Tips to display the flag

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While every American is encouraged to fly the nation's flag proudly, there are official rules to understand. Displaying the flag in an excellent way shows your patriotism and respect. Check out a brief history of the United States Flag Code, as reported by the United States Chamber of Commerce.

Before Flag Day, June 14, 1923, the country was without federal or state regulations to govern the displaying of the United States banner. That changed as the National Flag Conference adopted the Flag Code to state the rules for proper use clearly.

While the guidance was initially intended for Army and Navy procedures, it was quickly adopted as the standard guidelines. To show your pride, educate yourself on these essential tips from the Official Guide to Government Information and Services.

When to display

- The flag should be displayed outside from sunrise to sunset. If you choose to wave the banner at night, it must be well lit. You can use a powerful solar spotlight or illuminate it with a permanently installed light. Keep in mind, unless you use an all-weather flag, it should be lowered during inclement weather.
- While the flag should be displayed every day, there are many dates where its display is especially important:
  - New Year's Day.
  - Flag Day.
  - Father's Day and Mother's Day.
  - Labor Day.
  - Memorial Day.
  - Inauguration Day.
  - President's birthdays.
  - July 4th
  - Columbus Day.
  - Father's Day.
  - Columbus Day.
  - Mother's Day.

Displaying on a wall

To correctly display the flag inside, it must be suspended vertically with the union to an observer's left upon entering. If the room has more than one entrance, the banner should be displayed near the corner of the corridor or lobby.

Half-staff guidelines

The president has the power to proclaim days where hanging the flag at half-staff is appropriate. At a local level, governors hold the same authority. Typically, it is only done during periods of mourning.

The Preservation Project

The original Star-Spangled Banner that inspired Francis Scott Key to pen what would become our country's national anthem is on display at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C.

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The facility incorporated long-term preservation projects to maintain its condition. With the help of conservators and curators, the Smithsonian developed a state-of-the-art chamber to house it. The facility features climate control and low light levels, and displays the banner at a shallow angle. This project will ensure that the original flag is preserved for future generations.

Fast facts: the original Star-Spangled Banner

- Before finding its way to the museum, the Star-Spangled Banner had a significant impact on the country's history. Check out some fast facts about the original flag, as reported by the Smithsonian Institute.
  - It was made in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1813 by Mary Pickersgill.
  - Originally the banner was 30x42, but after renovations, it's 30x34.
  - The flag features 15 stars and 15 stripes.
  - It was first loaned to the Smithsonian in 1907 before becoming a permanent gift in 1923.
  - It has been on exhibit since 1924.
  - The long-term preservation project launched in 1999.

Conservation efforts

In 1998, the first conservation efforts took place when museum staff noticed inconsistent temperature fluctuations and humidity. While the preservation measures included varying the accumulated dust, installing new lights and air-handling systems, and mounting a screen in front of the banner for extra protection, it remained on the walls.

Efforts kicked up again in 1996, when experts began developing a plan to preserve the flag with modern, scientific techniques. A new Millennium preservation project was initiated by Hillary Clinton, which led to removing the flag from the wall in order to prevent further deterioration.
Celebrating the flag in song

Throughout history, musicians have penned lyrics that commemorate the nation’s flag.

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Of course, the “Star-Spangled Banner” is a well-known tune about the Stars and Stripes, but even modern artists are exploring its importance through song. If you’re planning an event to celebrate Flag Day, consider adding these patriotic pieces of art to your playlist.

“God Bless the USA” by Lee Greenwood
Released in 1984, “God Bless the USA” hit number seven on the Billboard Hot Country Singles chart. The tune quickly became a symbol during the Gulf War in the early 1990s. Troops and civilians alike considered the song to be morale-boosting. After the attacks on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, Lee Greenwood re-released the single. He would later perform the song to open Game Four of the Major League Baseball World Series in 2001. It would be re-released again in 2003 when America invaded Iraq.

“Ragged Old Flag” by Johnny Cash
Johnny Cash penned the classic tune during the political uproar involving Richard Nixon and the Watergate scandal. Through a musical spoken-word performance, Cash tells a story about what it means to be an American and provides a brief history of the nation. While it may not be the most upbeat song to celebrate Flag Day, it can make an impact when opening an event.

“Where the Stars and Stripes and the Eagles Fly” by Aaron Tippin
This song initially didn’t make the cut for Tippin’s 2000 album, “People Like Us.” However, two days after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, the artist booked a Nashville recording studio to record the song. Not only did the attack provide hope and uplift the spirits of the American people, but it was also used to build significant donations for the American Red Cross. According to Billboard, the label estimated that the single raised about $250,000 for the organization.

“Only in America” by Brooks & Dunn
Another country tune that discusses what it’s like to live in America was released by Brooks & Dunn in 2003. It tells a story about various members in the working class throughout the country. Since its release, it has been featured in presidential campaigns and political rallies.

Fly Your Flag To Celebrate Flag Day June 14

Happy Flag Day from Yavapai Animal Hospital!

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Fly Your Flag
To Celebrate Flag Day
June 14

Come visit our drive-thru warehouse!
Initially, rather than place a hand over our heart, the Bellamy Salute was performed during the pledge. During the Bellamy Salute, speakers would recite the words while performing a military salute. Once the pledge concluded, one would extend their arm toward the flag. According to the Independence Hall Association, the next inception of the stance did include placing a hand over the heart during the pledge but still featured an extended arm pointed in the direction of the banner.

During World War II, the Bellamy Salute gained criticism for resembling the Nazi Salute. It was officially changed to keep the right hand over the heart throughout.

Inceptions of the Pledge

The original Pledge of Allegiance, penned in 1892 was as follows: “I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

It was updated in 1923 to include, the “United States of America” and read: “I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

In 1954, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words “under God” into the pledge. In response to Communist threats, they responded and altered the Pledge of Allegiance. Today, it reads: “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.”

Declared in the Flag Code

The United States Flag Code includes a list of guidelines to help people perform the Pledge of Allegiance properly. Here is how Section Four of the code explains the process. “The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Where not in uniform, men should remove any non-religious head-dress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag and render the military salute.”

Happy Flag Day

“Happy Flag Day

Francis Bellamy is known as the author of the Pledge of Allegiance. It was written in August 1892, and he hoped the pledge would be used by citizens across the world to show respect for their country.

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“My country right or wrong” Francis Bellamy.

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Happy Flag Day
Our flag is more than just a symbol of our pride, it represents the values our country was founded on:

"one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

On this Flag Day, may we never forget the brave men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice to defend our flag and the freedoms we hold dear.”

“Kevin McCarthy

www.McCarthyforCongress.com