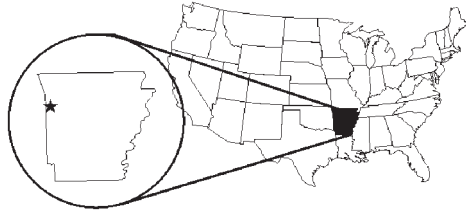


FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 323
Arkansas # 2

Proportions: 4:7 (usage)



Adopted: Circa 1912-1913 (official status uncertain)

DESIGN: The flag of Fort Smith is a horizontal tribar of equal dark blue, white, and red stripes, with a gold canton. The canton overlays the top two stripes at the hoist. In the center of the canton is the city's seal, blue letters and figures on white. On a flag of 12 by 21 units, the canton is 8 units square and the seal's diameter is 4.7 units. Around the seal's edge is a narrow beveled ring that encloses another ring on which appears **CITY OF FORT SMITH ARK.** in a Times Roman font, arched clockwise around the seal from 9 o'clock to 3 o'clock. Curved below in an Arial font, counterclockwise, is **INCORPORATED A.D. 1842.** The inner edge of this ring is made up of dots. In the seal's center, occupying most of the field, is a large bald eagle, with wings outstretched, facing the fly. From the eagle's neck to the bottom of the seal, thus

covering most of its body, is a heraldic shield divided horizontally into three parts. The top segment shows a paddle-wheel river-boat, steaming toward the hoist. The center segment depicts a plow on the hoist side and a beehive on the fly side. A shock of wheat occupies the bottom segment. On the eagle's hoist wing rests a winged angel on a laurel bough, looking toward the fly, arms outstretched as if to steady the shield, legs extended along the hoist edge of the shield to the bottom.

On the eagle's fly side are two elements, a ribbon issuing from its beak with two visible sections bearing **REGNANT POPULUS** ("The People Rule"); and below the ribbon, an unsheathed sword, slanted along the shield's edge so the point of the sword is toward the hoist, and the hilt toward the fly. In the center above the eagle's head is a small Goddess of Liberty standing on what appears to be a cloud. Facing the hoist, her left hand holds a staff surmounted by a liberty cap, and her right hand gestures toward the hoist holding a wreath. Curved next to the goddess's right hand on the hoist side are three tiny five-pointed stars enclosed in squares, and beyond her left hand are five more. Without the light stars, this design essentially reproduces the state seal of Arkansas.


SYMBOLISM: The red, white, and blue are colors in the United States and Arkansas flags. Gold suggests the value placed by the citizenry on its city. The eagle on the seal is said to represent speed and wisdom, as well as generosity and forgiveness. The three stars on the hoist side above the eagle reputedly represent the three nations that ruled Arkansas before the United States (France, Spain, and the United Kingdom). The five stars on the fly side symbolize the five Native American tribes who once occupied Western Arkansas (presumably the Caddo, Cherokee, Choctaw, Osage, and Quapaw). The angel on the hoist side represents Mercy; the sword on the fly side, Justice. The riverboat on the shield stands for commerce on the Arkansas River; the plow and beehive symbolize agriculture; and the wheat represents the fertile lands of the Arkansas Valley.

HOW SELECTED: Information unavailable.

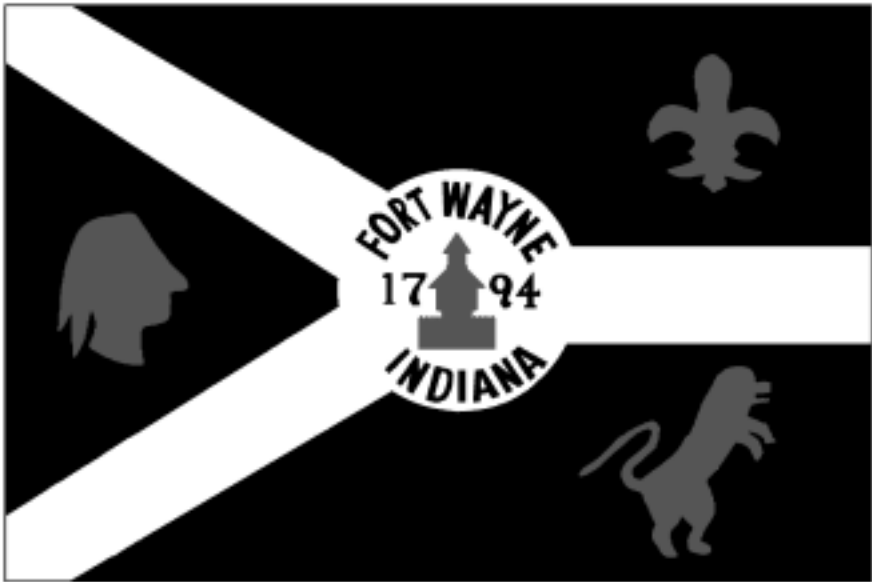
DESIGNER: Information unavailable.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The flag is believed to have been adopted around 1912-1913 when the city adopted a new commission form of government.



FORMER FLAGS: Fort Smith may have had a previous flag, with a somewhat different city seal. An additional outer ring surrounds the seal, with a five-pointed star on either side at the midpoints horizontally. Curved above in an Arial font is **ALL FOR ONE**; and below, **ONE FOR ALL**. This ring was later omitted from the seal, perhaps in the 1912-1913 civic government transition. JP 

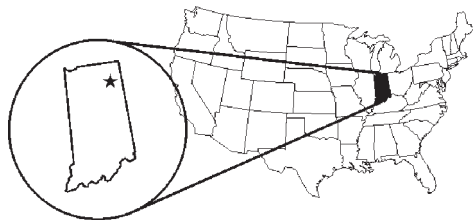
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA



Population Rank: U.S. # 84
Indiana # 2

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 1934 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Fort Wayne has a dark blue field trisected by a white Y-shaped figure positioned horizontally. The top of the “Y” extends to both corners of the hoist, and its bottom bisects the fly. Overlying the center of the “Y” is a white circle with a blockhouse in red. Curved above the blockhouse is **FORT WAYNE**, below is **INDIANA**, on the hoist side **17**, and on the fly side **94**, all in dark blue. A silhouette of a male Native American head is centered in the hoist field, in red, with two feathers and in profile facing the fly. In the top fly field is a red *fleur-de-lis* and in the lower fly field, is an upright red lion, facing the fly.

SYMBOLISM: The white “Y” represents the confluence of three rivers in the center of Fort Wayne: the St. Joseph (top hoist), the St. Mary’s (bottom hoist), and the Maumee (fly). The blockhouse symbolizes the original Fort Wayne, established in 1794 by General Anthony Wayne, for whom the city is named. The Indian head recalls the early settlement of the Miami Indians near the city’s current site. The *fleur-de-lis* recognizes the contribution of the French, who organized Fort Miami, the first fort on the site, as a trading post in the 1680s. The lion symbolizes the British, who captured Fort Miami in 1760 and occupied it until 1763, when the Indians reoccupied the site during Pontiac’s Rebellion. Indians held the area until Gen. Wayne secured the land in 1794 for the fledgling United States.

HOW SELECTED: Through a contest, in 1916.

DESIGNER: Guy Drewitt, whose 1916 design is described (no picture is extant) as a blue field with a white Y and two small white stars, position unspecified, to recognize Fort Wayne’s position as the second largest city in Indiana.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Drewitt’s original design was apparently used until 1934, when at the suggestion of a local citizen he modified the flag to its current design.

JP 

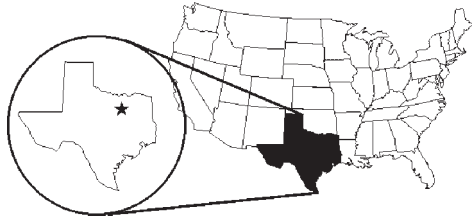
FORT WORTH, TEXAS



Population Rank: U.S. # 27
Texas # 6

Proportions: 4:7 (usage)

Adopted: 4 September 1968 (official)



DESIGN: The Fort Worth flag is a horizontal tribar of light blue, white, and green stripes in proportions of 2:3:2. Across the top stripe, in black block letters, is **FORT WORTH**, occupying most of the stripe. Centered on the green stripe, in similar letters, is **TEXAS**. The white stripe displays a frontal silhouette of a stylized black “Texas Longhorn” head stretching nearly the entire length of the flag.

