

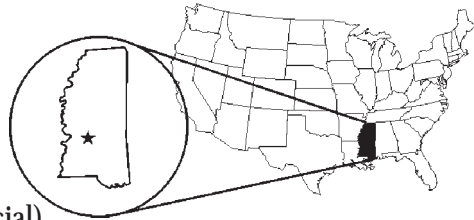
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 109
Mississippi # 1

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 12 January 1993 (official)



DESIGN: Jackson's flag has a dark green field with a narrow white cross in the center, running from hoist to fly and top to bottom, each arm one-ninth the width of the hoist. Superimposed over the center of the cross is a narrow yellow ring enclosing a disk, the overall diameter of which is half the width of the hoist. Within the ring on a light blue field four-ninths the width of the flag is a large yellow five-pointed star, one-third the width of the flag, one point upright in the center. The colors are "Dartmouth Green", "French Blue", and "Spanish Yellow".

SYMBOLISM: The star represents Jackson's status as the capital of Mississippi. The blue field behind the star denotes the city's position

on the Pearl River. The white cross symbolizes Jackson as the “Crossroads of the South”.

HOW SELECTED: A contest, apparently sponsored by the city, and open to all city residents, was held in 1992.

DESIGNER: The flag is a combination of the similar themes of 25 entries among the 167 who submitted designs, blended by the six judges of the contest, and assisted by vexillologist Clay Moss. The only entrant named in contemporary newspaper accounts is 11-year old Tiffany Dennis.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The first flag cost \$270, provided by Metro Jackson Convention and Visitor’s Bureau.



FORMER FLAG: The former flag of Jackson was apparently unofficial, developed by city officials and representatives of the Metrocenter Mall when mall officials, who wanted to fly city flags at the mall, learned that Jackson had no city flag. William

Hobson, manager of the mall, presented the first flag to the city council on 14 February 1978.

The flag has a white field. In the center is a depiction in red of the head and shoulders of President Andrew Jackson (for whom the city was named) in three-quarter profile facing toward the fly, with the collar of his coat buttoned under his chin. Centered immediately below the collar, in small white figures, is 1822, commemorating the founding of the city. The figure is about 1.25 units high by 1.25 units wide at its widest point on a flag of 3 by 5 units. **JACKSON** is centered above the figure and **MISSISSIPPI** centered below, all in dark blue letters one-half unit high.

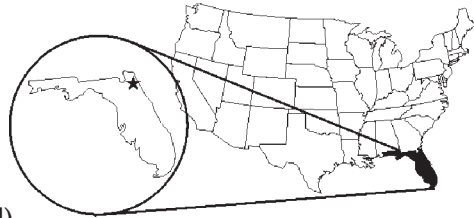
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA



Population Rank: U.S. # 14
Florida # 1

Proportions: 2:3 (official)

Adopted: 9 March 1976 (official)



DESIGN: Jacksonville's flag is described in the ordinance of adoption: *The official flag of the city shall be a rectangle having the dimensions in the ratio of one (hoist) to one and one-half (fly), divided horizontally into two equal panels: The upper panel has a rampant equestrian statue of Andrew Jackson in silhouette over a sunburst; the lower panel has a silhouette of Duval County and the words **CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA** in a recumbent concave arc thereunder, all on a solid field. The rays of the sunburst, silhouette of Duval County and the words **CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA** are gold; the equestrian statue of Andrew Jackson is dark brown, the upper panel background is white and the lower panel field is orange. The statue of Jackson faces the hoist; the sunburst has 30 gold rays that*

extend from the midpoint of the flag behind the statue and extend to the edges of the flag on the top three sides.

SYMBOLISM: The top half of the flag shows the statue of Andrew Jackson, the 6th president of the United States, for whom the city was named. The image, taken from the official seal, is an exact depiction of the statue in Jackson Park in New Orleans, Louisiana. (The city seal was first adopted 7 August 1888.) The map of Duval County on the lower part indicates that the city and county are now conterminous. The sunburst suggests Florida's nickname, "The Sunshine State".

HOW SELECTED: A city council committee, dissatisfied with the previous flag, wanted a new city flag that would suggest Jackson's new image as the "Bold New City of the South". A contest was held through the auspices of the Bold CityFest Committee, a group organizing a civic celebration with the same name. The local chapter of the American Institute of Architects judged the 148 entries and sent five semifinalists to a committee comprising four city councilmen, the Jacksonville Area Planning Board director, the information services officer, and Mayor Hans Tanzler.

DESIGNER: Don Bozeman, an employee of the Seaboard Coast Line, who won the \$500 prize for best design.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The flag was raised at city hall for the first time in a ceremony on 1 October 1976. Although the ordinance of adoption clearly states that the figure of Andrew Jackson on the flag is brown, and the lower stripe is orange, the city has at least one flag showing the statue as black and the lower stripe as red, possibly a manufacturing error.

FORMER FLAG: The dimensions of Jacksonville's previous flag were not specified and varied somewhat according to the manufacturer, but were generally 3:5. The field of the flag is white. In the upper hoist corner are two red gateposts with rounded tops. Coming from behind the post closest to the hoist and curving across the bottom of the second post and extending in a flowing fashion across the field diagonally to-



ward the lower fly is a wide dark green ribbon, notched on both ends. Across the ribbon in large white block letters is **JACKSONVILLE**. Behind the ribbon, and occupying most of the center portion of the field are two long-stemmed red poinsettias in full bloom. In the lower hoist corner is a variation of the city seal, showing Jackson's statue in black facing the fly and surrounded by a red-edged white ring on which **CITY OF JACKSONVILLE** arches over the top and **FLORIDA** curves counterclockwise below, all in red. The gateposts and ribbon recall the former motto of Jacksonville, "The Gateway to Florida". The poinsettias represent Florida.

A number of incorrect facts concerning the adoption and designer of the flag were quoted for a number of years in various sources, evidently originating in a 1925 book by T. Frederick Davis, *History of Jacksonville, Florida and Vicinity, 1513 to 1924*. Davis wrote that the flag was designed by G. D. Ackerly and adopted by council on 15 January 1914. However, later research reveals that the flag was adopted on 21 January 1914, and the designer was, in fact, Edmund Jackson, whom Ackerly (then the city recorder) instructed with this colorful admonition: "I don't want no snakes, I don't want no alligators, and I don't want no coconuts." What he got, of course, were poinsettias!

JP 

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 901
Missouri # 13

Proportions: 3:4 (usage)

Adopted: 5 March 1990 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Jefferson City is essentially a horizontal tribar: top, red; bottom, dark blue; and the center divided into five wavy stripes, three dark blue alternating with two white. Superimposed on these wavy stripes in the center of the flag is a circle, its top and bottom extending approximately one-eighth of its diameter above and below the top and bottom blue wavy stripes. The circle has a red field, on which the capitol dome is centered in white with dark blue shadings. Surrounding the red field is a blue ring with 24 white five-pointed stars, points outward. The entire center bar with stripes and circle overlays a

large white silhouette map of the state of Missouri occupying, in the upper third of the field, about seven-fifteenths of the width, beginning about one-sixth of the distance from the hoist. In the lower third of the flag, the map occupies about three-fifths of the width, beginning about one-fifth of the distance from the hoist. Thus, only the northern and southern thirds of the state are visible, with the remainder covered by the central device. In a dark blue Calligraphy-421 BT-type font, **Jefferson City** is centered on the white portion of the map on the top bar, and **Missouri** is centered on the fly half of the white portion of the map in the bottom bar.

