1939 (official)

DESIGN: Chicago's flag has a white field with two blue horizontal stripes, each about one-sixth of the width of the hoist, and set slightly less than one-sixth of the way from the top and bottom. Between the two blue stripes are four bright red six-pointed stars, spaced evenly across the center horizontally.

SYMBOLISM: The Chicago flag is replete with symbolism. Probably no other city attaches so much symbolism to the various parts of its flag. The three white horizontal stripes represent, from the top, the North, West, and South sides of the city. The upper blue stripe repre-

sents Lake Michigan and the North Branch of the Chicago River; the lower blue stripe, the South Branch of the Chicago River and the Great Canal. Each of the red stars symbolizes an important event in the city's history, and the points of each of the stars, in turn, represent civic virtues and history. From the hoist, the symbolism is:

First star: Fort Dearborn. The points of this star represent transportation, labor, commerce, finance, populousness, and salubrity.

Second star: The Chicago Fire of 8-10 October 1871. Its points symbolize religion, education, esthetics, justice, beneficence, and civic pride.

Third star: The World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. The points of the third star signify historical periods of the area. The dates represent the end of those periods: France, 1693; Great Britain, 1763; Virginia, 1778; Northwest Territory, 1798; Indian Territory, 1802; and Illinois Statehood, 1818.

*Fourth star: The Century of Progress Exposition of 1933. Its points represent the World's Third Largest City (in 1933); the city's Latin motto, *Urbs in Horto* ("City in a Garden"); the city's English motto, "I will"; the Great Central Market; and Wonder City (the first and last two are nicknames).*

HOW SELECTED: In 1915, Alderman James A. Kearns proposed to the city council that Chicago have a civic flag. The council agreed and established the Chicago Flag Commission, which held a contest and offered a prize for the winning design. This design was submitted on 28 March 1917 and adopted by the city council in the summer of 1917.

DESIGNER: The winner of the competition was Mr. Wallace Rice, an author and editor, who had been interested in flags since his boyhood. He worked on his design for approximately six weeks.



MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Rice's design was the same as the current flag, except that it had only two stars, representing two major events that had occurred up to that time. While no special significance was then attributed to their points, Rice explained that the stars were given six

points to avoid confusion with the five-pointed stars on the national flag. Possibly to reinforce this distinction, the first stars had long and rather sharp points; their form persisted for several decades.



In 1933, a city ordinance placed a third star on the flag for the Chicago world's fair, the Century of Progress International Exposition. The ordinance also directed that the municipal flag be displayed on all municipal buildings whenever the national flag was displayed, but subordinate to it.

The flag was authorized to be pointed or notched when suspended vertically from windows or over a street, reflecting the fashion of the time. In the same ordinance, the council created a municipal pennant described as *a long streamer showing the three stars on white at the staff, the fly being equally divided, blue and white*, with proportions of 2:15 or 2:20, and a municipal badge, described as *on a silver ground three red stars with sharp points, six in number, between two blue bars*.

In 1939, the fourth star was added to the flag, together with the additional symbolism ascribed to the points of the stars. Although no mention was made of changes to the pennant or badge, in practice the fourth star would presumably be added to them as well.

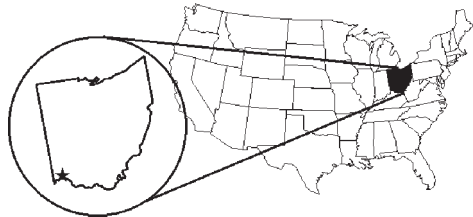
Currently the points of the flag's stars are shortened and not as exaggerated as earlier versions. The shade of the blue color is not specified, but in practice tends to be a medium blue.

Probably because of the requirement that municipal buildings fly the city flag, Chicago's flag flies widely throughout the city on police stations, fire stations, libraries and schools, and no doubt is among the most recognized civic flags in the nation. It is certainly well known by the citizens of Chicago. When a police officer or firefighter dies, the Chicago flag drapes the casket. The flag's four-star motif has come to characterize the city, painted on its street signs, appearing on uniforms of police and firefighters, and even imprinted in concrete railings, sidewalks, and bridge abutments.

CINCINNATI, OHIO



Population Rank: U.S. # 54
Ohio # 3



Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 15 June 1940 (official), 1895 (unofficial)

DESIGN: According to the ordinance of adoption:

The flag of the City of Cincinnati shall be rectangular in shape. It shall have a white ground work. In the center shall be a red letter 'C'. Extending horizontally from either side of the letter 'C' shall be three wavy parallel lines of navy blue. Within the letter 'C' shall be the seal of the City of Cincinnati in blue. Extending upward from a point at the top of the letter 'C' and spaced equally from its center line shall be a cluster of five buckeye leaves in red. The proportional dimensions of the flag and of its various parts shall be according to the official design thereof on file in the Council Chamber of the City of Cincinnati. The wavy blue lines occupy approximately the center horizontal third of the field. The seal is described

officially as having *in the center, a representation of a winged rod entwined with two serpents crossed by a sword, above which shall appear the scales of justice, which shall be surmounted with the words "Juncta Juvant"*.

SYMBOLISM: The red "C" is for Cincinnati. The red buckeye leaves above it represent Ohio, the "Buckeye State". The wavy blue lines symbolize the Ohio River, on which Cincinnati is situated. In the seal, the winged rod signifies commerce; the serpents, wisdom; the sword, authority and power; and the scales, justice. The motto *Juncta Juvant* is translated variously as "United They Assist", "Things Joined Together Are Helpful", and, more freely, "Growth through Unity".

