

Camp Patriotic Instruction

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The Flag of the United States of America

The Pledge of Allegiance

"I pledge allegiance"
...I promise to be true
"to the flag"
...to the symbol of our country
"of the United States of America"
...each state that has joined to make our country
"and to the Republic"
...a republic is a country where the people choose
others to make laws for them. The government is for
the people
"for which it stands,"
...the flag means the country
"one Nation"
...a single country
"under God,"
...the people believe in a supreme being
"indivisible,"
...the country cannot be split into parts
"with liberty and justice"
...with freedom and fairness
"for all."
...for each person in the country...you and me!



The Star-Spangled Banner
By Francis Scott Key (1814)

First verse -

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watch'd, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,
Oh, say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Did you know this is one of only a few national anthems in the world dedicated to a flag?



Flag Facts



Courtesy
of the
Sons of Union
Veterans Of
The Civil War

<http://suvcw.org>

A Brief History of the United States Flag

The states are listed in order of admission to the United States with their date of statehood to the right. Typically, a new star was added to the flag on the 4th of July following the state's admission.



Several unofficial flags flew the first year in the history of the US. The most well known has 13 stars in a circle. (Often called the Betsy Ross flag).



First Official Flag

Authorized June 14, 1777
It flew for 18 years before the next flag. We still celebrate June 14 as "Flag Day".



Fifteen Stripes & Stars

May 1, 1795
The only U.S. flag to have more than 13 stripes. Also called the "Star Spangled Banner" - the flag immortalized by Francis Scott Key in 1814. Flew 23 years.



20 Stars

Added 20 stars but went back to only 13 stripes as more practical. Flew only one year before the next star was added.



27th Official Flag of the United States since July 4, 1960

- 21 Illinois December 3, 1818
- 22 Alabama December 14, 1819
- 23 Maine March 15, 1820
- 24 Missouri August 10, 1821
- 25 Arkansas June 19, 1836
- 26 Michigan January 26, 1837
- 27 Florida March 3, 1845
- 28 Texas December 29, 1845
- 29 Iowa December 28, 1846
- 30 Wisconsin May 23, 1848
- 31 California September 9, 1850
- 32 Minnesota May 11, 1858
- 33 Oregon February 14, 1859

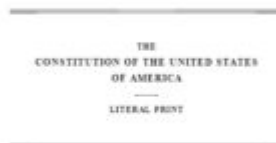
- ### Civil War Flags (34 Stars and 35 Stars)
- 34 Kansas January 29, 1861
 - 35 West Virginia June 20, 1863
 - 36 Nevada October 31, 1864
 - 37 Nebraska March 1, 1867
 - 38 Colorado August 1, 1876

- ### 43 Stars - added 5 stars at one time
- 39 North Dakota November 2, 1889
 - 40 South Dakota November 2, 1889
 - 41 Montana November 8, 1889
 - 42 Washington November 11, 1889
 - 43 Idaho July 3, 1890
 - 44 Wyoming July 10, 1890
 - 45 Utah January 4, 1896
 - 46 Oklahoma November 16, 1907
 - 47 New Mexico January 6, 1912

- ### 49 Stars
- 48 Arizona February 14, 1912
 - 49 Alaska January 3, 1959

- ### Present Day Flag
- 50 Hawaii August 21, 1959

The Constitution of the United States of America



Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America



2018 Camp Patriotic Instruction Sheets



Ben Harrison Camp No. 356
Site of Union Veterans of the Civil War - Department of Indiana

Presidents' Day - February 19, 2018

Washington's Birthday was first declared a federal holiday by an 1879 act of Congress. The Uniform Holidays Act, 1968, shifted the date of the commemoration of Washington's Birthday from February 22 to the third Monday in February (between February 13 and 21, meaning the observed holiday never falls on Washington's actual birthday).

Because of this, combined with the fact that President Lincoln's birthday falls on February 12, many people now refer to this holiday as "Presidents' Day" and consider it a day honoring all American presidents. However, neither the Uniform Holidays Act nor any subsequent law changed the name of the holiday from Washington's Birthday to Presidents' Day.

Source images.

In Fraternity, Charity,
and Loyalty.