SYMBOLISM: The dome of the state capitol identifies Jefferson City as the capital of Missouri. The 24 stars on the blue ring represent Missouri's rank as the twenty-fourth state to join the Union. The wavy blue and white stripes symbolize the Missouri River. The colors are explained in the ordinance: *The official flag of the City shall have a color scheme of red, white and blue inspired by the flags of both the State of Missouri and the United States.*

HOW SELECTED: A committee of three councilmen and three citizens selected the winning entry in a contest held in early 1990. Cash prizes were awarded for first, second, and third places.

DESIGNER: David Woodside won the contest.

JP 

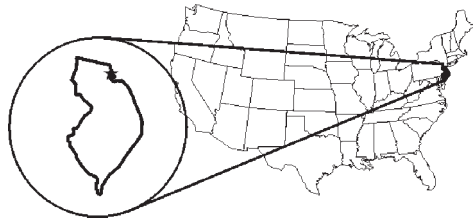
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY



Population Rank: U.S. # 72
New Jersey # 2

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 19 July 1938 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Jersey City has three equal vertical stripes of blue, white, and yellow, with the city's seal set slightly above center on the white stripe. The seal has a gold field edged in brown, and bears a shield divided in half horizontally, white over light brown. In the top center of the shield is a large sailing ship, brown with gold sails mostly furled, as if at anchor, its prow facing the fly. To the hoist side of the ship, on the landed horizon, is a brown steam locomotive and coal tender, smoke chugging from its smokestack toward the fly. On the fly side of the ship, also on the horizon, is a historic city skyline in white with black shadings and prominent church steeples. A white seagull floats over the ship's stern. In the lower half of the shield, on the upper

hoist side, is a small white sailboat. In the lower center is a two-masted ocean steamer with brown smokestacks and yellow smoke billowing from them, coming into dock at a burnt-sienna-colored wharf that slants across the bottom hoist portion of the shield. Above the shield is a brown-edged gold scroll with an inscription, **LET JERSEY PROSPER**, in brown letters. Surrounding the shield is a brown-edged gold ring with **CORPORATION OF JERSEY CITY** curving clockwise over the top, in brown.

SYMBOLISM: The three stripes of blue, white, and yellow are supposed to commemorate the colors of the Dutch, as Jersey City was located in the province of New Netherlands. However, the color yellow would more appropriately be orange, as blue, white, and orange were the colors in the Dutch national flag and its trading companies in the early 1600s.

The sailing ship is the *Half Moon*, in which the explorer Henry Hudson sailed up the Hudson River in 1609. Jersey City is on the east side of this river, across from Manhattan Island. Today the ships represent the maritime commerce of the city. The pier heads in the background reflect the early Dutch settlement established here in 1630 as Communipaw.

HOW SELECTED: William J. McGovern, director of parks and public property, asked that Mr. Hugh Clarke design the flag.

DESIGNER: Hugh “Buz” Clarke, a city engineer.



MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The flag was adopted by a city resolution introduced by William J. McGovern, city commissioner. The original resolution states that *the official seal of the City of Jersey City be included and affixed to the white on this flag, with the numerals 1630 placed below the seal.* This original seal was not enclosed in a circle as it is today, but was just the



heraldic ribbon and shield. Moreover, as is frequently the case in rendering of city seals by different artists over the years, the elements of the seal are pictured differently. The field of the shield is not divided by colors, although we do not know what the original colors may have been, if any. No locomotive appears on this shield, just primitive buildings on either side of the sailing ship, and the steamboat

is under way toward the lower hoist corner, no wharf in sight. The date, 1630, does appear at the lower center on the city's seal today in a circular band around the edge, but has not been carried over to the current flag.

JC 

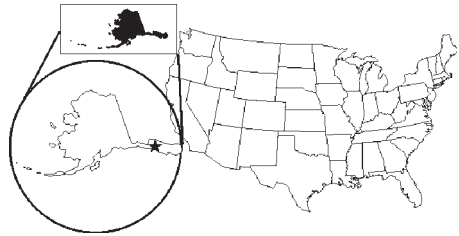
JUNEAU, ALASKA



Population Rank: U.S. #1,193
Alaska..... # 2

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: Not known



DESIGN: The field of Juneau's flag is light blue. The central figure on the flag is contained in a rectangle with a narrow darker blue outline and rounded corners. On a field of 2 by 3 units, the rectangle is approximately 1.25 units high and 2.5 units wide. Occupying about the first third of the space within the rectangle from the hoist is a green silhouette of perhaps two mountain peaks or pine trees. The figure is almost a pyramid with two points, the one on the hoist side slightly lower than the other, the tip of which extends slightly beyond the top of the rectangle. The top half of the remaining space within the rectangle contains **JUNEAU** in large slender letters of the darker blue. Immediately below this name is a medium-sized five-pointed gold star, out-

lined in the darker blue and positioned directly between the “J” and the “U”. To the fly side of the star is **ALASKA’S CAPITAL CITY** in much smaller letters of the same darker blue. Horizontally along the bottom of the space, even with the base of the pine tree pyramid, is a bar with a wavy top, again in the darker blue.

SYMBOLISM: Juneau can be reached only by air or water. The wavy blue bar represents the Pacific Ocean, on which the city is located. The gold star represents Juneau’s status as the capital of Alaska. The green figures suggest the city’s northerly clime and mountainous setting.

HOW SELECTED: Unknown.

DESIGNER: Unknown.

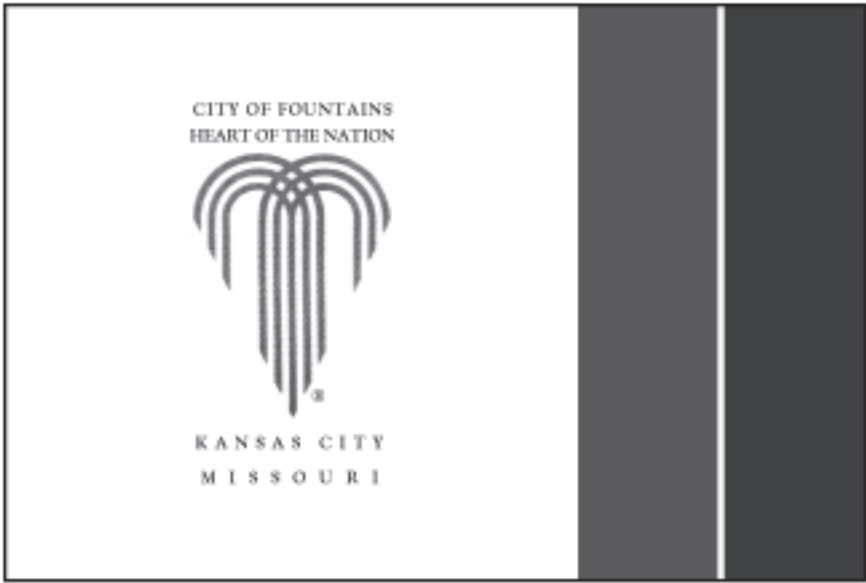


FORMER FLAG: There appears to have been an earlier flag, about which little is known. The city hall personnel speculate that it may have been the flag of the city before it unified with the surrounding borough (county) on 1 July