HOW SELECTED: The *Cincinnati Times-Star* ran an editorial on 23 November 1895, offering a prize of \$50 for a distinctive flag for the "Queen City". Mayor John A. Caldwell named a panel of prominent citizens to judge the over 100 entries. The seal had been authorized 19 May 1819.

DESIGNER: The winner, who signed his entry as "Zero of Burnet Woods" (a neighborhood of the city), was later identified as Emil Rothengater, a foreman at Russell Morgan Lithograph Co. (later the U.S. Printing Co.).

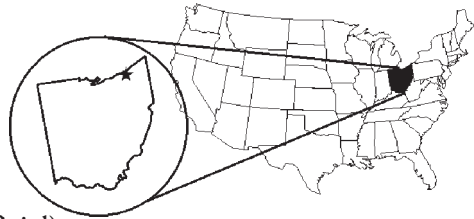
MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: After the winning design was selected, Charles P. Taft, editor of the *Times-Star* and a U.S. congressman, had Congress give Cincinnati exclusive rights to the design on 24 January 1896. The flag's selection, however, was controversial due to a strong sentiment of the time that the national flag was the only one the city needed, so Cincinnati's flag remained unofficial and largely unseen until its 1940 adoption.

JP 

CLEVELAND, OHIO



Population Rank: U.S. # 33
Ohio # 2



Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 24 February 1896 (official)

DESIGN: Cleveland has a vertical tribar of red, white, and blue stripes, with a shield with the city's coat of arms centered on the white stripe. According to the ordinance of adoption: *The middle stripe shall bear the American shield with the word **Cleveland** in blue, across its center, and the figures 1796 in red, at its base encircled by a [green] laurel wreath. The outline of the lower half of the shield shall be in red and the upper in blue. In the upper left-hand corner [as seen by the viewer] shall stand an anvil, hammer and wheel, and in the upper right-hand corner an anchor, windlass and oars. Under the shield, in black letters, shall be placed the words **Progress and Prosperity**.*

SYMBOLISM: The colors are those of the United States flag. (Cleveland's flag predates the Ohio state flag, adopted in 1902, which uses the same colors.) The devices on the shield represent Cleveland's status as an industrial city and a commercial port on Lake Erie. Moses Cleaveland founded the city in 1796. It was named for him, although the spelling has been altered.

HOW SELECTED: The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* sponsored a contest to commemorate the city's centennial in 1896. After a great deal of deliberation, a committee of the city council selected the winning entry from among a large number of designs because of its "dignity, simplicity, and appropriateness".

DESIGNER: Susie Hepburn, an 18-year-old art student.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Miss Hepburn later married the *Plain Dealer's* reporter, Robert Beach, who had delivered the winning prize of 50 silver dollars to her. Initially some citizens opposed to the idea of a city flag, believing it would compete with the revered national flag, so to dispel any controversy the city council referred to the flag as the "city banner" in the ordinance of adoption.

Manufactured versions of the flag evidently rarely follow the ordinance's specifications for the motto under the shield. The letters are often shown in blue (likely to save expense), and the word "and" between "Progress and Prosperity" is sometimes shown as an ampersand or even a large dot. Some versions of the flag also make the white center bar wider, to accommodate the shield more comfortably. Cleveland police officers wear the flag as an arm patch and it appears on the logo of police cars.



OTHER FLAG: Cleveland is one of the few U.S. cities with a sub-municipal flag, in this case, the area known as Ohio City, which was an independent city from 1836 until its annexation to Cleveland in 1854. Although there was no flag for the independent Ohio City,

there was a city seal. In October 1983 John Nosek, a resident of the area, thought a distinctive flag would be a source of neighborhood pride, and he persuaded a business associate, Leon Stevens, to design a flag based on the old Ohio City seal. The flag is pennant-shaped, in proportions of 1:2, and has a blue field with a red canton shaped like a pie slice, the curved edge next to the blue field. One large white five-pointed star, pointed toward the upper hoist corner, is in the hoist corner of the canton. Along the canton's inner edge, and curved to match it, is **OHIO CITY** in white. On the blue field are 25 white five-pointed stars arranged in rows of 3, 3, 3, 3, 6, and 7. The stars represent the 25 states of the Union when Ohio City was incorporated. The flag has become popular in the area, and metal versions of it grace the street signs.

JP 

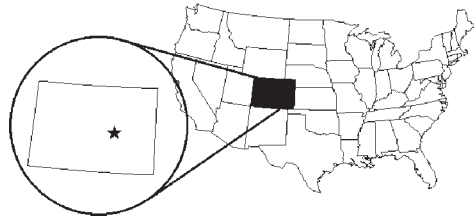
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO



Population Rank: U.S. # 48
 Colorado # 2

Proportions: 3:5 (usage)

Adopted: 26 July 1912 (official)



DESIGN: The white field of the Colorado Springs flag is 22 by 46 units, with a blue border 4 units wide on all sides except the hoist, making overall a flag of 30 by 50 units. Indented 8 units from the hoist is a six-sided lozenge (called a “shield” in official descriptions) 20 units from top to bottom, and 11 units across, placed on the field equidistant from top and bottom of the flag. The hoist and fly sides of the lozenge are 12 units from top to bottom parallel to the flag’s width; the four remaining sides (two above and below) are 7 units each. The lozenge has a narrow green border of .8 units. The lower half of the lozenge’s field, a royal blue, is itself a lozenge, resulting in a chevron shape for the top half, which has a white field. In the top third of the blue portion are two gold trapezoidal ingots, placed on either side of the field. Below,


in the lower third of the field, is another gold ingot, in the center. In the upper part of the lozenge is a gold sun rising, with five rays equidistant from each other. The sun is partially obscured by the upper point of the blue lozenge, which represents a mountain peak.

