

# How to Fly The United States Flag

## Ten Guidelines

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

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## Flag Display Days

New Year's Day .....January 1st  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.....3rd Monday in January  
Lincoln's Birthday .....February 12th  
Washington's Birthday  
(Presidents' Day) .....3rd Monday in February  
Easter Sunday .....variable  
Mother's Day.....2nd Sunday in May  
Peace Officers Memorial Day (half-staff)\*.....May 15th  
Armed Forces Day .....3rd Saturday in May  
Memorial Day (half-staff until noon).....last Monday in May  
Flag Day.....June 14th  
Father's Day .....3rd Sunday in June

Independence Day .....July 4th  
Labor Day .....1st Monday in September  
Patriot Day (half-staff) .....September 11th  
POW/MIA Recognition Day.....3rd Friday in September  
Constitution Day (Citizenship Day).....September 17th  
Columbus Day .....2nd Monday in October  
Navy Day.....October 27th  
Veterans Day.....November 11th  
Thanksgiving Day .....4th Thursday in November  
National Pearl Harbor  
Remembrance Day (half-staff) .....December 7th  
Christmas Day .....December 25th

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

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

For more information regarding flag history, Federal Flag Code, or how to properly display the U.S. flag, please refer to the VFW Website, [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org). "Our Flag" brochures are available for purchase in bundles of 25 from the VFW Store, product 4421, as well as U.S. flags and accessories. Call 1-800-821-2606 or go to [www.vfwstore.org](http://www.vfwstore.org).

*\* The flag shall be flown at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day, unless that day is also Armed Forces Day.*

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