1970, when Juneau became known as the City and Borough of Juneau. This flag has proportions of 4:7 and a gold field. In the canton is an Alaska state flag with a white border on its bottom and fly sides. This border is itself edged in red. Centered on the field between the canton and the fly is a circular emblem. Its center is a light blue disk with a black totem-like figure with two bird heads. The head turned toward the hoist is dark and may be an eagle; the head turned toward the fly is a white goose or duck with a yellow bill. Around the disk is a white ring on which **JUNEAU** appears arched across the top, and **1880**, the date of Juneau’s first settlement, below.

JP 

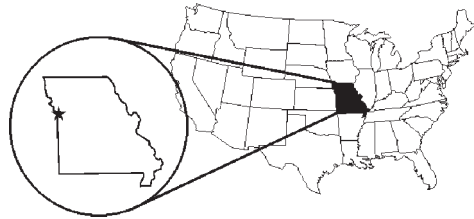
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI



Population Rank: U.S. # 36
Missouri # 1

Proportions: 2:3 (official)

Adopted: 9 December 1992 (official); amended 25 May 1995



DESIGN: In the flag of Kansas City, the field is divided vertically so that the hoist two-thirds is white, and the remaining third consists of a red bar and a blue bar with a fimbriation of white between them. Centered on the white field is the city seal, composed of a fountain-like symbol whose outline suggests a heart. The symbol is red at the top, gradually fading through a pale purple to blue at the base, each of the colors occupying about one-third of the symbol horizontally.

According to the ordinance of adoption: *The official corporate flag is 135 units in width and 90 units in height with the official corporate seal 60 units in height centered on a white field 90 units square adjacent to the staff. There are vertical red and blue stripes 22 units each in width, with*

the red stripe located adjacent to the white field and the blue stripe located adjacent to the red stripe. A vertical white stripe one unit in width separates the red and blue vertical stripes.

The official corporate seal is further described:

*The official corporate seal of the city consists of the corporate symbol — surrounded with a two-line legend above reading **CITY OF FOUNTAINS** and **HEART OF THE NATION**, and a two-line legend below reading **KANSAS CITY** and **MISSOURI** in goudy old style capital letters, such legend being in black if a white field is used and in white if a black field is used. The seal is rectangular*

The “corporate symbol” alluded to above is described in some detail:

The official corporate symbol of the city is formed within an implied rectangular space proportionately six units wide by eight units high. An imaginary base line drawn horizontally two units below the upper boundary divides the figure into vertical elements below, curved above. Imaginary lines drawn from the two ends of the base line to the center of the lower boundary serve as a cut line for vertical elements in the figure. The figure or symbol itself consists of five vertical lines separated by four vertical spaces, the line and space widths being equal and totaling two units in width, beginning at and centered from the lower border to the center point of the horizontal base line. From a point two units from the left boundary as center of arc, the center and two vertical lines in the right of center are extended in a 180-degree arc to the left, and then in a straight line to the cut line. From a point two units from the right boundary as center of arc, the center (used for both) and two vertical lines to the left of center are extended in a 180-degree arc to the left, and then in a straight line to the cut line. From a point two units from the right boundary as center of arc, the center (used for both) and two vertical lines to the left of center are extended in a 180-degree arc to the right, and then in a straight line to the cut line. The full color version displays the shape formed by the outline described in this subsection with color graduating uniformly from blue at the lowest point or tip of the symbol to red at the uppermost quadrant points of the arcs. Where used, the field is either white or black. When viewed in full color, the symbol appears as a fountain with the graduated color implying upward movement. The overall shape of the symbol reads transparently as a heart, symbolizing ‘Heart of the Nation’.

SYMBOLISM: The city seal reflects the city’s two nicknames: “City of Fountains” and “Heart of the Nation”. The colors are found in the United States and Missouri flags as well.

HOW SELECTED: By Mayor Emanuel Cleaver II.

DESIGNER: Unknown.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Despite the flag’s detailed specifications, the city apparently uses a flag that does not follow them. A sketch received from city hall shows a vertical tribar of equal blue, white, and red stripes. The city seal is on the center bar. Nothing more is known about this version.



FORMER FLAGS: Kansas City has had four previous flags. The one in use from 7 January 1972 to 9 December 1992 was identical in form and proportions to the current flag, except that the seal was different, and is described:

*The official corporate symbol of Kansas City shall be four double-lined interlocking hearts, forming a single shape with the four extremities congruent to a square, the colors of said symbol being red, white and blue. The official corporate seal of Kansas City shall consist of the aforesaid corporate symbol surrounded by a legend of **City of Kansas City, Missouri**, in sans serif capital letters, said legend being black.*

The “interlocking hearts” symbol might be described as two paper clips in the shape of an “X”, forming a diamond-shaped square in their center. The stroke of the “X” from hoist to fly as blue with red eyelets at its top and bottom, and the other stroke of the “X” from fly to hoist as red with blue eyelets, and a blue square in the center, and one has an approximation of the image that does, indeed, form hearts outlined half in blue and red, or red and blue, sequentially clockwise. The legend, in black letters, is circular in form. **CITY OF KANSAS CITY** is

arched over the upper two-thirds of the circle; **MISSOURI** is curved and centered below. The “A”s in “**KANSAS**” lack the cross-stroke, so they appear as inverted “V”s. The entire symbol is on a white field.



The city’s previous flag (its third) had been adopted on 26 December 1944, apparently as a result of Mayor Gage’s request to the municipal art commission to design a new flag. The commission’s members were Mrs. R. J. DeLano, Jo Zach Miller III (at that time in the U.S. Army), Alfred L. Benjamin, Harry L. Wagner, Keith Martin, and

Mrs. Russell C. Comer. The flag has a blue field with a white horizontal stripe in the center; the top and bottom blue portions are 2.25 units wide and the white stripe is 1.5 units wide. Superimposed and centered on the flag is a large seal-like device (but not the city’s seal of the period) with a white field and the diameter of 4.25 units.

In the circle’s center is a large red heart, 2.5 units high and wide. A silhouette of a Native American on horseback, in blue, overlays most of the heart. The horse is 2 units from tail to nose; the distance from the top of the rider’s head (omitting the feather) to the base of the image is 2 units. The horse and rider face the fly; the rider carries a bow and quiver, shading his eyes with one hand. The right front leg of the horse is raised slightly.