SYMBOLISM: According to the resolution of adoption:

The White Field is intended to represent the cleanliness and health of the City, and the Blue Border our Blue Skies; the Shield carries the Sun, of which we're justly proud; the Mountain stands for Pikes Peak, and on it are pictured the gold ingots of our mining industries; the Green Band about the Shield represents the Park System surrounding the city.

HOW SELECTED: Presented to council by the Civic League.

DESIGNER: Dr. Caroline Spencer and the Civic League.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: When the flag was presented to city council, some council members suggested that "C. S.," the city's initials, be included in the design. The Civic League, ahead of its time with respect to flag design, opposed the idea, and it was dropped. However, when the flag was first flown, shortly after adoption, it caused so much comment and consternation that the administration folded the flag and stored it away. It did not fly again for nearly 70 years. JP 

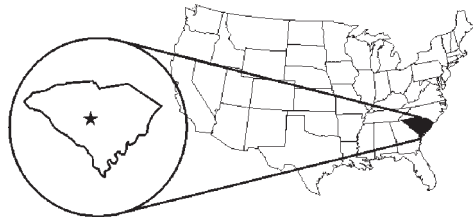
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA ★



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 191
South Carolina # 1

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 1912 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Columbia has a dark blue field. In its center is the city's seal with a diameter of 3 units on a field of 6:9. The seal has two concentric yellow circles around its outer circumference, one inside the other, forming a ring with a dark blue field. **CITY of COLUMBIA S.C.** curves clockwise over the top and **JUSTITIA VIRTUTUM REGINA** curves below, counterclockwise, all in white. In the center of the seal, facing outward, is a female figure, Justice. Blindfolded, she holds the scales of justice in her left hand, which is slightly raised; in her right hand she holds an unsheathed sword, point on the ground. Her gown is white, with a brown lining visible at her feet and in the drape on her left side. She stands on yellow ground, the background

behind her is sky blue. In the field curving on either side of the seal are a stalk of corn on the hoist side and a cotton plant on the fly side. The corn plant has green leaves, two yellow ears of corn with brown tassels, and a third ear of corn at the top with only the brown tassel. The cotton plant has green leaves, a brown stem, and four white cotton tufts. Both plants are large, and occupy about 4.5 units of the field, top to bottom.

SYMBOLISM: The seal shows Justice reigning symbolically. Corn and cotton were the principal crops in the Columbia area when the flag was adopted.

HOW SELECTED: A contest was held, with a \$25 prize going to the winner.

DESIGNER: A local schoolteacher, whose name has been lost in official records.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The flag was developed as a memento for the men and women from Columbia who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

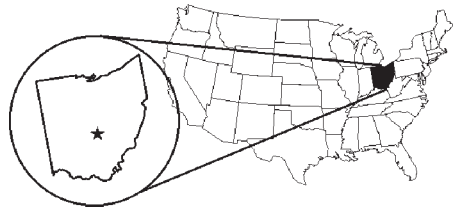
JP 

COLUMBUS, OHIO



Population Rank: U.S. # 15
Ohio # 1

Proportions: 3:5 (usage);
10:19 (official)



Adopted: 28 January 1929 (official)

DESIGN: The flag of Columbus has three vertical stripes, in approximate proportions of 1:2:1. In the manufactured version the center stripe is actually closer to 2.3, no doubt to accommodate the large central device. The ordinance of adoption specifies the colors of the stripes as *chrome yellow at the left* [hoist]; *scarlet red at the right* [fly]; and *white at the center*. The seal and coat of arms of the city appear on the center of the white stripe. The 1912 resolution adopting the original flag and seal describes the device:

On a blue field a half-wreath of buckeye leaves, green, and a half-circle of 16 stars, the whole enclosing a national shield bearing a gilt circle in which

appears a galley, or vessel, of the fleet of Christopher Columbus, after whom said city is named, said shield and vessel to be in proper colors, above and clutching the shield to be an eagle, with outspread wings, proper, guarding a golden yellow star, making the seventeenth and representing Ohio. Above and between the wings of the eagle to appear the cupola of the state capitol, surmounted by the lettering Columbus, Ohio, gilt, in old English letters.

Due to confusion over the years about the seal and the coat of arms in the device described, on 9 December 1958 the entire emblem was designated as Columbus' official seal. Because the wording describing the seal allows some latitude for an artistic interpretation, several different versions have been used.

SYMBOLISM: Christopher Columbus's ship recalls the city's name. The shield and eagle are traditional American symbols. The capitol building shows that Columbus is Ohio's capital city. The 17 golden yellow stars commemorate Ohio as the 17th state to join the Union (in 1803). The yellow and red colors of the flag suggest the colors of Spain, Columbus's patron on his voyage to the New World.

HOW SELECTED: By resolution of the city council.

