

A close-up, vertical photograph of the American flag, showing the blue field with white stars and the red and white stripes. The flag is draped, creating soft folds and shadows. The top of the image shows the stars, and the bottom shows the stripes.

How to fly the **AMERICAN FLAG**

HELPFUL GUIDELINES

- The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
- The flag is never allowed to touch the ground or the floor.
- When hung over a sidewalk on a rope extending from a building to a pole, the union stars are always away from the building.
- When vertically hung over the center of the street, the flag always has the union stars to the north on an east/west street, and to the east on a north/south street.
- The flag of the United States of America should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of states or localities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs.
- The flag should never be festooned, drawn back, nor up, in folds but always allowed to fall free.
- The flag should be displayed at half-staff until noon on Memorial Day then raised to the top of the staff.
- Never fly the flag upside down except as a signal of distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property.
- The flag is never flown in inclement weather except when using an all-weather flag.
- The flag can be flown every day from sunrise to sunset and at night if illuminated properly.

Flag Display Days

New Year's Day	January 1
Martin Luther King Day	Third Monday in January
Inauguration Day.....	January 20
Lincoln's Birthday	February 12
Washington's Birthday	February 22
Presidents' Day	Third Monday in February
Easter Sunday	Variable
Mother's Day	Second Sunday in May
Peace Officers Memorial Day (half-staff).....	May 15
Armed Forces Day	Third Saturday in May
Memorial Day (half-staff until noon)	Last Monday in May
Flag Day	June 14
Father's Day	Third Sunday in June
Independence Day	July 4
Korean War Veterans Day.....	July 27
Labor Day	First Monday in September
Patriot Day (half-staff)	September 11
POW/MIA Recognition Day.....	3rd Friday in September
Constitution Day.....	September 17
Gold Star Mother's Day.....	Last Sunday in September
Columbus Day	Second Monday in October
Navy Day.....	October 27
Election Day.....	First Tuesday in November
Veterans Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	4 th Thursday in November
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (half-staff)	December 7
Christmas Day.....	December 25

...and such other days as may be proclaimed by the President of the United States; the birthdays of states (date of admission); and on state holidays.

Information outlined above is part of the Federal Flag Code or enacted by Federal legislation. Fly your POW/MIA flag with your American flag on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day or Veterans Day.

For more information regarding flag history, the Federal Flag Code, or how to properly display the U.S. flag, please refer to the VFW Website, www.vfw.org or the National Flag Foundation Website, www.americanflags.org.