Surrounding the heart and silhouette is a blue ring; its width is 0.375 units and its overall diameter 3.25 units. Surrounding this blue ring is a white ring of a half unit in width, and an overall diameter of 4 units. Curved and centered over the top of the white ring is **KANSAS CITY**, and curved below, **MISSOURI**, all in blue in an Arial-like font. One blue star centered on each side of the ring separates the wording. The whole is enclosed in another blue ring identical to the first one, except that its diameter of 4.25 units forms the outer edge of the device. A very narrow fimbriation of white surrounds the entire circular device on the blue field. The colors (red and blue) and the proportions of the flag (10:19) were officially stated as those of the United States flag. The flag was in use until 7 January 1972.



Details of the second city flag's history are very sketchy. The flag was rediscovered in 1942 when Mayor Gage undertook his campaign for a new city flag. Evidently it had been displayed in 1936 at the dedication of the city's new municipal auditorium, and was used from time to time thereafter at that building.


In 1942 when the mayor learned of the flag, nobody knew its official status, but he sent it to the municipal art commission for its consideration (The flag apparently did not meet with the members' approval, since the commission came up with a different flag two years later). The 1936 flag is a horizontal tribar of equal blue, white, and blue stripes, and overall proportions of 2:3. The city's then-current seal appears in the center in blue.

On the hoist side of the seal is **KANSAS**, on the fly side, **CITY**, all in blue. The seal has a white ring bordered in blue around its outside. On the ring, curving from 9 o'clock to 3 o'clock, is **SEAL OF KANSAS CITY**, and centered below, counterclockwise, is **MISSOURI**, all in blue. The center of the seal shows a stylized American shield, with its lower sides curved outwards and a narrow white border fimbriated on both edges in blue. The upper part is blue with 11 five-pointed white stars, 5 over 6. The rest of the field is white. Arched across the center of the field in small blue letters is **INCORPORATED**. Centered immediately below in small blue figures is **1850**. Arched immediately above the shield in the crest position is **JACKSON**, and below the shield, curved to match the curve of the seal, is **COUNTY**, all in small blue letters.



The city's first flag was officially adopted on 17 June 1913, as "the outward manifestation of civic pride due to the building of its new Union Station". The flag has a blue pennant-shaped field, with proportions of 7:18. At the hoist, the city seal in blue on white occupies the entire width of the flag. On the fly side of the seal, **KANSAS CITY** appears white capitals that grow progressively smaller as they approach the pennant's point. The seal is an earlier

version of the seal. The seal is an earlier version of the seal.

version than on the 1936 flag. In the white ring fimbriated in blue around the outside is **A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE** arched over the top half, in blue. In the corresponding space below is a pair of laurel branches joined at the center, in white outlined in blue. The American shield in the center of the seal has five white stars on the blue upper section above **INCORPORATED 1850**, displayed in the same fashion as the seal on the 1936 flag. However, in place of the county's name on that later seal, this one has **KANSAS** arched above and **CITY** centered below. During Mayor Gage's 1942 effort to develop a new city flag, the city clerk unearthed this flag, which had also been stored away and forgotten. When it was shown to the mayor, he declared the flag "a college boy's pennant", and rejected it out of hand. JP 

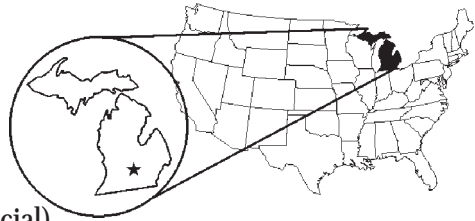
LANSING, MICHIGAN



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 183
Michigan # 8

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)

Adopted: 17 October 1994 (official)



DESIGN: Lansing's flag is white with the city seal in the center. On a field of 12 by 18 units, the seal is 9 units in diameter. Immediately within its outer circumference is another circle of 7 units, thus forming a ring around the central device. Curved and centered over the top in black is **LANSING**, and curved and centered below is **MICHIGAN**, also in black. The central device depicts the dome of the state capitol, the hoist side in white with black detail, and the fly half black with white detail. Behind the dome is a deep orange sun, whose rays stretch to the circle's edge against a purple sky. Green trees flank the dome on either side, and in front of the capitol flows the Grand River, shown smaller at the hoist and growing gradually larger as it undulates toward the fly.

SYMBOLISM: The capitol denotes Lansing's status as the capital of Michigan. The black and white of the capitol dome symbolize the diversity of the community. The orange sun represents hope and opportunity for the future. The sun and the purple sky symbolize the emotional warmth of the city. The green trees suggest Lansing's beautiful neighborhoods. The Grand River is shown in white to demonstrate the city's commitment to keep it clean and protect the environment.

HOW SELECTED: Mayor David Hollister charged the Lansing Image Task Force with developing a plan to improve the city's image. Among its recommendations was the adoption of a new city seal and flag.

DESIGNER: Unknown.

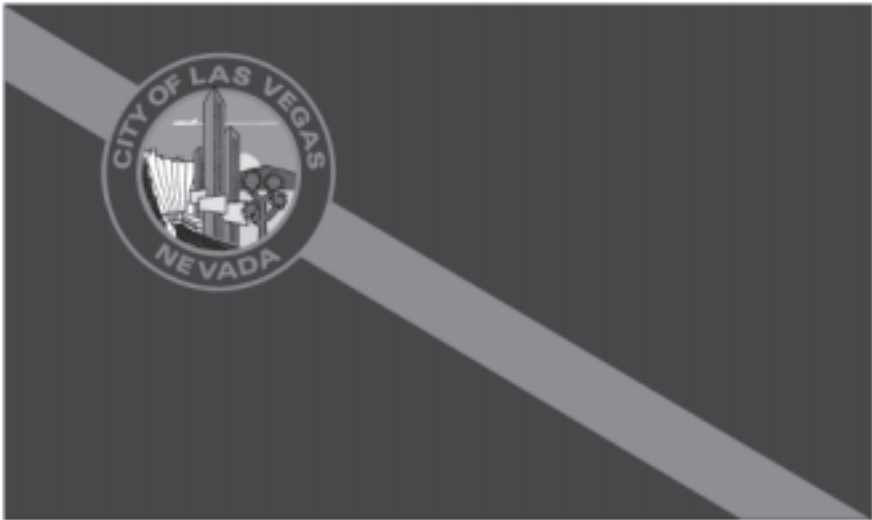


FORMER FLAG: The city's first flag was made in 1969. It consists of a dark blue field with the then-current city seal (which had been in use for more than 100 years) in the center. That seal also has an outer ring, but the edges of that ring are shown as beveled, in gold. In block gold letters curved and centered over the top of the ring is **CITY OF LANSING**, and below, **MICHIGAN**.

Separating the upper and lower words is a gold star on either side at about 4 and 8 o'clock. The central device shows a brown log cabin with smoke rising from its chimney at the hoist side into a blue sky. In the center is a woodsman, felling a bare brown tree. Behind the tree, on the fly side, is an orange sun on the horizon. The base of the image is green, depicting grass.