DESIGNER: Unknown.



MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Few city flags have had such a convoluted history as the Columbus flag. It is not known whether the flag legislated in 1929 ever flew. By at least as early as 1965, however, the city flag on display in council chambers was very different from the one adopted, having three vertical stripes of red, white, and blue, with the seal in the center stripe.

In 1975 when the discrepancy was finally noticed, the wrong flag had been displayed for at least ten years. The proportions of the stripes on this flag were ostensibly 1:1:1, but the center stripe was closer to 1.3.



In 1976, for the United States bicentennial, the correct flag was made and installed in city hall. The stripes on this flag were approximately 1:1.4:1. These stripe proportions were in use until about 1985, when the current proportions came into use. The flag's official proportions of 10:19 are the same as the

United States flag.



FORMER FLAGS: The first flag of Columbus, adopted 12 February 1912, was the seal/coat of arms on a blue field. A committee convened by city council had chosen it. Although the 1912 council clearly stated that the flag, not the seal, had a blue

field, a modern literal interpretation of the language gave the seal a blue field in the 1976 version of the flag.

JP 

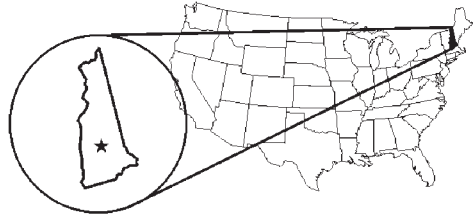
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE ★



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 848
New Hampshire # 3

Proportions: 3:5 (official)

Adopted: 10 December 1979 (official)



DESIGN: *The City flag shall be of the design indicated below with or without the words **CONCORD** and **NEW HAMPSHIRE** as they appear thereon. The official design and color scheme of the flag will be on file with the City Clerk. (Section 1-2-3 of the Concord City Code)*



The flag has three vertical stripes of dark blue, white, and dark blue, with the center stripe being twice as wide as the other two stripes. On the center white stripe is a Concord Coach in red with a black outline and with yellow wheels,

with **CONCORD** above the coach and **NEW HAMPSHIRE** below it, all in dark blue block letters. The alternative official version omits the words.

SYMBOLISM: Concord, New Hampshire, was the birthplace of the famous Concord Coach. In 1827 Lewis Downing, who owned a wagon wheel shop in Concord, formed a partnership with J. Stephen Abbott and developed their famous coach, which provided a smoother ride than its predecessors. Their company, Abbott, Downing & Company, and its successors produced thousands of stagecoaches until it was dissolved and the name acquired by Wells Fargo in 1927.

HOW SELECTED: Unknown.

DESIGNER: Unknown.



MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: A flag different from the 1979 code currently hangs in the city manager's office. It has a dark blue vertical hoist stripe, one-third the width of the flag. On the remaining white field is a Concord Coach with **CONCORD** above and

NEW HAMPSHIRE below, as in the official version adopted in 1979. While these inscriptions read correctly on the reverse of the flag, the coach runs the opposite direction. In addition, the red Concord Coach's body has black ornamentation on it.



FORMER FLAGS: Concord has had at least four other flags, some *de facto*. About 1950 a *de facto* city flag had three equal vertical stripes of white, dark blue, and white. On the center stripe is the city seal in color with a dove holding a red scroll inscribed with

NEW HAMPSHIRE in gold over the top. **CITY OF** appears on the hoist stripe and **CONCORD** on the fly stripe, all in gold.



An article in the *Concord Monitor* of 22 October 1979, illustrates a civic flag proposal. It has a dark blue vertical hoist stripe, one-third the width of the flag. On the top section of this stripe is a white dove holding an olive branch in its beak, flying toward the right or fly of the flag. Below the dove is a white five-pointed star. It shows the Concord Coach, as in the official version, with **CITY OF CONCORD, N.H.** in dark blue letters arched over the top of the coach, and **1853** in white on a dark blue scroll below the coach. The article explains the symbols: *A dove holding an olive branch for peace, which in Latin is “concord”* [*concord* actually means “agreement”. The Latin word for “peace” is *pax*]. *A star shows that Concord is the state capital. The blue is the color of New Hampshire. The Concord Coach represents Concord; the city was incorporated in 1853.* This design was the result of an eight-month search by a council committee, and combined the best features of “five or six designs” submitted. Wendell and Ralph Holt, who owned a flag and home furnishings shop in Concord, assisted with the design.



This article also states there were two other existing city flags. The first, described in the October 1979 city code as official, had three equal vertical stripes of white, dark blue, and white, with the city seal in color at the top of the hoist stripe. In the center, on the blue stripe, is a white dove with an olive branch in its beak flying downward toward the hoist.



Another flag was designed in 1951 by a high school student. It has three equal vertical stripes of dark blue, white, and dark blue, with the city seal in color in the center stripe. Below it in block letters is **CITY OF CONCORD.**

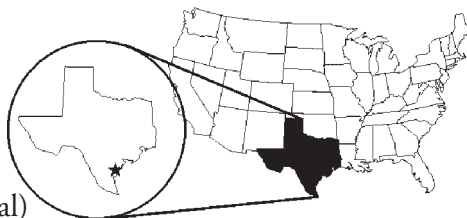
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS



Population Rank: U.S. # 60
Texas # 8

Proportions: 2:3 (official)

Adopted: 10 March 1953 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Corpus Christi has a sky blue field with a white seagull in full flight facing the fly. Surrounding the seagull are 8 evenly-spaced large white five-pointed stars, about .25 unit high on a field of 2 by 3 units; they form a circle of 1.8 units in diameter. The seagull fills most of the field within the circle, but its wings extend a small distance beyond the circle of stars, the left wing at 2 o'clock and the right wing at 7 o'clock.