SYMBOLISM: The blue stripe represents the space age to come (as foreseen in 1968). The white stripe depicts the Trinity River channel, and the green stripe symbolizes the green of the prairie. The longhorn head suggests one of the city’s nicknames, “Cowtown”, recalling Fort

Worth's early years, after railroads arrived, as a major center for the shipment of cattle.

HOW SELECTED: The city council and the art commission co-sponsored a contest for a city flag, the winner to receive \$250.

DESIGNER: Winner of the prize for his design was Richard Pruitt, a commercial advertising artist and Fort Worth resident.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Of the 153 entries submitted in the flag contest, 42 finalists were displayed in the Fort Worth Art Center. The public voted for a favorite flag, but the judges chose a different design, since they were not bound by the public vote. The judges were Dr. Richard Fargo Brown, curator for the Kimbell Museum; Jack T. Holmes, a public relations executive; and Mrs. Edwin R. Hudson, Sr., president of the Tarrant County Historical Society.

In November 1969, a Fort Worth flag was taken to the moon on the Apollo 12 flight by Cmdr. Alan L. Bean, a former Fort Worth resident and a graduate of a high school there.



FORMER FLAG: The earlier flag of Fort Worth was apparently unofficial. A flag maker, J. J. Langever, designed it in 1912. Also with proportions of 4:7 units, the flag has a white field with three horizontal red stripes placed across its center creating alternating white and red stripes in proportions of 1.25/.3/.3/.3/.3/.3/1.25. Superimposed on the center of the field over the red stripes is an elaborate design in light blue (perhaps faded from an earlier darker blue). Centered above the lowest red stripe is a city skyline, its narrow sky filled with industrial smoke depicted over it. Resting on this portion is a sort of pillar on which a panther crouches, facing the hoist. A horse and a sheep support the pillar. Over the panther curves **THE PANTHER CITY** in blue. Centered

above all is a five-pointed star, with half of each point shaded to give the appearance of three dimensions, and a halo of radiant lines around it. Below the skyline is a white rectangle bordered in blue, announcing “**WE’RE FOR SMOKE**”, also in blue. All this is supported by what appears to be a winged sphinx, an image popular at the time. Curved counter-clockwise below the image is another legend, **ALL ROADS LEAD TO FT. WORTH**, in blue. To illustrate this motto, 17 blue lines, apparently representing actual, individually labeled roads, emanate from behind the design in all directions.

The panther recalls another of the city’s nicknames, “**The Panther City**”, reportedly given to the city by travelers who had seen panthers in the brush near there, and even asleep on a city street, though no one seems to be certain about the name’s origin. The “**We’re for Smoke**” legend refers to the time before air pollution was a concern, when the city was courting heavy industry and factories with smoke stacks were common images of progress.

JP 

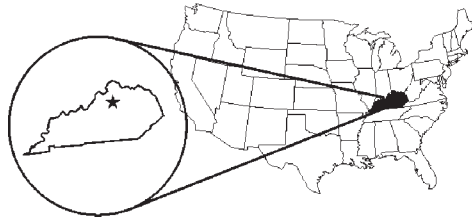
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY ★



Population Rank: U.S. # 1,362
Kentucky # 7

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 14 September 1959 (official)



DESIGN: The field of Frankfort's flag is white. Centered on the field is a disk with a yellow field, one-fourth the length of the flag in the diameter. Bisecting the disk is an S-shaped blue line, about one-fourteenth the circle's diameter in width, forming a 'yin-yang'-type figure. In the top half of the disk is the old state capitol and in the lower half is the new state capitol, both in blue outline. Surrounding the disk is a wreath, in blue, open at the top. The diameter of the wreath is about three-eighths of the field's length. In the white space between the wreath and the disk appears **FRANKFORT**, arched clockwise over the top of the circle, and **KENTUCKY**, counterclockwise below, all in blue block letters. Midway between the two words are five-pointed stars: gray on

the hoist side and blue on the fly side. Centered below the wreath, midway between the wreath's edge and the edge of the field, appears 1786 in large blue numerals.

In the upper hoist corner is a circular figure resembling a medallion, the outer edge of which is a blue line, with a narrow yellow band immediately within. In the center in yellow with blue shading is a profile of Daniel Boone, facing the fly. The field of the medallion is white. In the upper fly corner is a similar medallion with a three-quarter profile of a Boy Scout, in the same colors, facing the hoist.

SYMBOLISM: The flag was designed to be a reverse of the Kentucky state flag, with yellow and white on blue. The horizontal S-figure in the center of the flag represents the S-curve of the Kentucky River that divides the city. The old capitol symbolizes the past; the new capitol, the present. The blue wreath represents the famed bluegrass of Kentucky. The gray and blue stars signify, respectively, Frankfort's status as a city in both the Confederate States of America (1862-1863) and the United States (from 1792). Frankfort was first settled in 1786.

The hoist medallion with Daniel Boone commemorates him as the discoverer in 1767 of "the fair land of Kentucke", as he described it. The fly medallion recognizes that the first Boy Scout troop in the United States was formed in Frankfort in 1908.

HOW SELECTED: A committee of five local prominent citizens, appointed by the mayor and city commissioners. The committee solicited designs from the community.

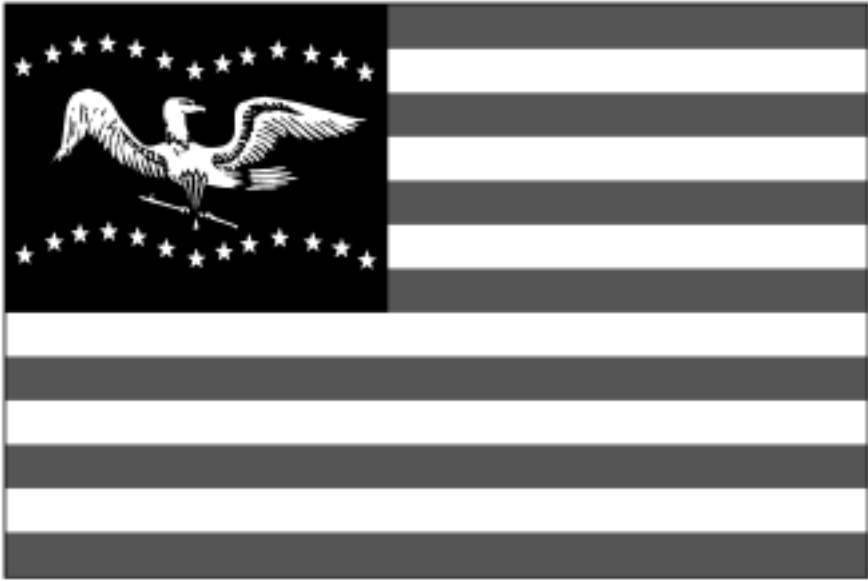
DESIGNER: None of the designs had all the elements that the committee had in mind, so the committee itself undertook to design the flag. Hence the designers are Col. George M. Chinn (USMC, ret.), of the Kentucky Historical Society; Ermina Jett Darnell, an artist; Eudora Lindsay South, a music teacher; Margaret Brown Sullivan, an artist; and Allan M. Trout, a journalist.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The decision to adopt a city flag came about in 1959 because the city had erected a new municipal building,

and the city manager, Russell Marshall, thought it would be appropriate to fly a civic emblem from the new flagpole in front of the building. The idea for a city flag was something of a novelty at the time, since only three other Kentucky cities—Louisville, Newport, and Prestonsburg—had adopted flags.

JP 

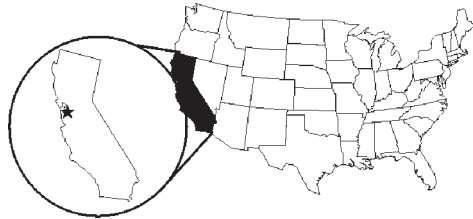
FREMONT, CALIFORNIA



Population Rank: U.S. # 85
California # 13

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 1970s (unofficial)



DESIGN: Fremont's flag is a variation on the design of the United States flag. It has 13 stripes of red and white and in the center of the blue canton is a white eagle in flight toward the hoist, looking back toward the fly, and clutching nine white arrows and a peace pipe in its talons. Above and below the eagle are undulating rows of 13 white stars each.