JP 

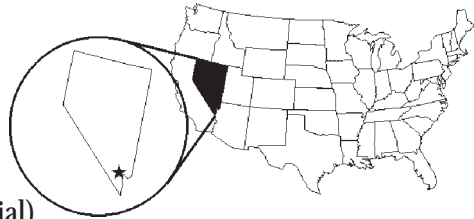
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA



Population Rank: U.S. # 32
Nevada..... # 1

Proportions: 3:5 (official)

Adopted: 2 October 1968 (official)



DESIGN: The ordinance of adoption sets forth the specifications for the flag of Las Vegas:

The flag for the City of Las Vegas shall be of cloth and three by five feet (3'x5') in size. Smaller or larger reproductions may be made provided all parts and portions are proportionate to the dimensions as shown.

In general, the flag shall have a Royal Blue background with a Silver diagonal stripe upon which a facsimile of the city seal shall be placed.

The silver stripe shall be four and five-eighths inches (4-5/8") in width. The upper edge of the stripe shall coincide with a line drawn diagonally from the upper left to the lower right corner.

*The facsimile of the city seal shall be as follows. The center picture portion shall be the same in color and shape as the actual seal, however, the outer ring shall carry only the words City of Las Vegas, Nevada in the following manner: The words **City of Las Vegas** shall be centered in the upper outer ring and the word **Nevada** shall be centered in the lower outer ring. The seal facsimile, sixteen and one-half inches (16-1/2") in diameter shall be placed in the center of the silver stripe. The center of the seal shall be exactly fifteen inches (15") from the left edge of the flag. All other portions or parts of the flag shall be Royal Blue in color.*

The "center picture" shows a cluster of three tall silvery buildings in the center, the middle building the tallest, the hoist building the shortest, and the fly building midway between the two in height. The buildings have yellow marquees framed in silver at their base. On the lower hoist side of the buildings is Hoover Dam (originally Boulder Dam) in white, at about the center of the seal horizontally, from which blue water of the Colorado River runs across the base of the seal to the center. A narrow portion of a brown cliff is on the hoist side of the dam. On the lower fly side, at about the same horizontal position as the top of the dam, is Sunrise Mountain, in brown with orange shadings. In the foreground in front of the mountain is a green Joshua bush with four limbs. The sun, in yellow with orange rays, rises behind the mountain where it joins the center buildings. The sky above is blue, from light to dark from the center to the edge of the scene. A jet plane flies in the distance near the hoist side, and heading in that direction, leaving a horizontal contrail. The outer ring around the seal has a royal blue field; the lettering on it and the edges of the ring are silver. The lettering above is clockwise and below, counterclockwise.

SYMBOLISM: Silver and blue were adopted as the city's official colors on the same date as the flag's adoption, representing *the silver state of Nevada under clear skies of blue and in a land filled with beautiful natural colors*. The buildings with their marquees suggest tourism, the city's most important industry. Manmade Hoover Dam, controlling the Colorado River to form Lake Mead, complements the ruggedness of the natural desert symbolized by the mountain and Joshua bush. The jet represents civil and military air traffic in the region.

HOW SELECTED: On 7 April 1965, the city council authorized a contest for a city flag design. The winning design was not officially adopted for 3 years.

DESIGNER: Kenneth A. Bouton, an administrative assistant to the city manager.



MORE ABOUT THE FLAG:

When the flag was adopted, the city seal on it had been adopted two years earlier, on 19 October 1966. That seal was identical to the current seal except that in the lower half of the ring surrounding it, instead of just the name of the state, also appeared the name of the county, so that the lower portion of the ring read **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**, in silver letters on

blue. On 7 November 1979, the seal was altered to remove the name of the county.

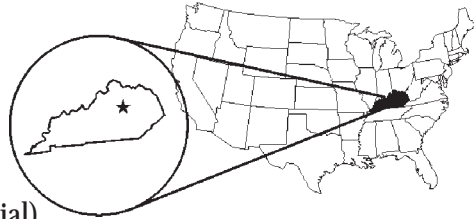
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 64
Kentucky # 1

Proportions: 4:7 (usage)

Adopted: November 1983 (official)



DESIGN: Lexington's flag consists of its seal centered on a white field, which is enclosed in a narrow, copper-gold inner border. This narrow border is set within a wider light blue border. To complete the flag, an even broader white strip surrounds the light blue border on all four sides. The white strip is broader at the hoist and fly. Details of the seal are set forth in the resolution of adoption:

... (H)enceforth the official Seal of the City of Lexington, Kentucky ... shall be a circle, in the center of which appears the front of Morrison Chapel of Transylvania College, bearing 1964 on the left cornerstone and the initials ENF on the right; an upright horseshoe thereover and overlapping burley tobacco leaves end to end on each side thereof [three on each side], together with 1775, the date of Lexington's incorporation below, all of which shall be surrounded by a circle imprinted City of Lexington Common-

wealth of Kentucky, the outer edge of this circle being another smaller circle of smooth design. When depicted in color, said inner circle shall be of light blue background, with the chapel, tobacco leaves and horseshoe in gold with white shadows and 1775 in black; the circle containing the ... [legend] ... shall be of gold background, the lettering in white framed in black, and the outer circle of the same, light blue.

The legend now reads **LEXINGTON FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT** clockwise and **KENTUCKY** counter-clockwise (at the lowest point in the circle). A narrow fimbriation of light blue forms the outer border of the seal. The seal on which the flag is based was adopted on 29 December 1964, superseding a 1916 version. The lettering on the 1964 seal changed in 1974 when the city and county governments merged.

SYMBOLISM: Morrison Chapel of Transylvania University symbolizes the history of the area. Transylvania University was the first college west of the Allegheny Mountains. The horseshoe above Morrison Hall represents the importance of horses in this area of Kentucky. The horseshoe is positioned with the open end upward, for good luck. The burley tobacco leaves stress the importance of tobacco to the economy of Lexington, the world's largest burley tobacco market. The blue in the background of the seal is for the bluegrass of Kentucky.

HOW SELECTED: The seal was adopted in a contest sponsored by the city of Lexington. According to local tradition, the designer used a piece of dry cleaner's cardboard she took out of one of her husband's shirts. Her husband happened to be the mayor of Lexington. He unwittingly chose his wife's design, in a blind contest. The flag itself was designed by a later mayor and his aides and adopted by the Urban County Council. It took only a month from conception to adoption.

DESIGNER: Elizabeth Nunn Fugazzi designed the seal. The design of the flag is attributed to Mayor Scotty Baesler and his aides.