SYMBOLISM: The ordinance of adoption details the symbolism: *The sky blue field, or background, in such flag represents the Corpus Christi Bay on which the world's largest Naval Air Station is located, and the sea gull superim-*

posed thereon represents the people of Corpus Christi, both those who were born and raised here and those who have come as visitors and friends to become residents, and the eight (8) stars superimposed thereon and surrounding the white sea gull symbolize the eight major industries of the City of Corpus Christi, being that of Agriculture, Commerce, Oil, Chemicals, Grains, Sea Foods, Metals and Ore Refining, and Tourist Trade.

HOW SELECTED: In 1952, the city council sponsored a contest for a new city flag in all junior and senior high schools in the city.

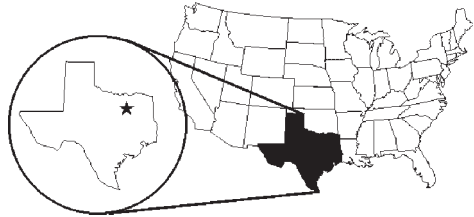
DESIGNER: The winner of the contest was 16-year-old Barbara Hesse.

JP 

DALLAS, TEXAS



Population Rank: U.S. # 8
Texas # 3



Proportions: 2:3 (official)

Adopted: 13 February 1967 (official); amended 24 July 1967.

DESIGN: The flag of Dallas is described in the amended ordinance of adoption:

The official flag of the City of Dallas is an emblem of four sides, and four angles of ninety degrees each. The background or field shall consist of two stripes or bars of equal size, the upper stripe or upper bar being red in color and the lower stripe or bar being blue. The two stripes or bars shall be separated in the center by a small white bar or line. There shall be superimposed upon this field a white star of five points, three points of which rest in the red bar; the top point rests in a vertical line drawn through the exact

center of the flag. The two lower points of the star rest in the blue bar. In the exact center of the star shall appear the seal of the City of Dallas with a field or background of gold; the detail and lettering in the seal shall be of blue.

The proportions of the elements are carefully delineated in a diagram of the flag. The field is .666 by 1 unit. The star's top point is exactly in the center of the field, .052 of a unit from the top. Each side of the star's points is .229 of a unit. The seal's diameter is .220 of a unit.

The seal has two concentric outer rings enclosing **CITY OF DALLAS** curved clockwise, above, and **TEXAS**, curved counterclockwise, below. An interior ring of 44 dots encloses a large five-pointed star, within which is a smaller five-pointed star subdivided into ten sections giving it a three-dimensional appearance.

SYMBOLISM: The red, white, and blue of the flag reflect the colors of both the Texas state flag and the flag of the United States. The single star for Texas' nickname, "The Lone Star State", is characteristic of many Texan city flags.

HOW SELECTED: A committee headed by Councilman Millard Dilg solicited designs for a new city flag from 20 Dallas artists, who submitted 42 proposals. A six-person committee headed by Councilwoman Sibyl Hamilton selected the winning entry.

DESIGNER: Mr. E. L. Gilchrist.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The ordinance of adoption originally included two adjectives describing the colors as "blood" red and "azure" blue that were subsequently omitted in the later amendment. The flag's colors are now a dark red and dark blue. The ordinance of adoption also specifies 25 regulations on the display of the flag, as well as a section providing for prosecution as a misdemeanor if some of these rules are violated or the flag is desecrated willfully, provisions very unusual for civic flags.



FORMER FLAG: The first flag of Dallas was officially adopted on 20 March 1916, the result of a contest suggested by Mayor Henry D. Lindley and administered by the Dallas *Evening Journal*. The winner was Jane Malone, who won

a prize of \$25; her design was chosen by the city commissioners. The flag is swallow-tailed with a dark blue field and proportions of 3 units at the hoist (tapering to 2.5 units at the fly) by 5 units long. In the center of the field is a large silhouette map of the state of Texas, in white, approximately 2 units high and wide. A red five-pointed star marks the position of Dallas on the map, and below it, in large red block letters stretching about 1.75 units, is **DALLAS**. The framed design hung on the wall of the city secretary for years, but no flag was ever manufactured. In 1935, in order to celebrate the state's centennial, plans were put forth to manufacture the flag, but nothing came of them. In 1954, students at Southern Methodist University made a flag for the city that closely resembled the official design, but it was not until the 1960s that three flags with the official design were made, shortly before the adoption of the new design.

JP 

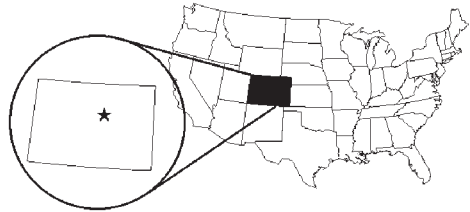
DENVER, COLORADO ★



Population Rank: U.S. # 24
Colorado # 1

Proportions: 4:7 (usage)

Adopted: 1926 (official)



DESIGN: Denver's flag has a wide white zigzag stripe resembling an outspread 'M' running from hoist to fly and separating an upper field of dark blue from a lower field of red. Centered in the upper field is a yellow disk. On a field of 4 by 7 units, the stripe is .67 units wide, its top edge starting at 1.25 units above the base of the field and ascending to 2.75 units at its apices. The disk is 1.5 units in diameter.