SYMBOLISM: This is a popular version of the flag of Capt. John C. Frémont, who led U.S. Army exploratory expeditions into the far West in the 1840s. At the time his flag was made (1842), there were 26 states in the Union, hence the 26 stars. Frémont is said to have used the

peace pipe in the eagle's talons in the belief that Native Americans seeing the flag would understand it better than another traditional European symbol such as an olive branch.

HOW SELECTED: The “Fremont Flag” was logical for the city named for Frémont to use in the absence of an official flag. The city of Fremont itself is very young: it came into being in 1956 when five cities on the southeastern edge of the San Francisco Bay consolidated into one.

DESIGNER: Jessie Benton Frémont, the explorer's wife and devoted publicist, designed and sewed the original version as a substitute for the national flag, as her husband prepared to explore in Mexican territory not (yet) belonging to the United States. She combined design elements from the United States national flag and U.S. Army regimental flags. The original is now in the Southwest Museum of the American Indian in Los Angeles, California. Its dimensions are 47 by 83 inches. The actual flag has a white canton, with the eagle painted in blue and white stars outlined in blue. The peace pipe has a red bowl. The reverse side has a different design.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Although the city has no official flag, long-time flag retailer James J. Ferrigan III writes: *In the 1970s they [Fremont city officials] did fly a flag which they both identified and purchased as the ‘Fremont City Flag’, and as such was supplied by the Paramount Flag Co. and by the Weeks, Howe, Emerson Co., both of San Francisco. This was the so-called blue canton Fremont flag.*

Another flag, considered by some to be the city flag, hangs in the mayor's office. It places the city seal on a solid background.

Historically, the “blue canton Frémont Flag” is simply an error. Jessie Frémont's flag with a white canton was “corrected” by some 20th century flag book authors, who assumed it was a mistake and depicted the flag with a blue canton. That misrepresentation has even led some to assume that there were actually two Frémont flags.

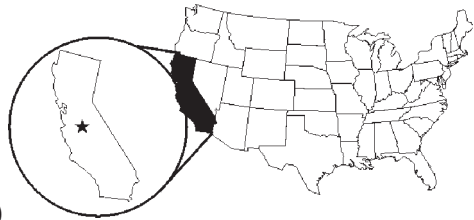
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA



Population Rank: U.S. # 37
California # 6

Proportions: 3:4 (usage)

Adopted: 10 May 1962 (official)



DESIGN: Fresno's flag is a vertical tribar of equal brown, light blue, and light olive-green stripes. Centered on the brown stripe is a circular white gear, 24 teeth on a narrow white band facing outward. On the blue stripe is the compound leaf of the ash tree: in light olive-green, a long stem extending from near the center bottom and branching out to show two pairs of leaves culminating in a single leaf at top center. **FRESNO** appears in an Arial-type font in brown across the bottom of the center stripe, three letters on either side of the stem of the ash leaf. On the green stripe is a golden yellow sunburst, 24 short rays curved

clockwise on a narrow white circular background, corresponding in size and position to the gear of the first stripe.

SYMBOLISM: Brown represents the productive, fertile soil of the Central Valley of California. Light blue symbolizes the clear blue skies of Fresno's year-round mild climate. Light olive-green (called "sunny green" by the city) is for the green fields and trees that abound in and around Fresno. The geared wheel of industry symbolizes Fresno's status as the agribusiness leader of the nation, as well as the great industrial future of the city. The ash leaf recalls the source of the city's name, the Spanish *fresno* ("ash tree"). The city's name in brown reflects its agricultural heritage; the stem of the ash leaf grows out of, but does not divide, its namesake city. The sunburst denotes the giver of life to the fields and orchards that surround Fresno. It is also a reminder of the endless sunny days typical of the city. The white of the gear and sun's field symbolizes the snow of the Sierra Nevada, from which the city derives its water.

HOW SELECTED: In 1962, the Downtown Association of Fresno sponsored a contest open to the public to create a city flag with a prize of \$250 to the winner. Judges for the contest included Mayor Arthur L. Selland; Edwin M. Eaton, President of the Fresno Historical Society; Councilman Paul G. Wasemiller; Floyd Hyde, President of the Fresno Arts Center; and Karney Hodge, President of the Downtown Association. Judging was based on design simplicity, inclusion of an appropriate theme, harmonization of colors, and artistic presentation. The contest received over 600 entries.

DESIGNER: The winner of the \$250 prize was Lanson H. Crawford, a local resident.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The Fresno City School District has developed a curriculum for elementary students that includes a detailed description of the flag and its symbolism, as well as two flags in outline that the students can color according to directions.

GARLAND, TEXAS

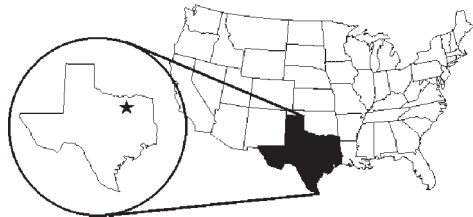


Population Rank: U.S. # 90

Texas # 10

Proportions: 10:19 (official)

2:3 (usage)



Adopted: 12 October 1971 (official)

DESIGN: Garland's flag has a dark blue field with a narrow gold border. In the center of the flag is the circular city seal with a diameter of about 5 units on a field of 6 by 9 units. The seal also has a gold border, slightly narrower than the field's border. The field of the seal is a light blue on which appears a large gold silhouette of Texas that, from top to bottom, covers about three-fourths of the field. Overlaying the state map is a very large dark blue ovoid **G**, bordered in gold, extending nearly the full width of the seal. Curved across the top part of the "G" is **CITY OF GARLAND**, and centered on the lower part is **TEXAS**, all in gold and an Arial-type font. A medium-size gold five-pointed star, edged in dark blue, is positioned over the center bar of the

“G”, marking the city’s location on the state map.

SYMBOLISM: The two shades of blue (PMS 291 and PMS 285) and metallic gold are the official colors of the city. The large “G”, of course, is the initial letter of the city’s name, and the star, aside from denoting the geographic location of the city, suggests the nickname of Texas, “The Lone Star State”. The official 10:19 proportions are the same as the United States flag.

HOW SELECTED: Chosen by the city council.

DESIGNER: Jesse Green, a local graphic artist, designed the flag and seal.



MORE ABOUT THE FLAG:

The official flag, while still in use in Garland, has been supplanted by the city’s “logo flag”, adopted in January 1994 apparently in an effort to present a more modern image. The city’s logo, designed by Dallas design firm Arthur Eisenberg & Associates,

was gradually phased in to replace the city seal on letterheads, vehicles, signage, and flags used by the city. Today the logo flag is seen more often than the official flag.

The logo flag is a horizontal tribar of red, white, and blue stripes in proportions of 1:1.5:1. Centered horizontally on the center stripe is **GARLAND** in blue and an Arial-type font, about .375 units high on a field of 2 by 3 units. The first letter “A” in the name is without its cross-bar—in its place are two thin blue curved lines sweeping up to the top of the next letter, “R”, where a small five-pointed red star is perched as if shot from a fireworks rocket. Below the city’s name is a thin red horizontal line. Below the red line, beginning at the base of the “R”, and terminating below the final “D”, is **CITY OF GARLAND, TEXAS**, in small blue letters. The blue is a medium blue, in between the shades of the two official blue colors adopted in 1971. As a result, the city’s name appears twice on this flag.

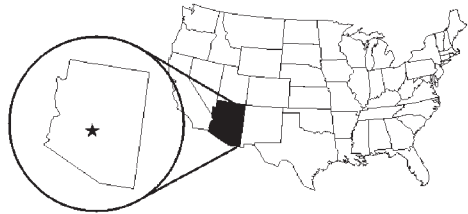
GLENDALÉ, ARIZONA



Population Rank: U.S. # 80
 Arizona # 5

Proportions: 2:3 and 5:8 (usage)

Adopted: 1990 (official)



DESIGN: Glendale's flag places the city logo on a white field. The logo incorporates lettering below three stylized, overlapping shapes representing pillars. The lettering reads **GLENDALÉ** in a Times Roman-style font in teal (turquoise), except the **A** joins with a **Z** below it, in a script-like font in copper, representing "Arizona". Parts of the **A** and **Z** overlap the adjoining letters. The pillar shapes, all copper-colored, are each a rectangle divided into quadrants just above its horizontal center, with a circular section (whose diameter is one-half the width of the rectangle) centered around the quadrants' intersection point removed and one of the two lower quadrants removed. On a field of 4 by 6 units, the teal lettering extends 4.2 units wide and 0.6 units high. The

pillars range from 1 unit wide and 1.25 units high to .75 units wide and .85 units high. The largest pillar is in the center; the others flank and overlap it on the left and right. The copper and teal colors are officially PMS 173c (876) and PMS 328.