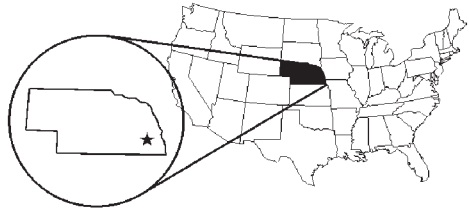
MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Elizabeth Fugazzi envisioned her seal as a model for the first city flag, but nearly twenty years passed before a design was adopted.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA



Population Rank: U.S. # 76
Nebraska # 2

Proportions: 2:3 (usage)



Adopted: 14 September 1931 (official)

DESIGN: Lincoln's flag has a medium blue field of 4 by 6 units. In its center appears the state capitol, a tower in white. The tower overlaps an incomplete red ring, 2.5 units in diameter, so that the ring appears to run behind it very near its top, and then continues in a circle on both sides until about 5 and 7 o'clock, where it is obscured by a yellow ear of corn with green leaves on either side and congruent to the circle. Between the ears of corn in the center at the base of the tower is a sheaf of yellow wheat. The distance from the top of the tower to the base of the wheat sheaf is 3.8 units. A second red ring, one unit in diameter, is within the larger ring, and placed behind the tower so that its top edge is about half way up the tower, and thus only a portion of the ring is

visible. Extending from this ring to the larger ring are four red rays, one each at about 2, 4, 8 and 10 o'clock. In white block letters on the larger ring, following its curve clockwise, are **CITY OF** on the hoist side and **LINCOLN** on the fly side.

SYMBOLISM: The white tower represents Lincoln's role as the capital of Nebraska. The red circles come from the insignia of the University of Nebraska, and represent education and culture; the corn and wheat symbolize Lincoln as an agricultural center.

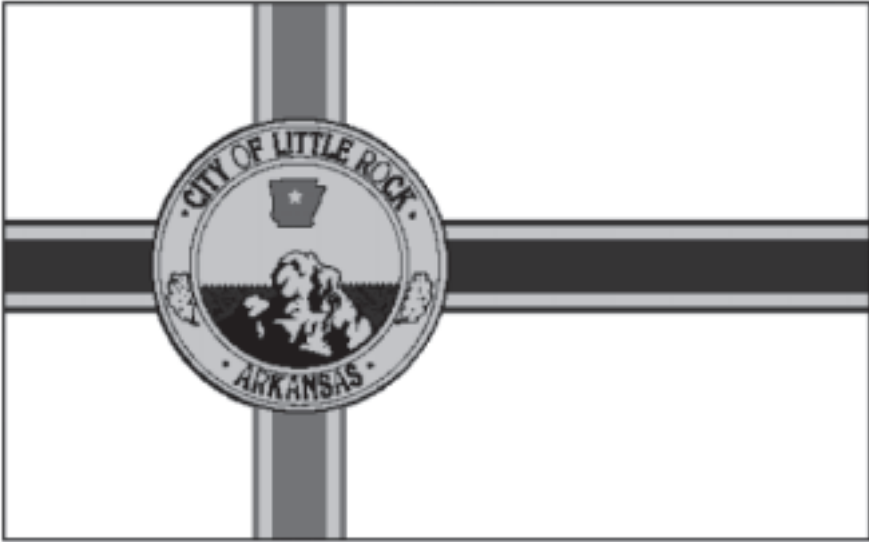
HOW SELECTED: A flag design competition was sponsored by the chamber of commerce, restricted to residents of the city. The prize was \$50. Five judges chose the final design from among more than 50 entries.

DESIGNER: Winner of the competition on 2 September 1931, Mrs. J. E. Fiselman.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The contest for a flag design was inspired by a gift from members of the Rotary Club of Lincoln, England, who presented a flag of their city to Lincoln, Nebraska, during a visit in May 1928. Various groups in the city discussed the need to have a similar emblem, which resulted in the chamber of commerce competition. Frank D. Tomson, chairman of the chamber's flag committee, presented the flag to Acting Mayor Blair in a ceremony at city hall on 29 October 1932. In his remarks, Tomson said that a new Lincoln flag had also been presented to the city of Lincoln, England. In a further burst of grandiloquent rhetoric, Tomson exhorted, "It should find a place in every home within this city and be displayed as a hospitable welcome whenever visitors in numbers from other parts enter our gates."

JP 

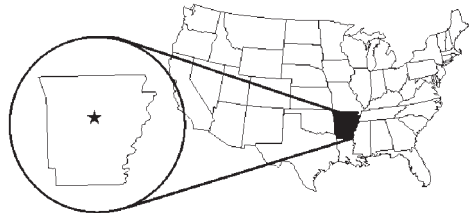
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 110
Arkansas # 1

Proportions: 3:5 (official)

Adopted: 18 October 1988 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Little Rock has a white field, with a horizontal royal blue stripe and a vertical forest green stripe, both fimbriated in golden yellow, converging as in a Scandinavian cross upon a modified representation of the city seal in golden yellow. Each stripe is in turn fimbriated again in its own color. The image on the seal is a mound or rock pile against a level background. Suspended above the mound is a red silhouette of Arkansas with a golden yellow five-pointed star marking the geographical location of the city. These images are enclosed in a double ring. Surrounding the double ring are • **CITY OF LITTLE ROCK** •, clockwise around the top and • **ARKANSAS** •, counterclockwise around the bottom. An oak leaf on either side separates the two

legends, beginning below the midpoint of the flag's height. Another double ring completes the seal design. The lettering and detailing on the images are in black.

SYMBOLISM: *The clean white background of the banner represents the optimism and open potential that the City has to offer. The royal blue horizontal stripe symbolizes the Arkansas River which borders Little Rock, and has served as an economical and historical emblem since the City's beginning. The ...cross...symbolizes the location and stature of Little Rock... a city serving not only as the crossroads of Arkansas, but a crossroad of the mid-southern ...States as well. The strong forest green color depicts the fields, parks and forests which contribute to the natural beauty of the City. The razorback red silhouette of the ...State of Arkansas shows her capital, the City of Little Rock, represented by the centered star. The star rises directly above 'The Little Rock' [the mound or rock pile] ... protruding cliff along the Arkansas River ... The Arkansas River [the level background] behind the rock and the symmetrical oak leaves in the border of the seal are a stylized illustration of what the flag's stripes represent... the natural beauty of the City. Finally, the golden yellow color of the seal and bordering stripes symbolize the superior economic history, and the future economic potential that is available in the City of Little Rock...* (from the ordinance of adoption, Ordinance No. 15,566).

HOW SELECTED: The flag was selected through a contest sponsored by the city's board of directors and the City Beautiful Commission.

DESIGNER: David Wilson, a law clerk, won the \$1,000 contest prize.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Craig Rains won second place in the contest and a prize of \$500, David Tullis won third place and \$250.