SYMBOLISM: A brochure from the city describes the symbolism:

A yellow circle in the center symbolizes the gold in Colorado's hills as well as the sun. The circle's position indicates Denver's central location in the state. The blue field in which the sun rides is for 'Colorado's unmatched skies'. A

white jagged line refers to the mountains which form Denver's backdrop 'indicative of the wealth of silver in the hills'. It also is symbolic of the Indian background in the state's history. The foreground under the mountains in red is in reference to the red earth from which Colorado gained its name. Others have suggested that the white portion suggests snow on the mountains of the region. The colors match those of the Colorado flag, as do the symbols: a white stripe and a yellow disk.

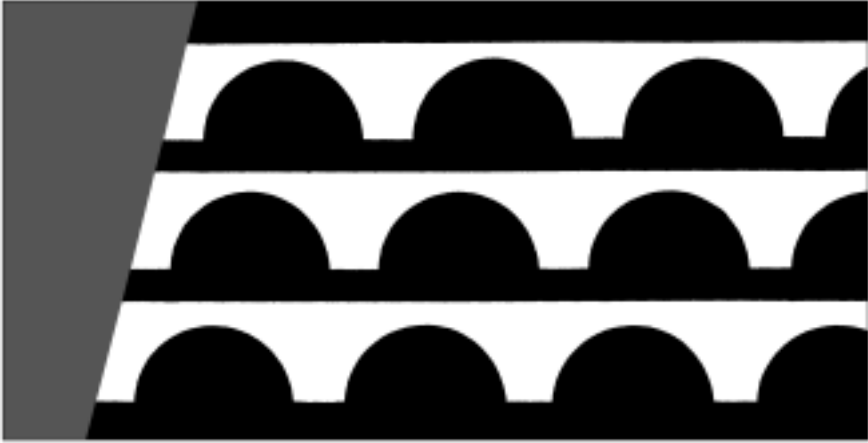
HOW SELECTED: The Sons of the American Revolution sponsored a contest with a prize of \$25 for the winning entry. The city council added another \$25 for a total of \$50. More than 150 entries were received. The Denver Art Commission judged the contest.

DESIGNER: The winner was Margaret Overbeck, a North Denver High School student.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Denver's flag is flown widely and appears on street signs throughout the city.

JP 

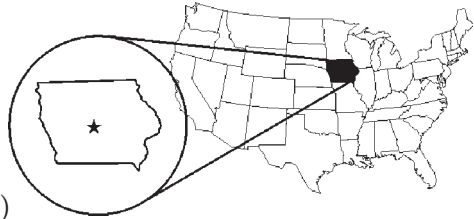
DES MOINES, IOWA ★



Population Rank: U.S. # 92
Iowa..... # 1

Proportions: 1:2 (usage)

Adopted: 15 April 1974 (official)




DESIGN: The flag of Des Moines has a dark blue field with a red trapezoid at the hoist, its top not quite 3 times the width of its base. On a field of 12:24 units, the trapezoid's top would be 5.5 units and its base 2.3 units. Three arched bridges in white, each 2.7 units high, extend from the trapezoid to the fly edge, with one unit between each, and at top and bottom. They also increase in width from top to bottom, such that although each has 3 complete arches, a fourth arch is only partially shown, each progressively a bit wider. The arches of the top and center bridges are staggered over the bridge below it parallel to the trapezoid.

SYMBOLISM: The three bridges represent the row of bridges across the Des Moines River, easily recognized landmarks of the city that unify the east and west sections of the city. The colors of the flag recall those

of the United States flag.

HOW SELECTED: At the suggestion of seventh-grade students from Callanan Junior High School that the city adopt a flag, the Greater Des Moines Chamber of Commerce conducted a contest during March 1974. There were 383 entries from residents ranging from three months old to octogenarians.

DESIGNER: The contest winner was Walter T. Proctor, editor, publisher, and founder of *American Host*, a hotel-motel-resort industry magazine.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The first official flag-raising ceremony for the new city flag was held on 31 March 1975, nearly a year after the flag was adopted. Proctor received a framed letter of appreciation from the Des Moines City Council, a certificate from the chamber of commerce, and a framed facsimile of the finished flag design. JP 

DETROIT, MICHIGAN



Population Rank: U.S. # 10
Michigan # 1

Proportions: 3:5 (usage)



Adopted: 20 April 1948 (official); 1907 (unofficial)

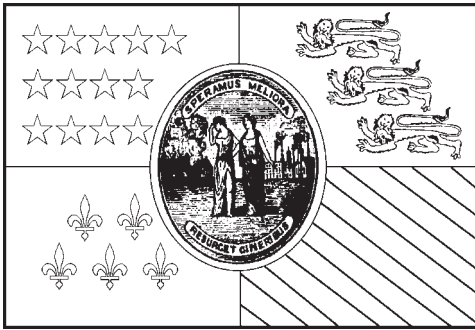
DESIGN: Detroit’s flag resembles an armorial banner, divided into quarters with the city seal overlaying the flag’s center. The first quarter is blue with 13 white stars, placed horizontally in three rows of 5, 4, 4. The second quarter is red with three gold lions, “passant guardant” (walking by with head to the viewer), one over the other, placed so that the middle lion is in the center of the quarter’s field, the top lion slightly toward the hoist, and the lower lion slightly toward the fly. The third quarter has a white field with five gold *fleurs-de-lis*, two centered above three below. The remaining quarter has 13 stripes, 7 red and 6 white, running diagonally toward the lower fly. A gold line separates the quarters and outlines the seal.