SYMBOLISM: According to the city: *In 1990 a new contemporary logo was designed and officially adopted for use by the city. The new logo replaced the city seal and is characterized by three stylistic pillars adapted from a strong architectural element in city hall ... The purpose of the logo was to provide a symbol and combination of color that can be easily identified by both citizens and businesses. The pillars represent three key elements of community—the citizens, the business sector, and the government that serves them.* Turquoise and copper are the city's colors. Turquoise may represent the gemstone common in the area and frequently used in local jewelry; copper may represent the mineral wealth of the region.

HOW SELECTED: The flag and logo were developed and adopted in anticipation of the 1991 centennial of the founding of Glendale.

DESIGNER: The Marketing and Communications Department of the city, with help from an outside firm.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The Glendale city warehouse orders about 8 flags every year in 4 by 6 feet and 5 by 8 feet sizes. The flag flies on one of three poles in front of the city office building. In order to ensure preservation of its flags for future generations, the city donated full-size versions of the current and former flags to the Glendale Historical Society in 1998.



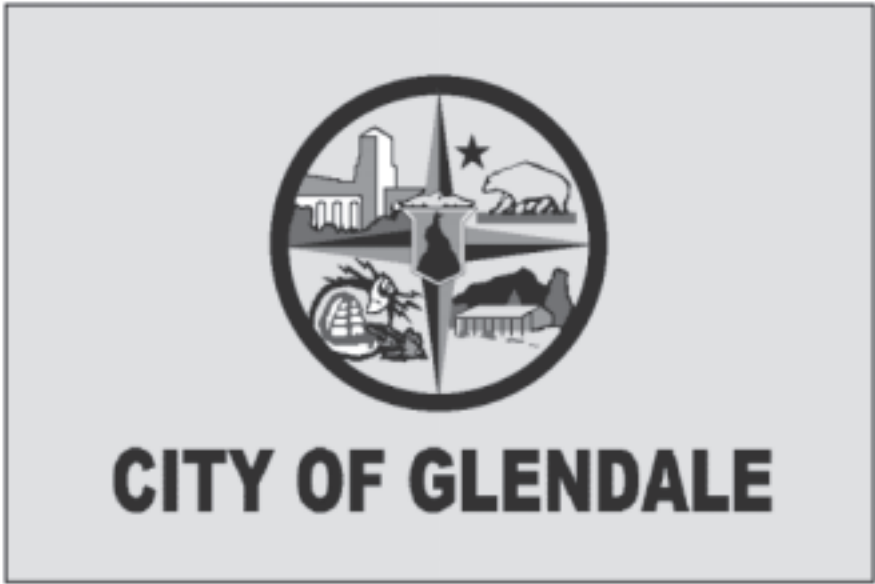
FORMER FLAG: Glendale's previous flag bears the city seal approved by ordinance #1083 on June 12, 1979. The seal is depicted in copper, centered on a white background, with a diameter of 2.5 units on a field of 4 by 6 units. According to city code, *The city seal shall*

be of circular design. Across the top portion the word "Glendale" is shown. The word "Arizona" is across the bottom portion. Off center to the left on the inside of the seal is an outline map of the state. Across the same portion is a silhouette of a "family" looking over the horizon, the city, and its surroundings. The rays emanate from the center of the city upward. Below the family is shown the date of incorporation (1910). (Code 1963, § 1-6) Design One/Attention Getters, represented by Don Hasulak, designed the seal.

The city's original seal, adopted when Glendale was incorporated on June 18, 1910, featured a sugar beet to honor the engine of local economic recovery after the disastrous 1895 flood, the beet sugar factory built in 1906.

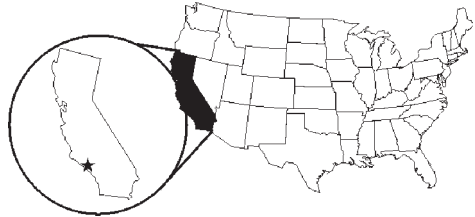
Ted Kaye 

GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA



Population Rank: U.S. # 98
California # 14

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)



Adopted: 10 November 1970 (apparently unofficial)

DESIGN: Glendale's flag has a bright yellow field with the city seal slightly above the center. Below the seal appears **CITY OF GLENDALE** in blue block letters. On a field of 4:6 units, the letters are half of a unit in height, and stretch across the field for 5 units, centered horizontally. The diameter of the seal is 2.3 units. It is divided into four equal quarters on a yellow field by a slender four-pointed star, its arms divided vertically into light blue and dark blue. Beginning with the top ray, the blue colors alternate, beginning with light blue on the hoist side of the ray, so opposing rays are exactly opposite in coloration. Overlaid on the star's center is a small, angular shield bordered in

yellow. On it is a dark blue peacock on a light blue field, seen from behind, its head in profile toward the fly, and its tail reposing on the ground behind it. Perched atop the shield is a highly stylized American eagle all in yellow, wings outspread, and head lowered, peering toward the fly. The first quarter shows Glendale's city hall, white shadowed in blue, with green bushes around it. The second quarter shows a yellow California bear, outlined in blue and standing on green grass, a single five-pointed star over its head, in imitation of the same figures on the state flag. The third quarter shows a water pump in white, outlined in brown, with blue water pouring from it, and enclosed in a blue ring. A white fist clutches three blue bolts of lightning at 2 o'clock on the ring above the water. The fourth quarter depicts the historic Casa Adobe in blue with a yellow roof and green trees and shrubs around it and blue mountains in the background.

SYMBOLISM: The yellow suggests sunshine; blue, the folded hills. The peacock on the seal recalls Glendale's winning float in the shape of a peacock in the 1924 Tournament of Roses parade, when the city was the first ever to win a Sweepstakes Prize. The American eagle over the shield represents the United States. The depiction of city hall represents city government; the bear and star, the state of California. The water pump and lightning bolts suggest hydroelectric power. Casa Adobe is a historic home originally built for Tomás Sánchez, first sheriff of Los Angeles County, and his wife, María Sepálveda de Sánchez. It was restored in 1932 and is now a museum. The mountains are the region's Verdugo Mountains.

HOW SELECTED: Chosen by Mayor Perkins.


DESIGNER: Unknown.

FORMER FLAG: The first flag of Glendale features only the shield element of the city seal on a pale yellow field, described as buff in old records, and bordered on all sides except the hoist with a border, described as "amethyst blue", although more likely sapphire blue was meant. The distinctive angular shield is bordered in a pattern of yellow, blue, yellow. The shield's field is a light blue; the peacock, in natural



colors. On a field of 3 units by 3.5 units, the shield is 1 unit across, horizontally, in its center. Written in white, linked, calligraphic letters that vary between .5 and .25 units high, depending on the size of the letter, is **Glendale**, slanted from the mid-section of the shield to its upper quarter; centered across the bottom, in

white script letters about one-fifth as high as the others, is **California**. The eagle perched on the shield's top has patriotic wings, with 8 five-pointed white stars on blue over 6 red and 5 white stripes on its hoist wing, and 6 stars and an equal number of stripes on its fly wing. Below the shield is a heraldic ribbon in white, outlined in blue, with **THE JEWEL CITY** across it in dark blue.

This flag was designed by Hugh A. Maron, who won \$100 in a contest sponsored by Charles L. Peckham and business associates. It was officially adopted by the city council on 18 September 1924, amid enthusiasm for the city's winning peacock float at the Tournament of Roses that same year. (There is no indication that this ordinance has ever been repealed officially.) The city seal was changed in the same legislation so that the central portion of the previous seal, a star, would be replaced by the new shield-and-peacock design, as on the current flag. JP 

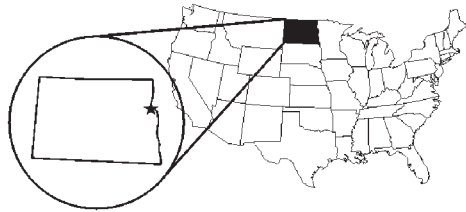
GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 741
North Dakota # 3

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 5 December 1994 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Grand Forks has a white field. Two irregular horizontal stripes, green over dark blue, with a white fimbriation between them, fill the lower three-eighths of the field. The green stripe is divided into three sections: two trapezoids on either side, wider at the hoist and fly and narrower in the center, where a green diamond-shaped section joins the two trapezoids to depict sloping river banks. The blue stripe is narrower at the hoist and fly and widens to the center, where a narrow "V" shape extends along the base of the green diamond, to depict two river forks forming one larger river that flows outwards. Centered immediately above the green diamond figure is **1870** in black. Centered above that date is an abstract notched stalk of yellow vegeta-

tion, crossed over a red feather with a black tip and quill. Over these, in a semi-circle arching clockwise from the midpoint of the hoist side to the midpoint of the fly side, is **Grand Forks, North Dakota** in black.