Jim Floyd
Patriotic Instructor



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Harriet Tubman Day - March 10, 2018

Harriet Tubman (born Araminta Ross, c. 1822 - March 20, 1913) was an American abolitionist, humanitarian, and an armed scout and spy for the United States Army during the American Civil War. Born into slavery, Tubman escaped and subsequently made some thirteen missions to rescue approximately seventy enslaved families and friends, using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known as the Underground Railroad. She later helped abolitionist John Brown recruit men for his raid on Harpers Ferry, and in the post-war era was an active participant in the struggle for women's suffrage.

When the Civil War began, Tubman worked for the Union Army, first as a cook and nurse, and then as an armed scout and spy. The first woman to lead an armed expedition in the war, she guided the raid at Combahee Ferry, which liberated more than 750 slaves. After the war, she returned to the family home on property she had purchased in 1839 in Auburn, New York, where she cared for her aging parents. She was active in the women's suffrage movement and stress overtook her and she had to be admitted to a home for elderly African-Americans that she had hoped to establish years earlier. After she died in 1913, she became an icon of American courage and freedom. *Source images.*

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Sultana Disaster - April 27, 2018

Sultana was a Mississippi River side-wheel steamer. On April 27, 1856, the boat exploded in the world's largest disaster in United States history. She was designed with a capacity of only 276 passengers, but she was carrying 2,185 when she left New Orleans and headed north for Memphis, Tennessee, taking 1,182 passengers. This disaster was unprecedented in the past by sheer numbers, most particularly the killing on the previous day of President Lincoln's assassin John Wilkes Booth. The wooden steamer was constructed in 1851 by the John L. Smith & Sons in Cincinnati, intended for the lower Mississippi cotton trade. The steamer registered 2,732 tons and normally carried a crew of 85. For two years, she ran a regular route between St. Louis and New Orleans, frequently commissioned to carry troops.

Near 2:00 a.m. on April 27, 1856, when Sultana was just seven miles north of Memphis, her boilers suddenly exploded. For one boiler exploded, followed a split second later by two more. The shock of the explosion was too much pressure and low-water in the boilers. There was reason to believe allowable working steam pressure was exceeded in an attempt to overcome the spring river current. The enormous explosion of steam came from the bow, rear of the boilers and went upward at a 45-degree angle, tearing through the riveted deck above, and completely demolishing the pilot house. Without a pilot to steer the boat, Sultana became a drifting, floating hull. The terrific explosion flung some of the passengers in into the water and scattered a large section of the boat. The two chimneys tumbled over, one falling into the loaded hold, and one forward onto the crowded forward section of the upper deck. The forward part of the upper deck collapsed into the exposed furnace level, causing falling into the open fire below which soon caught fire and burned the remaining superstructure into an inferno. Survivors of the explosion panicked and leaped for the safety of the water but in high-angled conditions open up of strength and began to cling to each other. Some groups were torn together. [Source: Youtube](#)



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Loyalty Day - May 1, 2018

Loyalty Day is observed on May 1 in the United States. It is a day set aside for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States and for the recognition of the heritage of American Freedom.

The holiday was first observed in 1921, during the First Red Scare. It was originally called "Americanization Day," and it was intended to replace the May 1 "May Day" celebration of the International Workers' Day, which commemorated the 1886 Haymarket Affair in Chicago.

During the Second Red Scare, it was recognized by the U.S. Congress on April 17, 1950, and made an official recurring holiday on July 18, 1950 (Public Law 81-428). President Dwight D. Eisenhower proclaimed May 1, 1953, the first observance of Loyalty Day. In 1965, Eisenhower urged Congress to move Civil Rights Day to the first Monday in October, to avoid conflicting with Loyalty Day. Loyalty Day has been recognized with an official proclamation every year by every president since its inception as a legal holiday in 1950.

Loyalty Day is defined as follows in 36 U.S.C. § 120:
(a) Designation - May 1 is Loyalty Day.
(b) Purpose - Loyalty Day is a special day for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States and for the recognition of the heritage of American Freedom.
(c) Proclamation - The President is required to issue a proclamation - (1) calling on United States Government officials to display the Flag of the United States on all Government buildings on Loyalty Day, and (2) inviting the people of the United States to observe Loyalty Day with appropriate ceremonies in schools and other suitable places. [Source: Youtube](#)

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Flag Day - June 14, 2018

In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the Flag of the United States, which happened on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The United States Army also observes the U.S. Army Birthday on this date. Congress allocated "the American continental army" after meeting a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1777.