The seal, with a white background and bordered in gold, is circular and shows two female figures of classic Greek style, standing side by side facing the hoist. The hoist figure is dressed in a long red *chiton*. A long light blue drape covers her head, left shoulder, and right arm, and extends to the ground. Her head is inclined, as if in sorrow, her right arm points to her right, her left arm is stretched toward the ground. The second figure stands somewhat behind the first, with her right arm on the left shoulder of the other, as if comforting her. She is dressed in a blue *chiton*, with a red outer drape, a *himation*, over her right shoulder and tucked into her girdle under her left arm, which points behind her, to her left. Her head is uncovered, her brown hair swept up in classic fashion. Behind the women in the center are red flames; toward the hoist, some buildings on fire with orange flames; toward the fly, buildings untouched. Curved over the top half of the seal is **THE CITY OF DETROIT**, in black. Horizontally, below the female figures, is **MICHIGAN**, also in black. In somewhat smaller black letters to either side of the figures at about their knee-level are two Latin mottoes, each of two words, one over the other. The hoist motto is **SPERAMVS MELIORA**; the fly motto, **RESVRGET CINERIBVS**, after the Roman fashion of using “V” for the contemporary “U”. The seal was officially adopted 26 March 1827.

SYMBOLISM: The flag recalls Detroit’s early history. The seal commemorates the great fire of 1805, which destroyed Detroit. The hoist figure weeps at the loss of the city, echoed by the motto, *Speramus Meliora* (“We hope for better things”). The other figure points toward the future, symbolized by the motto, *Resurget Cineribus* (“It shall rise again from the ashes”). The first and fourth quarters of the flag represent Detroit governed by the United States (1796-1812 and 1813 to the present) using components of the United States flag. The second quarter symbolizes the British control of the city (1760-1796 and 1812-1813) using the English symbol of three lions (ultimately deriving from Richard Lion-Heart). The third quarter indicates the French founding of Detroit (1701-1760) using the *fleur-de-lis* symbols of the French monarchy.

HOW SELECTED: Presented to the city by the designer in 1907.

DESIGNER: David E. Heineman. The seal was designed by a Native American artist, J. O. Lewis.



MORE ABOUT THE

FLAG: Soon after the flag was designed in 1907, the city had a flag made. The original proportions were 21:31. It was first flown on 12 June 1908 for “Pennant Day”, in honor of the Detroit Baseball Club. For years, most people assumed

that the flag was official, since it was used by the city at civic functions. However, as a result of a 1948 inquiry from an advertising firm requesting a copy of the official flag, the city determined that the flag had never been adopted by ordinance, so the common council made the flag official on 20 April 1948.

Heineman’s original design shows the seal in an oval shape without the name of the city and state, and the mottoes in black on white heraldic ribbons, **SPERAMUS MELIORA** curved above and **RESERGET CINERIBUS** curved below. The female figures are shown slightly differently; the hoist figure has her right arm to her brow, and does not wear the drape; the other figure has her right arm about her companion’s waist. A gold band surrounds the oval. The circular seal replaced the oval rendition about 1974, and has continued in use.

JP 

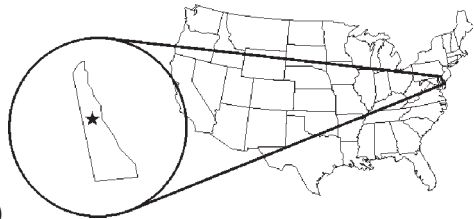
DOVER, DELAWARE



Population Rank: U.S. #1,127
 Delaware..... # 2

Proportions: 13:21 (usage)

Adopted: 29 May 1972 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Dover has a white field; in its center is an elongated rhombus with a gold field and narrow dark blue border. On a field of 13 by 21 units, the rhombus is 9 by 15 units. The city's intricate seal, 5 units in diameter, is centered in the rhombus. The outer circle of the seal is yellow. A smaller concentric yellow circle forms the inner edge of a ring with a dark green field on which is inscribed **The City of Dover** over the top, and **Delaware** below, all in yellow Old English letters. The interior of the seal has the same form as the arms of the town of Dover, Kent, U.K., a trefoil (cloverleaf shape) on an inverted equilateral triangle. The field behind the trefoil/triangle is a dark aquamarine; within the trefoil is a dark orange. The trefoil has a dark aquamarine border, edged on both sides in yellow, and studded with 13

yellow-edged red dots around it. The top lobe of the trefoil, according to the ordinance adopting the seal, *represents the coat of arms of William Penn*, [as adapted by] *Kent County, Delaware*, the county in which Dover is located. Those arms have a shield divided vertically, the dexter side dark aquamarine and the sinister side dark green.