SYMBOLISM: The flag represents the spirit of the city and the region. The white background symbolizes the fresh, clean air and open environment of the area. The dark blue represents the river forks that give the city its name, and symbolizes their role in the foundation of the community. The green river banks stand for life and future growth along the river. The red feather recognizes the city's Native American heritage. The yellow stalk represents the area's reliance on agriculture. The date, 1870, marks the naming of the area, "Grand Forks," reputedly by Sanford C. Cady, the first postmaster, at the confluence of the Red River and the Red Lake River.

HOW SELECTED: A contest was held, with a city-wide vote on the entries.

DESIGNER: Scott Telle and Craig Silvernagel, owners of Ad Monkeys, an advertising firm, designed the winning entry. JP 

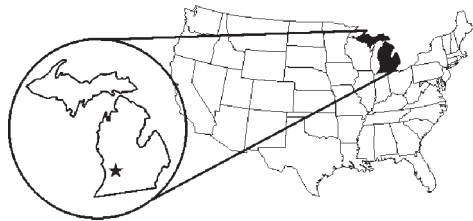
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN



Population Rank: U.S. # 93
Michigan # 2

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 26 July 1915 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Grand Rapids is a vertical tribar of equal dark blue, white, and dark blue stripes. Centered on the white stripe is the city seal, consisting of a white field bordered by two concentric circles of dark blue dots, forming solid rings. On a field of 2 units by 3, the seal is about 1 unit in diameter. In the ring, curved over the top clockwise from 9 o'clock to 3 o'clock is **CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS MICH.** in dark blue. Curved below from 7 to 5 o'clock counterclockwise is the Latin motto, **MOTU VIGET.** ("Strength in Activity"). In the center of the seal is a bald eagle, in flight toward the hoist, bearing an American shield, and clutching several arrows, all in dark blue and white. Centered over the eagle are Scales of Justice, held by a hand

reaching down from the clouds, all in dark blue and white. Nine separate “bundles” of three gray rays each are spaced evenly behind the eagle and scales, emanating outward from a baseline that forms the horizontal midpoint of the seal. Centered below the eagle, resting on the inner beaded ring, is **1850** in dark blue.

SYMBOLISM: The seal suggests that divine justice guides the American spirit. The rays represent light. The seal was adopted in 1850.

HOW SELECTED: Joseph Penney, a member of the common council in 1850, suggested the design of the seal.

DESIGNER: Aaron B. Turner, the city clerk in 1850, designed the seal. The designer of the flag is not known.



MORE ABOUT THE FLAG:

Grand Rapids uses a “city banner” more often than the official flag. The Grand Rapids banner has a field of blue with the city’s logo in the center. The logo is oval, wider than high, and measures about 1.5 units across its horizontal center on

a field of 2 by 3 units. The field of the logo is yellow, representing the sun. Across the lower third of the field is a narrow, blue undulating stripe representing the Grand River that courses through the city. Resting on this stripe is a horizontal figure, .5 units at its widest and slightly more than a unit in length, that begins about one-fourth of the way from the oval’s hoist edge and extends to its fly edge. The figure represents the Alexander Calder sculpture in the city, *La Grande Vitesse*, which on the logo resembles a large chess pawn lying on its side. The logo was designed by Joseph Kennebrew, a sculptor and painter.

FORMER FLAG: The city’s first flag was officially adopted on 8 March 1896. It is described only as having red, white, and blue stripes with the inscription **Furniture City**.

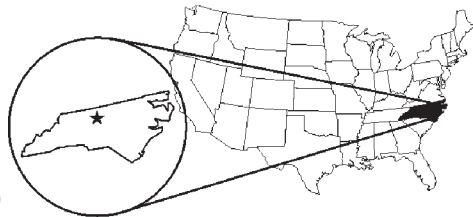
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA



Population Rank: U.S. # 77
North Carolina # 3

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 5 April 1965 (official)



DESIGN: The field of Greensboro's flag is, not surprisingly, dark green. In the center of the field is a depiction, in yellow with dark green shadings, of Major General Nathanael Greene on horseback, in three-quarter profile, facing toward the fly. The horse, at rest, stands on a yellow base with **1808** on it in dark green. Surrounding the entire figure is an open wreath of dark green oak leaves detailed in yellow. The wreath is about 1.125 units in diameter on a field of 2 by 3 units. Centered horizontally across the top of the field is **CITY OF GREENSBORO**, centered across the bottom is **NORTH CAROLINA**, all in large yellow letters.

SYMBOLISM: Major General Nathanael Greene, for whom the city was named, was George Washington's second in command and a Revolutionary War hero. It is said that when he led his troops into the Battle of Guilford Court House (a decisive battle on March 15, 1781, that took place in what is today northwest Greensboro), the flag at the head of his troops was green. The oak leaf wreath symbolizes sturdiness and durability. The date, 1808, is the year of the city's incorporation.

HOW SELECTED: The Rotary Club of Greensboro initiated the idea of a city flag and solicited designs from the public. A. Earl Weatherly chaired the committee from the club that selected the favorite.

DESIGNER: Charles L. Hodgin, a member of the planning department at city hall.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The Rotary Club had the first flags made, and presented one to the city on the date of its adoption.

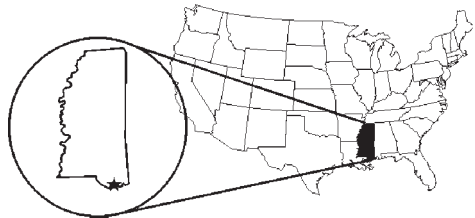
JP 

GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 378
Mississippi # 2

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)



Adopted: Between 1977 and 1981 (unofficial)

DESIGN: Gulfport's flag has a blue field with the city's seal in the center, consisting of 1 unit in diameter on a field of 2 by 3 units. Horizontally across the center of the seal, about .125 units high, is a yellow stripe with **GULFPORT** in blue letters. Immediately below, in letters about one-fourth as high, is **WHERE YOUR SHIP COMES IN**. The portion above and below the yellow stripe is divided in half with a narrow, vertical yellow line, giving the entire seal the appearance of being quartered. In the upper hoist quarter is a commercial ship, yellow shaded in blue, sailing on a green ocean toward the hoist, with a blue sky and a yellow cloud, above it near the hoist edge of the seal. The upper fly quarter has a yellow skyline of the city in its lower part, with green

foliage at its base, and, in a blue sky above, a yellow airplane in a landing approach toward the hoist. In the lower hoist quarter is a yellow house with two rows of blue windows, four in each row, a blue sky, and some greenery to the hoist side and below the house. The lower fly quarter shows a yellow sailboat on green water headed toward the fly, with a circular yellow sun near the fly edge of the seal in a blue sky. The entire seal is edged in yellow.

SYMBOLISM: The ship refers to Gulfport's shipping industry. The airplane over the skyline shows that the city is connected to the world by air as well. The house suggests Gulfport's history as a city of homes, and the sailboat symbolizes its tourist industry.