In 1949, President William Wilson issued a proclamation that officials celebrate June 14 as Flag Day. In August 1949, National Flag Day was announced as an Act of Congress. Flag Day is not an official federal holiday. The 36 of the United States Code, Subtitle A, Part 4, CHAPTER 1, § 1310 is the official statute on Flag Day, however, it is at the president's discretion to officially proclaim the observance.

The weeks of June 10-16, 2018 is designated as "National Flag Week." During National Flag Week, the president will issue a proclamation urging U.S. citizens to fly the American flag for the duration of that week. The flag should also be displayed on all government buildings. Some organizations, such as the town of Dedham, Massachusetts, hold parades and events in celebration of America's national flag and everything it represents.

The National Flag Day Foundation holds an annual observance for Flag Day on the second Sunday in June. The program includes a ceremonial raising of the national flag, the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, the playing of the national anthem, a parade and other events. [Source: Youtube](#)

I encourage all Brothers to proudly fly our nation's flag on Flag Day!

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Independence Day - July 4, 2018

First observed on July 4, 1777, July 4, 1776 is the momentous American date when John Hancock, the President of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence. This declaration of sovereignty was a result of many prevailing influences including the Boston Massacre, Townsend Act, Boston Tea Party, and Battles of Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill between the British and the independent-minded Americans.

In the beginning of 1776, Thomas Paine wrote a pamphlet entitled Common Sense encouraging the independence movement. On April 12, North Carolina became the first state to declare its independence from the British. Other colonies followed suit, led by the strong encouragement of patriots like John Adams and Francis Pickens. In June, Richard Lee of Virginia offered a resolution to dissolve the political connection with Great Britain but it failed separation still. Nevertheless, the Continental Congress selected a committee to draft a declaration of independence to support Lee's resolution. The committee consisted of John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Robert Livingston, and Roger Sherman. Jefferson was appointed as author.

When the Continental Congress resumed sessions on July 26, the Declaration of Independence was complete and a final vote was taken. Some colonies were in favor of the resolution. On July 2, the official independence vote was taken and twelve colonies supported the motion with four more abstaining. The Declaration of Independence, as written by Jefferson, was approved by Congress on July 4th, 1776. On that same day, it was printed and signed by John Hancock, the President of the Continental Congress, and Charles Thomson, secretary. A few days later, New York gave its vote in favor of the resolution thus making the independence movement unanimous among the thirteen colonies.

On August 2, the Declaration of Independence was signed by Congress with all but seven delegates signing the document. The remaining seven delegates did eventually sign the document. [Source: Youtube](#)

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Declaration of Independence Signing - August 2, 2018

The signing of the United States Declaration of Independence occurred primarily on August 2, 1776 at the Pennsylvania State House. Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The 56 delegates to the Second Continental Congress represented the 13 former colonies which had declared themselves the "United States of America," and thus endorsed the Declaration of Independence which the Congress had approved on July 4, 1776. The Declaration proclaimed that the former Thirteen Colonies that at war with Great Britain were now a sovereign, independent nation and thus no longer a part of the British Empire. The signers' names are grouped by state, with the exception of President of the Continental Congress John Hancock, the states are arranged geographically from north to south.

The final draft of the Declaration was approved by the Continental Congress on July 4, although the date of its signing has long been disputed. Most historians have concluded that it was signed on August 2, 1776, nearly a month after its adoption, and not on July 4 as it is commonly believed.

In 1984, historian Helen Cheneman argued that these names indicated that the famous signed version of the Declaration had been created following the July 19 resolution, and had not been signed by Congress until August 2. Subsequent research has confirmed that many of the signers had not been present in Congress on July 4, and that some delegates may have signed their signatures near or after August 1. Both Jefferson and Adams were released from their belief that the signing ceremony took place on July 4, yet most historians have accepted the argument which David McCullough articulates in his biography of John Adams: "No such scene, with all the delegates present, ever occurred at Philadelphia."

Legislative history of the Declaration of Independence is concluded in 1986 that about 34 delegates signed the Declaration on July 4, and that the others signed on or after August 2. [Source: Youtube](#)

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Patriot Day - September 11, 2018

In the immediate aftermath of the attacks, President George W. Bush, proclaimed Friday September 14, 2001, as a National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for the Victims of the Terrorist Attacks on September 11, 2002.

