As new states gained independence and entered the United States, the number of stars and stripes increased. However, in 1818, Congress enacted a law to restore the original 13 stripes and only include additional stars to symbolize incoming states. A century after enacting the Flag Resolution, the first Flag Day was observed on June 14, 1877. While Woodrow Wilson proclaimed a day of recognition for the banner in 1916, it wasn't until 1949 when regulators officially designated June 14 as Flag Day, a national day of observance. Do you know how you are going to celebrate this year? Consider sharing the occasion with your peers and loved ones.

In the community
June 14 is a day to celebrate the historic symbolism of our nation's banner. You can do your part by donating your time or resources to benefit the occasion.

Reach out to local leaders to inquire about volunteering to help raise flags throughout your community. Many businesses and public parks in your area may need help acquiring and displaying the banner. You also can offer to donate flags to ensure there are enough throughout the area.

Consider hosting a community event inviting peers and neighbors to celebrate the day. Make it an event where others reflect on what the flag means to them and praise the active or retired service people in their lives.

In the classroom
If you are an educator, Flag Day is an awesome opportunity to teach your students about their responsibility to respect the symbol. Take the following ideas from the National Education Association when developing a positive lesson plan.

• Changes to the flag: The banner hasn’t always appeared the same, its history is an interesting and entertaining story to show students how the country has evolved; and

• Overview of the War of 1812: Explain how the significance of this conflict had in shaping the Star-Spangled Banner and its connection to the flag.
Respect for the flag

The Flag Code was adopted to protect our nation’s symbol of freedom and accomplishment of those who have served. If you are unfamiliar with the rules of the banner, it’s possible to be unintentionally disrespectful.

GREEN SHOOT MEDIA

- The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, or merchandise.
- The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.
- The flag should never be used as wearing apparel, bedding or drapery.
- The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used or stored in such a manner as to permit it to be easily torn, soiled or damaged in any way.
- The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling.
- The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying or delivering anything.
- No part of the flag should ever be used as a costume or athletic uniform. However, a patch for display, should be destr oyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.
- The flag, when it is no longer a fitting emblem by reason of wear, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

According to the United States Flag Code, American flags should be flown from sunrise to sunset. However, with enough illumination, it is perfectly acceptable to represent your patriotism throughout the night.

Flying the flag at night

Here are some ideas to consider when creating a patriotic display.

Create a light source

If your flagpole is not long enough, they can tap into an approved outdoor outlet, solar lights or a spike-ball installed in your yard to display Old Glory, assistance from a licensed electrician is a must. They can tap into your home’s current electrical source and install an extension cord designed to hold the electricity required for extended periods of time.

- Extension cord: One important option to have a sufficient light source to display your flag 24 hours a day. You also could choose a Heavy-duty extension cord designed to handle the electricity required for extended periods of time.
- Outdoor outlet: If you would rather have a permanent light fixture in your yard to display Old Glory.
- Solar power: Modern solar power is incredibly efficient as a light source; just be sure it has the power and durability to maintain its shine overnight.
- All-weather flag

If you intend to wave your flag 24 hours, it’s crucial to have a banner that can withstand the extended use and inclement-outdoor elements. According to the U.S. Flag Code, The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is displayed. An all-weather flag provides you with a banner that is made of high-quality materials while being able to flow in the breeze. During your search, look for flags made from a nylon material for extra-long use or heavyweight cotton to maintain a traditional appearance while boosting durability.
The American flag has a rich history. The stories behind some historical banners offer humbling perspectives of a country’s history.

**Star-Spangled Banner**

The flag considered one of the most prominent in the world was the Star-Spangled Banner. The flag, which was inspired by a lone United States flag flying over Fort McHenry, was eventually recovered in 1861. The banner on display today features 15 stars and is considered one of the most meaningful banners in the country’s history.

**Flag Day**

Friday, June 14, 2019  www.ridgecrestca.com

**Where to see historical flags**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nathaniel Shaw 13-Star</td>
<td>2016, when it was donated to the 9/11 Memorial and Museum, where it rests today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Society of New London, Ct.</td>
<td>121 S. China Lake Blvd. #A 760-375-4202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star-Spangled Banner</td>
<td>100 E. Las Flores</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fly Your Flag To Celebrate Flag Day June 14**

*Come visit our drive-thru warehouse!*
The 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.

The Pledge of Allegiance was adopted.

Light damage or a dirty appearance doesn't always mean a flag should be retired.

Repair
If you notice small tears in the fabric of your banner, immediate repair to limit the amount of damage. A small imperfection can be exposed by rippling winds or poor weather conditions.

Search for a flag repair facility in your area or seek assistance from patriotic organizations to find a professional.