The shield has a red horizontal bar across its center, charged with three yellow disks, and an inverted crescent above. Three yellow spear tips bristle from the shield's top. The hoist lobe of the trefoil bears the great seal of the state of Delaware in miniature, without the words "Great Seal of the State of Delaware", as it appears on the state flag. The remaining lobe of the trefoil, toward the fly, imitates the lobe in the same position of the Dover, U.K., arms, showing St. Martin (the patron saint of Dover, U.K.) astride a brown horse facing the hoist, in front of a dark aquamarine turreted castle. Where the triangle's points appear at the indentations of the lobes, they have a red field edged in yellow. The hoist point displays a white dogwood flower; the fly point, a green holly leaf; and the bottom point, **1603** in yellow. Immediately below the bottom point on a white heraldic ribbon appears, in tiny red letters, **CAPITAL OF THE FIRST STATE**. The seal was adopted 12 January 1959.

SYMBOLISM: The rhombus also appears on the Delaware state flag, and the gold and blue echo the buff and blue of that flag. The trefoil of the seal represents three geographical areas linked to the city: Kent County; the state of Delaware; and the town of Dover, U.K., which provided the city's name. Delaware's nickname is "The First State", as the first state to ratify the U.S. constitution on December 7, 1787.

HOW SELECTED: City employees began working on a design in September 1969. After much trial and error, they submitted several designs to the city council for comment. In 1972, a basic design was chosen.

DESIGNER: City employees.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Mrs. Shirley Slater made the first flag, with the design hand-painted on silk.



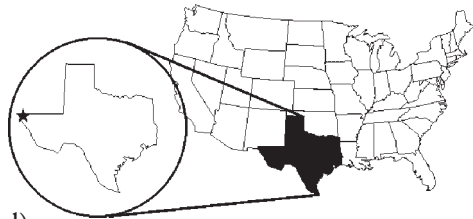
EL PASO, TEXAS



Population Rank: U.S. # 22
Texas # 4

Proportions: 3:5 (official)

Adopted: 29 March 1962 (official)



DESIGN: The field of El Paso’s flag is dark blue with a traditional city emblem, an augmentation of the city seal, in the center. The center of the emblem is a gray five-pointed star, half of each point shaded in black making it appear three-dimensional. The hoist side of the top point of the star is shaded, as are the corresponding sides of the other points. The star overlays a bright yellow sun with 35 equal rays emanating from its circumference. The sun is on a maroon field (described officially as “red-purple”), and is enclosed within a narrow white circle that forms the inner edge of a maroon ring around the sun, its outer edge also bordered in white. An open wreath of green olives leaves fills the sides of the ring. Above the ring is a wide heraldic ribbon,

white on the front and maroon on the back. The ribbon is folded so that the front shows from about 10 to 2 o'clock, and its back ends hang down to 8 and 4 o'clock. On the ribbon appears **CITY OF EL PASO** in maroon in an Arial-type font. A shorter ribbon covers the lower central part of the ring, with **TEXAS** in the same letters.

The drawing accompanying the ordinance of adoption shows a flag of 3 by 5 feet. The emblem is positioned 17 inches from the edge of the hoist and the fly, and 6 inches from the top and bottom. The emblem measures 26 inches horizontally, and 24 inches vertically.

SYMBOLISM: The star is identical to the star on the city's official seal, as well as on the official seal of the state of Texas. The radiant sun echoes the city's nickname, "The City of the Sun". An informational document accompanying the ordinance of adoption also specifies the symbolism of each of the colors:

- (1) *Golden-yellow: Richness of a sunny climate.*
- (2) *Yellow-green: Hope, good fortune, fertile land and vitality.*
- (3) *Silver: Faith*
- (4) *White: Purity*
- (5) *Blue: Sincerity*
- (6) *Red-purple (two shades): Fellowship, warmth, and shelter.*

No real distinction is made between white and silver on the flag, and the red-purple portions appear as one color, although the intention was to make the field around the sun a darker purple than the other maroon areas. The ordinance of adoption mentions only "red-purple" and does not specify two shades. Similarly, only "green" is mentioned, not "yellow-green".

HOW SELECTED: In 1960, a group of Girl Scouts wanted to embroider a city flag, and as the project proceeded, they learned that the city flag in council chambers had an incorrect city seal. The city administration decided to re-design the flag and ultimately came up with a new flag design deemed more authentic historically.

DESIGNER: The city planning department, for the administration.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The emblem on the flag dates to about 1880; it was enclosed in a cornerstone of a new city hall built in 1899. When that city hall was demolished in 1958 to make way for a replacement, the emblem was recovered. In addition to the star and radiant sun, it also shows a spray of wheat on its dexter side and grapes and grape leaves on its sinister side.



of the city, the manufacturer used what was termed a city “crest”, which was really the seal of the State of Texas with the city’s name on a ring a round it.



closely, thinking to embroider a new one. Thus, with the adoption of a new flag, the 1948 version was never actually made.

FORMER FLAGS: El Paso adopted its first flag on 17 June 1948. The ordinance of adoption specifies its design:

Now therefore, be it resolved that the official flag of the city of El Paso shall be a light blue field with the seal of the City in gold in or near the center thereof.

The flag was manufactured in a 5:8 ratio, but instead of the official seal

The official city seal does not have the olive and oak branches that wreath the state seal, on the one hand, and on the other, the city seal has the name of the state spelled out around the star, one letter between each set of points. Since the “crest” was widely used (and still is) on city stationery, the difference went noticed until 1960 when the Girl Scouts examined the flag more