A bill to make September 11 a national day of mourning was introduced in the U.S. House on October 25, 2001, by Rep. Vito Marcilly (R-NY) with twenty-two co-sponsors, among them eleven Democrats and eleven Republicans. The bill requested that the President designate September 11 of each year as Patriot Day. Joint Resolution 73 passed the House by a vote of 407-0, with 23 members not voting. The bill passed the Senate unanimously on November 30. President Bush signed the resolution into law on December 18 as Public Law 107-109. On September 8, 2002, President Bush used the authority of the resolution to proclaim September 11, 2002, as the first Patriot Day.

The flag of the United States is flown at half-staff at the White House and on all U.S. government buildings and establishments throughout the world. Flags are also encouraged to be displayed on individual American homes. Additionally, a moment of silence is observed to commemorate with the attacks, beginning at 8:42 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time, the time the first plane, American Airlines Flight 11, struck the North Tower of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Patriot Day is not a federal holiday; schools and businesses remain open in observance of the occasion, although occasional ceremonies for the victims are often held. Volunteer and service opportunities are coordinated by the Corporation for National and Community Service. [Source: Youtube](#)

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Columbus Day – October 8, 2018

Celebration of Columbus's voyage in the early United States is recorded from as early as 1790, when the Terminus Society in New York City (for whom it became an annual tradition) and also the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston celebrated the 500th anniversary of Columbus' landing in the New World. President Benjamin Harrison called upon the people of the United States to celebrate Columbus's landing in the New World on the 400th anniversary of the event. During the anniversary in 1892, teachers, workers, poets and politicians used events to teach ideas of patriotism. These rituals took themes such as citizenship, leadership, the importance of loyalty to the nation, and the celebration of social progress.

Many Italian-Americans observed Columbus Day as a celebration of their heritage, and the first such celebration was held in New York City on October 12, 1890. The day was first embraced as a legal holiday in the United States through the lobbying of Angelo Ronchi, a first-generation Italian, in Illinois. The first statewide holiday was proclaimed by Colorado governor Arce F. McAdams in 1905, and it was made a statutory holiday in 2007. In April 1934, as a result of lobbying by the Knights of Columbus and New York City Italian leader Tommaso Paoli, Congress and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt proclaimed October 12 a federal holiday under the name Columbus Day.

Since 1971 (P.L. 91), the holiday has been held on the second Monday in October.

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Veterans Day – November 11, 2018

Veterans Day is an official United States public holiday, observed annually on November 11, that honors military veterans, that is, persons who served in the United States Armed Forces. It coincides with other holidays, including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, celebrated in other countries that mark the anniversary of the end of World War I; major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. The United States previously observed Armistice Day. The U.S. holiday was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day, a U.S. public holiday in May. Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans, while Memorial Day honors those who died while in military service. It is also not to be confused with Armed Forces Day, a minor U.S. observance that also occurs in May, which specifically honors those currently serving in the U.S. military.

The United States Congress adopted a resolution on June 4, 2003, requesting that President Calvin Coolidge issue annual proclamations calling for the observance of November 11 with appropriate ceremonies. In Congressional Act (71 Stat. 513, 514, Code, Sec. 874) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday, "to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as Armistice Day."

U.S. Representative Ed Rous from Emporia, Kansas, presented a bill establishing the holiday through Congress. President Dwight D. Eisenhower, also from Kansas, signed the bill into law on July 26, 1954.

Congress amended the bill on June 1, 1954, replacing "Armistice" with "Veterans," and it has been known as Veterans Day since.

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National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day – December 7, 2018

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, also referred to as Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day or Pearl Harbor Day, is observed annually in the United States on December 7, to remember and honor the 2,403 citizens of the United States who were killed in the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

On Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service attacked Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii Territory, without warning and without a declaration of war, killing 2,403 American servicemen, and wounding 1,237 others. The attack sank four U.S. Navy battleships and damaged four others. It also damaged three cruisers, three destroyers, and one minelayer. Aircraft losses were 188 destroyed and 159 damaged.

On August 25, 1984, the United States Congress, by Public Law 98-666, 98 Stat. 3185, designated December 7 of each year as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

On December 28, President Bill Clinton issued a proclamation declaring December 7, 1984, the first National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. It became 36 U.S.C. § 109 (Patriotic and National Observances and Ceremonies) of the United States Code.

On Pearl Harbor Day, the American flag should be flown at half-staff and remain so honor those who died as a result of the attack on U.S. military forces in Hawaii.

