

# How to Show Respect for the American Flag

Salute the flag whenever it is paraded, when the Pledge of Allegiance is said, or when the National Anthem is played. Those not in uniform should salute the flag by standing at attention, tall and straight, with the left arm at the side, and placing the right hand over the heart. Men who are wearing a hat should remove the hat with their right hand and hold it over their shoulder so that their right hand is over their heart.



The flag can be displayed on all days, but should be flown on these days in particular:

- New Year's Day: January 1
  - Inauguration Day: January 20
  - Armed Forces Day: Third Sunday in May
  - Memorial Day: Last Monday in May
  - Flag Day: June 14
  - Independence Day: July 4
  - Labor Day: First Monday in September
  - Constitution Day: September 17
  - Veterans Day: November 11
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- The flag should be lighted at all times by an appropriate light source.
  - The flag should be flown in fair weather, unless designed for inclement weather use.
  - When displayed against a wall, vertically or horizontally, the Flag's Union (field of stars) should be uppermost, and to the observer's left.
  - The flag should not be used for any decoration in general. Bunting of blue, white and red stripes is available for these purposes.
  - The flag should never be used for any advertising purpose. It should not be embroidered or printed on such articles as cushions, handkerchiefs, napkins, boxes, or anything intended to be discarded after temporary use.

- The flag should not be used as part of a costume or athletic uniform, except that a flag patch may be used on the uniform of military personnel, fireman, policeman and members of patriotic organizations.
- When the flag is lowered, no part of it should touch the ground or any other object; it should be received by waiting hands and arms.
- To store the flag it should be folded neatly and ceremoniously.
- When a flag is so worn it is no longer fit to serve as a symbol of our country, it should be disposed of with reverence. Boy Scouts and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) organizations provide this service.