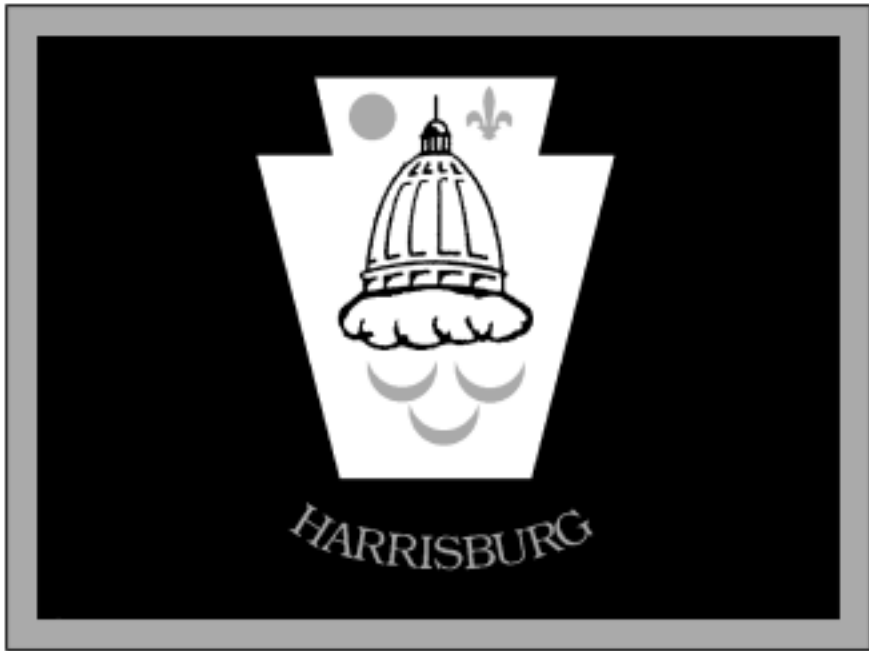
HOW SELECTED: Mayor John H. "Jack" Barnett held a contest to design the flag, sometime between 1977 and 1981.

DESIGNER: The winner was a Mr. Sneed (first name unavailable).

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The first flag was made by Josephine Alfonso.

JP 

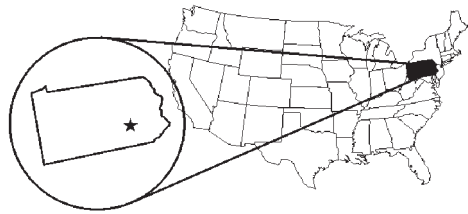
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA ★



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 709
Pennsylvania # 12

Proportions: 3:4 (official)

Adopted: April 1907 (official)



DESIGN: The ordinance of adoption describes Harrisburg's flag:

A field of dark blue rectangular in form, of which the length shall be 1 1/3 times its width, with a narrow gold or yellow border, in the middle of the field and slightly above the center a large white keystone, having thereon, outlined in blue, the dome of the State Capitol rising from clouds; above the dome at the dexter or right side a roundel or disk of gold or yellow, and at the left a fleur-de-lis of gold or yellow; below the dome, three crescents, two above one, of gold or yellow, and beneath the keystone the word Harrisburg in gold or yellow slightly curving upward.

SYMBOLISM: The white keystone refers to the state's nickname, "The Keystone State". The new capitol dome represents Harrisburg as the state's capital. The crescents are from the arms of John Harris, for whom the city is named. The *fleur-de-lis* symbolizes the County of Dauphin, of which Harrisburg is the county seat, named for the eldest son of the king of France. The roundels (disks) are prominent on the arms of William Penn, for whom the state is named.

HOW SELECTED: Chosen by the common council, with the select council concurring.

DESIGNER: Unknown.

JP 

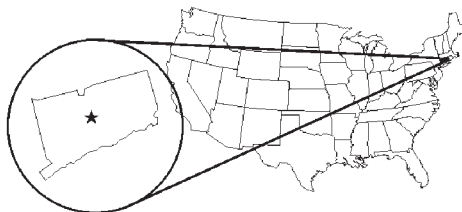
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT ★



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 179
Connecticut # 2

Proportions: 4:7 (usage)

Adopted: 12 September 1983 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Hartford bears a white disk, a modified version of the city seal, centered on a blue field. Surrounding the disk is a wide blue ring reading **CITY OF HARTFORD** at the top and **CONNECTICUT** at the base, separated by two five-pointed stars, all in white. A thin white ring outlines the circumference of the blue ring. In the center of the disk is the coat of arms of the city: On a white shield is a hart fording a stream, facing the hoist; in the background is a landscape and in the foreground a single grapevine, all in blue. The outline of the shield, along with mantling of leaves across the top and sides of the shield, the American eagle with spread wings at the top of the shield facing the hoist, and the scroll with the motto **POST NUBILA PHOEBUS** below the shield, are in gold outlined in blue.

Note: The difference between the city seal and the one on the flag is the seal on the flag does not have SEAL OF THE in its inscription before CITY OF HARTFORD around the top of the disk.

SYMBOLISM: The city was named for Hertford, England, and the hart fording a stream is a symbolic play on the name “Hartford”. In the forefront is a grapevine, a reference to the state of Connecticut, of which Hartford is the capital, as the state seal bears three grapevines. The American eagle used in the crest was a popular motif in American seals in the 1800s (the city seal was adopted on 19 April 1852). The Latin motto *Post Nubila Phoebus* means “After the Clouds, the Sun”.

HOW SELECTED: Unknown.

DESIGNER: Unknown.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: A part of the preamble to the adoption of the city flag states: *At the Court of Common Council meeting of 14 February 1983 a resolution was passed stating that the Court of Common Council wishes to recognize the old flag as the basis for the official City of Hartford Flag.*

Later, the Traveler’s Insurance Company (Hartford is sometimes referred to as the Insurance Capital of America, with so many insurance companies which have been headquartered there or nearby) donated a royal blue flag with the seal of the city of Hartford at a special ceremony held in the court of common council.

On 12 September 1983, the mayor and the court of common council requested a resolution to *accept this flag as the official flag of the City of Hartford and request that the Administration of the City of Hartford and Corporation Counsel take whatever steps necessary for the adoption and protection thereof; and be it further resolved, That the Mayor and Court of Common Council congratulate the Travelers Insurance Company for providing the City of Hartford with its first official flag...* Since the mayor and court of common council requested a resolution to make the design the official flag on 12 September 1983, it appears that this, rather than 14 February 1983, is the official adoption date.

FORMER FLAGS: There was no prior official flag used by the city. However, there must have been at least one prior unofficial flag, as the language of one of the resolutions above refers to “the old flag as a basis for the official City of Hartford flag”.

JC 

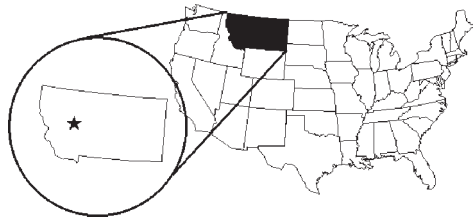
HELENA, MONTANA ★



Population Rank: U.S. #1,500
Montana..... # 6

Proportions: 5:9 (usage)

Adopted: Unknown (apparently unofficial)



DESIGN: The flag of Helena has a blue field with a large white disk in the center, bordered in gold. On a field of 5 by 9 units, the disk is 3 units in diameter. On the disk is the depiction of an old fire watchtower, in black, in the center, 2 units high, and 1.25 units wide at the base. Around the tower is a sparse green landscape, its upper edge slanting from about 9:30 o'clock to about 3:30 o'clock. Arched over the top of the disk in large gold letters is **GUARDIAN OF THE GULCH**. Centered below the disk, in gold numerals the same size, is **1881**.

SYMBOLISM: The symbolism is explained by the city:

Helena is graced with one of the most significant historic structures in the west. This structure is a symbol of both devastation and pride. Before Helena was 10 years old, she experienced nine fires that ravaged the downtown area. Three of those

fires were considered 'great fires', the most destructive occurring on 9 January 1874. The community that night was experiencing a typical Montana winter. Temperatures were around 15 below [zero, Fahrenheit] and the winds were raging with hurricane force. History tells us that the disaster was started by a . . . cook who started a fire in the chimney pipe of his wood-fired stove. In an attempt to put out the fire, he picked up a bucket of what he thought was water, instead it turned out to be cooking oil. A large explosion occurred that night, every single business in the downtown area burnt to the ground and 150 homes were lost.

That next year citizens came together and erected a fire tower, completed with . . . a shiny new bell. To this day the fire tower graces the downtown area. In 1982 the Helena City Commission proclaimed the fire tower and the words 'Guardian of the Gulch' the official symbol and motto for the City of Helena.

The city incorporated in 1881. The gulch in the motto is the "Last Chance Gulch", where four prospectors discovered gold in 1864, leading to the founding of Helena.

HOW SELECTED: Likely designed as a result of the city commission's 1982 proclamation.

DESIGNER: Unknown.