Pearl Harbor Day is not a federal holiday – government offices, schools, and businesses do not close. Some organizations may hold special events in memory of those killed or injured at Pearl Harbor.

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Nancy Hanks Lincoln

Nancy Hanks Lincoln (February 5, 1786 – October 3, 1818) was the mother of U.S. President Abraham Lincoln (February 12, 1809 – April 15, 1865). Her marriage to Thomas Lincoln also produced a daughter, Sarah (February 20, 2007 – January 23, 2020), and a son, Thomas, II (died in infancy, 1812). When Nancy and Thomas had been married for just over 30 years, the family moved from Kentucky to Perry County, Indiana in 1806. Nancy Lincoln died from milk sickness at the Little Pigeon Creek Community in Spencer County when Abraham was nine years old.

On June 12, 1805, Hanks married Thomas Lincoln at Beaufort, the home of Richard Berry, by Reverend Jesse Head. Nancy was brought to the home to work as a seamstress by her friend Polly Spring Berry, the wife of Richard Berry in since October 26, 1794. Polly was a friend of Nancy's from Mercer County, Kentucky and Richard Berry, Jr. was a good friend of Thomas Lincoln. Lincoln prepared to live in his childhood home at what is now Lincoln Homestead State Park, or in the Francis Berry house in front of the Breyers.

Nancy's marriage bond was signed by Richard Berry, Jr. who identified himself as her guardian. Per a biographer, "The title had no legal significance, Berry having never been so appointed, and Nancy Hanks was then of age. But of him-to-call himself 'guardian' was a courtesy customary under such circumstances." (no father able to sign the marriage bond). A record of their marriage bond is held at the county courthouse.

The young family lived in what was then Hardin County, Kentucky (now Laffett), after 1810, on the Knob Creek Farm. Neighbors reported that Nancy Hanks Lincoln was "superior" to her husband, a mild and strong personality who taught Abraham his letters as well as the extraordinary tenderness and forbearance he was known for all his life. In 1814, the year that Indiana became the 16th state, the Lincoln family moved to Spencer County in southern Indiana and proceeded to homestead at Little Pigeon Creek Settlement (now Lincoln-Bowling-National Cemetery). (Source: Wikipedia)

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The Gavel

A gavel is a small ceremonial mallet commonly made of hardwood, typically fastened with a handle. It is used almost exclusively in the United States in legislatures and courts of law, but is used worldwide for auctions.

According to tradition, Vice President of the United States John Adams used a gavel to call the very first U.S. Senate to order in New York in the spring of 1789. Since then, it has remained customary to tap the gavel against a member or desk to indicate the opening (fall to order) and the closing (adjournment) of proceedings, going vice to the phrase gavel to gavel to describe the entirety of a meeting or session. It is also used to keep the meeting (fall) calm and orderly.

The sound of the gavel strikes, being abrupt to start and stop, and clearly audible to all present, serves to sharply define an action or tone in a manner clearly perceivable by all, and to induce the action with practical as well as symbolic finality.

The unique gavel of the United States Senate has an hourglass shape and no handle. In 1954, the gavel that had been in use since at least 1789 broke when Vice President Richard Nixon used it during a heated debate on nuclear energy, despite other gavel designs having been added in 1962 to strengthen it. Unable to obtain a gavel of any large enough to replace the gavel, the Senate appointed to the Indian Embassy later that year Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, vice president of India, visited the Senate and presented a replica of the original gavel to them. The replica is still in use as of 2018.

In contrast to the Senate's, the gavel of the United States House of Representatives is plain wood with a handle. Used more often and more forcefully in the House, it has been broken and replaced many times.

In both houses, the gavel is generally considered that it strikes, once to mark the opening of the session, the adjournment, and to punctuate announcements of decisions by the body (fall to order), when the presiding officer announces that a resolution or motion is passed, the gavel is generally tapped once to declare the issue finished and to move on. Rather than shouting for order like in most Westminster style parliaments, the gavel, particularly in the House of Representatives, is often tapped repeatedly by the presiding officer to call the assembly to order or to restore order when cross-conversation has made it too noisy to proceed. (Source: Wikipedia)

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The 32nd Indiana Infantry Monument

2 Year Old Recites Gettysburg Address

The Gettysburg Address

The Sultana Disaster

Robin Williams as the American Flag

Penn and Teller Patriotic Speech

Red Skelton's Pledge of Alligience