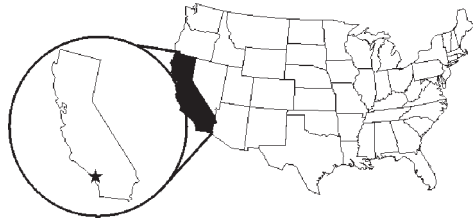
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA



Population Rank: U.S. # 34
California # 5

Proportions: 3:5 (usage)

Adopted: 5 July 1967 (official)



DESIGN: The field of the flag of Long Beach is divided horizontally into three unequal sections of gold, white, and blue. The central section swirls in an "S" from the lower hoist to the upper fly, widening as it goes, giving the effect of an undulating wave moving toward a beach. On a field of 3 by 5 units, the gold portion is 2.25 units wide at the hoist and narrows to .5 units at the fly. The white portion is .25 units wide at the hoist and .75 units wide at the fly. The blue portion is .5 units wide at the hoist and widens to 1.75 units wide at the fly. Along the lower part of the blue portion, beginning about one-third of the distance from the hoist, is **CITY OF LONG BEACH** in a blue Arial font, and immediately below, in smaller italics of the same font, *THE*

INTERNATIONAL CITY. In the upper hoist is the inner portion of the city's seal (without the ring around it that has the city's name and date of incorporation, 1897), with a diameter of 1.5 units. Around the blue outside edge of the seal is a narrow, white circular band. On the seal's field of gold appears a large scallop shell in outline. Within the shell is a fanciful beach scene. According to the official description (colors, not mentioned in the description, are indicated in brackets):

The Seal of the City shall consist of a circular disk with a design cut thereon showing the 'Queen of the Beaches' [black robe, dark green apron, with a Minerva-like gold crested helmet] seated on her throne in the foreground, scepter in hand, with the [brown] California 'Golden Bear' at her feet with the [gold] horn of plenty pouring forth agricultural and manufactured products while perpetual sunshine [rising from the horizon, yellow, with white rays] lights the heavens where an airplane [dark red] soars. There are also shown the [green] mountains and the [blue] sea, and a [black] ship, the [gold] auditorium, the [gold] Rainbow Pier and [white] yachts offshore, as well as a [white] lighthouse, breakwater and docks [in red, white, and brown], together with a [brown] railroad locomotive, [red, white, and black] factories, refineries and oil wells. Also included are a [gold and white] beach, the [red] book of knowledge and a [gold] lamp of wisdom.

The queen's gold scepter is held in her right hand; her left hand rests on a gold circular shield between her and the small bear. The sky is aqua-colored with tinges of blue around the edges where it meets the edge of the shell. Curved across the center of the sky, next to the shell's edge, is

the Latin motto **URBS AMICITIAE** ("The Friendly City") in small blue letters. Centered, and curved across the portion of the gold field visible between the shell's edge and that of the seal, are four tiny black five-pointed stars.



SYMBOLISM: The gold color is for the sand of the city's eight-mile beach; the white represents

the city's clear, clean air; and the blue is for the ocean. The seal uses the metaphor of a goddess blessing and protecting the arts, recreation, commerce, and industry of the city.

HOW SELECTED: The city held several contests for a city flag, but never found an acceptable design. Someone in the administration suggested adopting an adaptation of the popular Port of Long Beach flag, identical to the current city flag, except that Port's logo appears in the canton, and the legend across the bottom reads **PORT OF LONG BEACH**. The Port's logo is an oval globe showing the continents of the Western Hemisphere in white on blue oceans that extend to the rim of the Eastern Hemisphere land masses.

DESIGNER: Al Maddy, Director of Administration for the Harbor Department, designed the port's flag in 1964 or 1965. The seal was designed by Roland S. Gielow, a draftsman in the Engineering Department. The seal was adopted on 23 September 1930.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The flag was displayed on the RMS Queen Mary on her final cruise from England to Long Beach in 1967, where she remains docked. The city flag was then flown daily from the ship's prow.

JP 

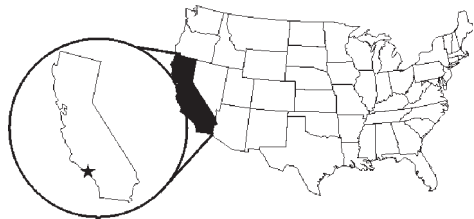
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



Population Rank: U.S. # 2
California # 1

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

Adopted: 22 July 1931 (official)



DESIGN: The field of the flag of Los Angeles has three vertical stripes of green, yellow, and red divided by zigzag lines (known heraldically as “dancetty”) on each side of the center stripe. On a field 26 units wide, the stripes have a proportion to each other of 6:12:8 at the top and 8:12:6 at the bottom. Centered on the yellow stripe is the city seal, 7 units in diameter. A white (or silver) ring surrounds the seal, its outer edge beaded in white with black circumferences, its inner edge beaded with 77 solid black beads, alternating one large to ten small. Centered on the top half of the ring clockwise from 10 to 2 o’clock is **CITY OF LOS ANGELES**; centered below, running counterclockwise from 7 to 5 o’clock is **FOUNDED 1781**, all in black.

The field of the seal is a yellow disk with a quartered heraldic shield. The first quarter is an American shield (6 over 7 white stars on a blue chief, and 7 white and 6 red vertical stripes below). The second quarter is the California bear flag without any lettering. The third quarter is a bald eagle, facing the fly, but otherwise in the pose of the Mexican eagle with a serpent in its beak, perched on a *nopal* cactus. The fourth quarter are the arms of Castile and León, a gold castle on red on the hoist side, a red lion on white on the fly side, divided vertically so that León's portion of the field is slightly wider than Castile's. In the position of the dexter supporter is a spray of olives; above in the crest position, a spray of grapes; and in the sinister supporter position, a spray of oranges, all in natural colors.

SYMBOLISM: The colors of the stripes suggest the city's Mexican and Spanish heritage: Green and red from Mexico, and yellow and red from Spain. The seal is explained by the city:

The lion of León and the castle of Castile are from the Arms of Spain and represent Los Angeles under Spanish control from 1542 to 1821.

The eagle holding a serpent is from the Arms of Mexico and represents the period of Mexican sovereignty from 1822 to 1846.

The Bear Flag typifies the California Republic of 1846.

The Stars and Stripes indicate the present status of Los Angeles as an American City.

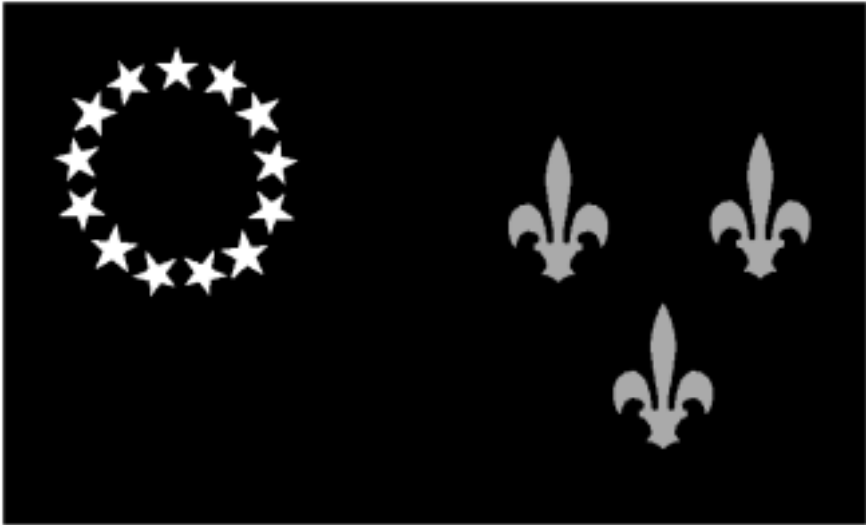
The sprays of Olive, Grape and Orange suggest the location of Los Angeles as a City set in a garden.

The beaded circle surrounding the shield represents a Rosary suggesting the part played by the Mission Padres in founding the city.