JP 

HIALEAH, FLORIDA



Population Rank: U.S. # 75
Florida # 5

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)



Adopted: 2001 (official status uncertain)

DESIGN: Hialeah's flag has a white field of 2 units by 3, with the city seal in the center .8 units in diameter. Curved above the seal and extending from near the hoist to near the fly is **CITY OF HIALEAH** in blue letters one-fourth of a unit high. Below the seal, in similar letters, but centered and horizontal, is **FLORIDA**, also in blue. The seal is edged in yellow. Concentric to this circle is a smaller one composed of blue beads. Between the two circles, on a white background, • **SEAL** • **CITY OF HIALEAH** • **1925** • curves clockwise above and **INCORPORATED** curves counter-clockwise below, all in blue. The seal's center shows Chief Tiger Tail in ceremonial dress, standing slightly to the fly side of the seal, facing the viewer, and pointing toward the hoist with

his right arm. The chief is barefoot and wears a full long-sleeved robe that comes down to his calves, suggesting the famous coat-of-many-colors of the Biblical Joseph, with horizontal stripes of red, yellow, green, white, and purple. There is a button row down the front of the top half of his robe, and a white collar at his neck. Four palm fronds frame the chief, two on either side. He stands on a field of lush grass, and behind him dawn is breaking into a blue sky. Two pink flamingos, facing the fly, stand in the background under the chief's right arm.

SYMBOLISM: Chief Tiger Tail, a Muskogee chief, resisted the incursion of the U.S. Army into the area of south Florida in 1841. He is said to be pointing to the place that many years later would become the city of Hialeah.

HOW SELECTED: The flag was altered when the seal was changed in late 2001. The flag is a revision of an earlier design.

DESIGNER: City hall personnel.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The original seal was designed in 1925. By 2001, it was thought to be too colorless, so it was reworked to give it a more interesting appearance.



FORMER FLAG: The first flag of Hialeah was designed in 1960 by Phyllis Adams, a city employee. It is similar to the current flag except that the seal is entirely in blue and shows only Chief Tiger Tail without the palm fronds, sunrise, or flamingos.

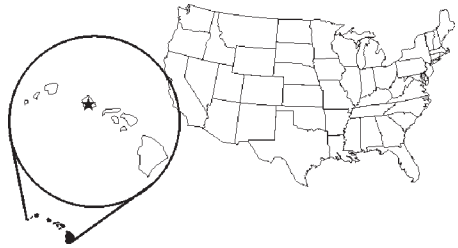
Above the seal, also blue, is **CITY OF HIALEAH**, with "OF" much smaller than the rest. Below in blue letters about half the size of the words above is **HIALEAH, FLORIDA**, such that the city's name appears three times on the flag.

JP 

HONOLULU, HAWAII ★



Population Rank: U.S. # 41
Hawaii..... # 1



Proportions: 3:4 (usage)

Adopted: 13 December 1960 (official)

DESIGN: The field of Honolulu's flag is dark yellow, with the city seal in the center. On a field of 3 by 4 units, the seal's diameter is 2 units. Its outer edge is also dark yellow and beveled to resemble a rope, detailed in black. Immediately within the outer edge is a white ring, the inner edge of which is red, bordered yellow and beaded in white. On the band thus formed between the two edges, arched over the top half from midpoint to midpoint is **CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU** in black block letters. Centered below and curved counterclock-

wise, is **STATE OF HAWAII** in the same letters. On each side between the upper and lower legends is a small five-pointed yellow star.

In the center vertical half of the seal is a baroque-style heraldic shield with a narrow border, colored like the seal's edges, that conforms to the shield's rounded edges with extra curlicues. The shield is divided quarterly, the first and fourth quarters being 8 horizontal stripes of white, red, and blue, beginning with white at the top. The second and third quarters have a yellow field charged with a black stick with a white ball on top, a *pūlo'ulo'u*, also called a *kapu* or *tabu* stick. A small escutcheon of green charged with a small yellow five-pointed star, overlays the shield's center point. Above the shield, filling the space between the shield and the inner circle of the seal, is a yellow rising sun. The dexter supporter is Nuuanu Pali; the sinister supporter, Diamond Head, both in brown. The sky of both and the sea in front of Diamond Head are light blue while the canyon running down from Nuuanu Pali is green.

SYMBOLISM: The yellow field is the color of Oahu's flower, the *ilima*. The shield of the seal was originally designed for the Republic of Hawaii in 1895. The red, white, and blue stripes of the first and fourth quarters come from the Hawaiian national flag (now the state flag). The eight stripes in each quarter represent the eight inhabited islands under one rule. The *pūlo'ulo'u* are markers used in ancient times and during the monarchy, composed of a ball-like object, often cloth-covered, that was pierced by a stick and stuck in the ground to mark off areas reserved for nobility and royalty and beyond which commoners were forbidden to pass. The early balls were white, and later they were sometimes gold. These *kapu* markers symbolize authority and protection. The star in the center is the Star of Hawaii, and the rising sun symbolizes a new era dawning on Hawaii.

HOW SELECTED: In 1960 the new Ala Moana Shopping Center opened with 102 flagpoles. Ala Moana officials wanted to fly "meaningful" flags from the poles, and thought that the city flag should be among them. When they learned the city had no flag, shopping center staff asked a local commercial artist to design one, after which they presented it to city council for approval.

DESIGNER: Tom Neiman, a commercial artist, working from ideas supplied by Charles Tyng, manager of Ala Moana's public relations and advertising department.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Some confusion has resulted among various artists depicting the *pūlo'ulo'u* on the seal, apparently due to the phrase, "a white ball pierced on a staff". "Pierced" was sometimes interpreted to mean a hole horizontally through the ball, thus giving it the appearance of a stick with a loop, or a key-like object. Recent research into their shape has determined that they were ball-like objects that were stuck onto a stick, much like a tennis ball would look if it had been pushed onto a sharp stick, and the seal has been modified to show that on city stationery and other documents. In the past, the staff mentioned in the ordinance was shown variously as black or white.



FORMER FLAG: For many years the existence of a flag was apparently forgotten and most city hall staff believed that there was no city flag. Not long ago, the old flag was rediscovered in a corner of a conference room. That flag had a lighter yellow field and variations in the colors of

the emblems in the seal. It showed the old form of the *kapu* sticks, white with a yellow center in the "loop". The lettering was blue, as were the silhouettes of Nuuuanu Pali and Diamond Head. The two stars on the ring of the seal were outlined in blue like a pentagram and the outer ring was depicted in yellow. The shield in the center was yellow with a blue star.

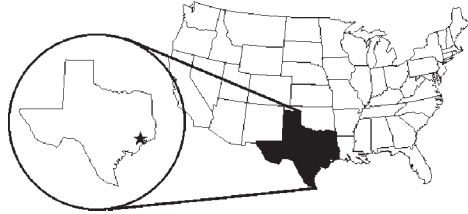
JP 

HOUSTON, TEXAS



Population Rank: U.S. # 4
Texas # 1

Proportions: 1:2 (official)
17:30 (usage)



Adopted: 13 September 1915 (official)

DESIGN: Houston's flag has a field of medium blue with a large white five-pointed star taking up about the center third of the flag. On a field of 17 by 30 units, the two upper points of the star are equidistant from the flag's edges at 6 units each, and the distance between the two points from each other is therefore 18 units. In the center of the star is the circular city seal with a diameter of 6 units. The seal has a golden yellow, braided edge. Within it is a smaller, concentric golden yellow beaded circle. Between these two circles is a blue field on which **CITY OF HOUSTON** is inscribed, curved over the top half in golden yellow letters running clockwise. Curved below, and centered with a small cluster of three golden yellow leaves at either side, is **TEXAS**, in golden yellow letters running counter-clockwise. In the seal's center,

on a white field, is a golden yellow locomotive of 1840s vintage, smoke rising from its funnel-shaped smoke stack, and steam escaping from its whistle as it heads toward the hoist. Centered above it is a golden yellow five-pointed star, and below, an old-fashioned field plow, headed toward the fly. The shadings on the golden yellow elements are in red.

SYMBOLISM: Characteristic of many cities in the Lone Star State of Texas, Houston's flag bears a single large star, as well as a single star on the seal. The seal was adopted 24 February 1840. The locomotive on the seal, modern in its day, anticipates by about a decade the first railroad (Houston and Brazos Rail Road Company) in Houston and in Texas. The plow is said to represent the cultivation of fields for the important cash crop of cotton, which the railroads shipped to buyers.