HOW SELECTED: The flag was presented to the city by the La Fiesta Association in preparation for the city's sesquicentennial anniversary celebration. The seal had been officially adopted on 27 March 1905.

DESIGNERS: Roy E. Silent and E. S. Jones, residents of the city.

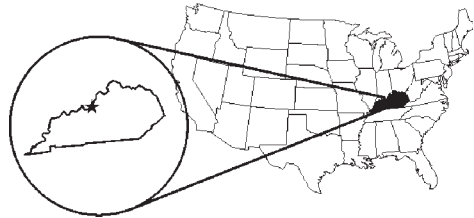
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 66*
Kentucky # 2

Proportions: 3:5 (usage)

Adopted: 1927-1934 (official)



DESIGN: Louisville's flag is described by the ordinance of adoption:

The following described flag is hereby adopted as the official flag of the City. A flag which shall have thirteen silver stars and three gold fleurs-de-lis placed upon a field of blue. The stars shall be arranged in a circle in the first quarter after the manner of the thirteen stars of the American flag as adopted by Congress, June 14, 1777. Two gold fleurs-de-lis shall be placed in the second quarter and one gold fleur-de-lis shall be placed in the fourth quarter so that the three form a triangle with the point at the bottom and the base at the top.

* 66 is Louisville's rank as of the 2000 Census. As of January 1, 2003, Louisville merged with Jefferson County into one metropolitan government and jumped in national rank to 16. In so doing, Louisville reclaimed title to the largest city of Kentucky (lost in 1974 when Lexington merged with Fayette County).

The form of the fleurs-de-lis shall be the same as the 'Middle Ages' fleurs-de-lis form shown in the eleventh edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica, Volume 10, page 499. The blue of the flag shall be the same shade of blue as is in the field of the American flag.

SYMBOLISM: The circle of stars honors the thirteen original colonies, and of course, is only one of the arrangements of stars found in early United States flags and was not actually specified by the Continental Congress in 1777. Later generations, however, have come to favor this form for 18th-century United States flags, and so it is more frequently used. The *fleurs-de-lis*, according to the city, show the “continuing good will between our people and the people of France”. The city was named for Louis XVI, the king of France at the time of the city’s founding in 1778, to commemorate the help the French were giving to the colonists in their struggle for independence.

HOW SELECTED: Reportedly by a committee.

DESIGNER: The designer’s name is lost, but there is some indication that a committee designed the flag, so that no single person was credited.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The flag is widely seen in the city. Its adoption date is variously cited as 1927 and 1934, although it may have been designed earlier, if the reference in the ordinance to the Encyclopedia Britannica’s eleventh edition (published in 1910-1911) is any indication.



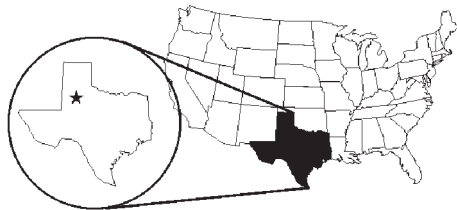
A new flag recently appeared on the Internet for the Louisville-Jefferson County Metropolitan Government. The flag is blue with a gold-bordered white disk bearing in the center a gold *fleur-de-lis*, two gold stars, and the date 1778 in blue over some very thin gold horizontal lines. These devices are surrounded by a thin blue circle; at its base is a blue panel with METRO in white. Surrounding this is LOUISVILLE • JEFFERSON COUNTY in gold.

LUBBOCK, TEXAS



Population Rank: U.S. # 89
Texas # 11

Proportions: Not specified;
probably about 2:3



Adopted: 1999 (unofficial)

DESIGN: Lubbock's logo fills most of the white field of the city's flag. The logo is a large semi-circle atop a horizontal base, a thin blue rectangle fimbriated in gold over red that stretches from one edge of the logo to the other. On the rectangle is **Music Crossroads of Texas**, in white. Above this bar are two arches, the inner about two and one-half times the width of the outer, which has a blue area that shimmers from light to dark to nearly purple and back again, from about 10 to 2 o'clock. The remaining space on either side (9 to 10 and 2 to 3 o'clock) is filled with two vertical gold bars, a thin blue line between them, curved to conform to the borders of the arch, which is also fimbriated in gold.

On the blue portion of the area across the top of the arch, in white letters shaded in black and spaced evenly across the field, is **LEGEND-ARY**. A narrow white space, little more than a stripe, separates the top arch from the lower one, which has a narrow white border edged in black on both sides. The area of the arch is shaded a shimmering red, from dark to light to dark again from side to side. A black-edged gold five-pointed star sits on the base of the field on either side of the arch. In between is **LUBBOCK**, in very large white letters edged in dark blue. In the remaining space below this arch is a shimmering gold silhouette map of Texas, bordered in gold, with a white star showing the city's location in the northwest portion of the state. A small part of the top of the map extends onto the arch above it, so that the "BB" in the city's name rests on top of the map. Filling in the area behind the silhouette is a purple area on which a number of thin white rays in the fashion of a sunburst emanate upward to the edge of the arch from the center base point.

SYMBOLISM: The logo is meant to be eye-catching. Whether the symbolism was intended or not, the logo resembles the top of an old-fashioned jukebox, reinforcing the city's claim as the "Music Crossroads of Texas".

HOW SELECTED: The logo was created in 1998 without the motto below it. In 1999, the city council passed legislation creating the motto, and authorized its inclusion below the logo. The flag was developed shortly thereafter, presumably by city hall personnel.

DESIGNER: The logo was created by the Thomas Agency (a design firm).

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The flag was first raised 5 April 2000 by the mayor and students participating in Local Government Week in Lubbock County.

FORMER FLAG: The previous flag of Lubbock was officially adopted on 11 February 1971, the result of a contest held in 1970 by the Women's Club of Lubbock. The design submitted by the city planning department



staff was the winning entry from among more than 100 received. The flag has the proportions of 2:3. Its field is the same as the state flag of Texas without the star: a vertical blue stripe at the hoist, one-third of the field's width, and the remainder of the

field divided horizontally white over red. In the center of the field is the city seal, with a diameter of 1.5 units. The seal is encircled by a white band edged in gold on both sides, which in turn are edged in white on the outer and inner edges of the band. Arched over the top half of the seal, from one horizontal midpoint to the other, is **CITY OF LUBBOCK** in red block letters. Centered below, counterclockwise, is **TEXAS** in blue block letters.

On either side of the state's name is a gold five-pointed star. The inner portion of the seal has a blue field with a silhouette of the state of Texas in white that extends beyond the field's edges on all four sides. A small gold five-pointed star marks the location of Lubbock, and a thin blue ray extends from each point outward to the borders of the state. In the horizontal center, in the state's east-central portion on the map, appears **1909** in small black numerals.

Red, white, and blue echo the colors of the national and state flags. The star designating Lubbock, with rays emanating from it, symbolizes the city's nickname, "Hub City" of the south plains. The date, 1909, is the year of the city's incorporation. Since legislation adopting this flag has apparently not been repealed, and the current flag is unofficial, this flag may still be the legal version, although it has long since disappeared from city hall.

JP 