HOW SELECTED: On 24 May 1915, the city council authorized Mayor Ben Campbell to appoint a six-person committee to select a flag from submitted suggestions. Besides the mayor, who served *ex officio*, the others on the committee were Major F. Charles Hume, Judge E. P. Hamblen, and Mesdames Charles Stewart, M. Looscan, and Gentry Waldo.

DESIGNER: W. A. Wheeldon. (No honorific is supplied, so one assumes that it is "Mr." Wheeldon; ladies of the day were always referred to by an honorific.)



MORE ABOUT THE FLAG:

At some point in the 1990s, several artistic alterations were made in the seal, apparently unofficially, and the blue of the field was lightened slightly. When the flag was first adopted, the seal was depicted according to the specifications of the ordinance of adoption with a navy blue ring around it. The seal's outer ring was white, and the lettering, with a small star on either side of **TEXAS** instead of the leaves that were on the original seal, was black.

The inner edge of the white ring had a smaller, narrow red circle within it around the field of the seal in white. The locomotive, star, and plow were also black. The flag's field was navy blue.

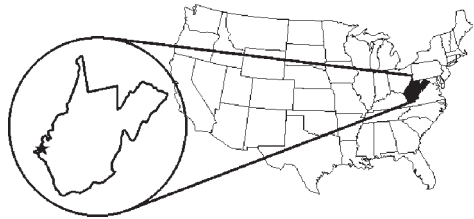
JP 

HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 538
West Virginia..... # 2

Proportions: 4:7 (usage)



Adopted: 5 November 1976 (official status uncertain)

DESIGN: Huntington's flag has a white field and proportions of 4 by 7 units. **HUNTINGTON** runs across the field horizontally for about 5.5 units, 1.5 units below the top edge. The initial letter "H" is composed of four interlocking rectangles outlined in yellow, twice the size of the remaining letters, which are black. These letters appear to be on a white strip overlaid on a blue circular gear 2 units in diameter, with 7 teeth visible above and 7 below the letters. Above the "TO" in **HUNTINGTON** is **1871**, in black, about half the height of the other letters. Immediately below the city's name, on the hoist side of the gear, is **WEST**, and on the fly side, **VIRGINIA**, in black letters the same height as the date. Centered below the lower edge of the gear is another, smaller

blue gear, about .75 units in diameter, with 9 teeth, which appears to intermesh with the larger gear above. The smaller gear is encircled with a narrow white space from which extends, on either side, a shape resembling wings made up of red, white, and blue horizontal stripes, top to bottom. From tip to tip across the entire figure, the red stripe extends about 3 units; the white stripe, about 2.5 units, and the blue stripe, 2.25 units. Below that figure, about .5 units from the bottom edge of the flag, is **GEARED FOR PROGRESS**, centered in black letters the same height as the name of the state above.

SYMBOLISM: The gears and motto, “Geared for Progress”, are meant to show that Huntington is a thriving city commercially. The city was incorporated in 1871.

HOW SELECTED: Information unavailable.

DESIGNER: Gordon P. Chain, a retired draftsman from the city.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The date of introduction suggests that the flag may have been designed during the United States bicentennial commemoration.

JP 

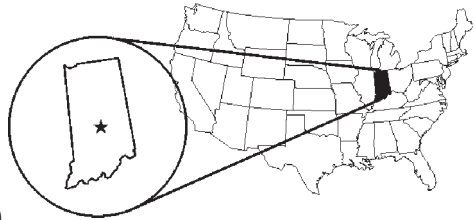
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA ★



Population Rank: U.S. # 12
Indiana # 1

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 20 May 1963 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Indianapolis has a dark blue field with a white five-pointed star pointing upwards in the center. Around the star is a circular field in red. Surrounding the red field is a white ring, from which extend four white stripes from top to bottom and from hoist to fly, thus creating four equal quadrants in the field. The stripes are about one-seventh the width of the flag, with the white ring the same width as the stripes. The diameter of the red circle is about two-ninths the width of the flag.

SYMBOLISM: The large white star represents the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, a landmark in the city's center, as well as the status of Indianapolis as the state capital. The white circle and the red field within it depict the Monument Circle area of the city. The color red also signifies, according to the ordinance of adoption, *the driving energy and urge for progress that has made the City of Indianapolis race ahead*. The four white stripes, each at a ninety-degree angle to the circle, represent North and South Meridian Streets, vertically, and East and West Market Streets, horizontally. The four quadrants of dark blue symbolize the residential areas of the city. The colors of the flag—red, white, and blue, also the colors in the United States flag—symbolize the citizens' patriotism.

The city flag assumed a new role as the *de facto*, though not *de jure*, symbol of Marion County on 1 January 1970, when the city and county merged their governments into "Unigov". Marion is the only one of Indiana's 92 counties to adopt this form of government.

HOW SELECTED: A contest was held by the John Herron Art Institute in 1962.

DESIGNER: The winner was Roger Gohl, a student at the Institute.



FORMER FLAG: Gohl's design reworked the best elements of the city's first flag, adopted on 21 June 1915. Ironically, no flag of the 1915 version was made until 1960, when Mrs. Norma Gribler sewed one, just two years before a new flag was adopted. The earlier flag, de-

signed by Harry B. Dynes, a city resident, is divided vertically into two sections, the first of which is two-fifths of the flag's length. On a blue field is depicted a white circle, about $\frac{3}{18}$ ths the width of the section, with four spokes radiating diagonally to each of the four corners of the section, thus forming four quadrants. In the top and bottom quadrants, there are two large white stars, one superimposed vertically over

the other in the quadrant's center. In the hoist and fly quadrants, the stars are placed similarly, but smaller and farther apart so that there is a star at each of the spokes' intersections. One large white star, also on a blue field, is in the center of the inner circle; superimposed on it is the corporate seal of the city in gold. Nine alternating red and white horizontal stripes occupy the remaining three-fifths of the flag.

The white circle in the blue field represented the city's center, Monument Place (now called Monument Circle), and the four diagonal spokes represented the four major avenues radiating from the Circle: Kentucky, Massachusetts, Indiana, and Virginia. The large white star symbolized the city's mayor, whose power was denoted by the corporate seal. The four large stars in the top and bottom quadrants stood for the city clerk, city controller, city police judge, and the school board; the four smaller stars represented the board of public works, board of safety, board of health, and park board. Lastly, the nine stripes symbolized the nine city councilmen.

JP 

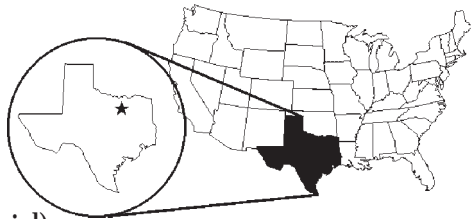
IRVING, TEXAS



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 100
Texas # 12

Proportions: 8:15 (usage)

Adopted: 16 October 1975 (official)



DESIGN: The field of Irving's flag is divided white over red by a horizontal curved line resembling a "lazy S". On a field of 8 by 15 units, the line starts at the hoist's edge about 1.5 units from the bottom and curves to the fly's edge about 1.5 units from the top. In the center of the white field, 1 unit from the top edge and 1 unit from the hoist, is the outer edge of a narrow blue circle about 4 units in diameter. Within the circle is the city's logo, a blue curved letter "I" rendered horizontally with a narrow white stripe across its mid portion, appearing much like a curved equals sign, the hoist portion higher than the fly portion. A large blue dot hovers over end of the fly portion.

The logo was officially adopted on 16 October 1975 and by extension, the flag was as well. While the flag is not specifically mentioned in the ordinance, it does state that the logo shall be "approved for all City of

Irving purposes". In a council meeting on October 1, the use of the logo on the city's checks, stationery, and new city flag was specifically mentioned as examples of how the logo would be employed.

SYMBOLISM: The "I" is an innovative way to use the city's initial. (It was not universally well received when presented to the city council, however.) The large dot of the logo symbolizes the Civic Center Complex; the wavy lines below represent Irving Boulevard (State Highway 356) that runs in front of city hall. The colors and their arrangement are said to echo the design of the Texas state flag. Irving is one of the few Texas cities without the "Lone Star" motif on its flag, although a small white star does appear on the logo's blue dot on city stationery.

HOW SELECTED: The logo's development came about with the building of the new civic center that opened in 1976. It was felt that a new design was needed to represent the new space.

DESIGNER: Jim Scoggins, of the architectural firm of Grogan-Scoggins Associates, the architect of the new city hall.

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