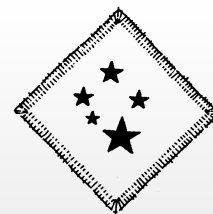


FLAG KNOWLEDGE

Pathfinder Level



Purpose

To impart history, knowledge and respect for the
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG

'Let every person be subject to the governing authorities, because there is no authority except from God.'

Romans 13: 1

Exploring

The Australian National Flag consists of a dark blue field with the Union Jack occupying the upper hoist (top left quarter), a seven point white star (the Federation star) in the lower hoist pointing direct to the centre of the Union Jack, and in the fly (right half) five white stars representing the constellation of the Southern Cross, the four larger stars being seven pointed and equal in size, and the small star five pointed. In each star one of the points is at the very top. The seven point Federation star represents the six Australian States and the Commonwealth Territories. The descriptions and positions of the stars are included in the first schedule of the Flags Act No. 1 of 1954 as amended by No. 58 of 1954. The shape and proportions of the stars are approximately as in this illustration. The length of the flag is twice the width.

Days of National Commemoration

On days of national commemoration the Australian National Flag may be flown on any additional flagstaffs on public buildings. Special days of national significance are notified as they arise. The following occasions which occur annually are to be particularly noted:

- **1 January** – Anniversary of the establishment of the Commonwealth of Australia.
- **26 January** – Australia Day (and on the Monday holiday associated with Australia Day).
- **March, Second Monday** – Commonwealth Day.
- **25 April – Anzac Day** (flags to be flown at half-mast till noon, then at the peak until the close of office business for a normal working day).
- **9 May** – Anniversary of the inauguration of Canberra as the seat of Government (Canberra only).
- **June – Official birthday of the Sovereign**, second Monday in June (except W.A.)
- **24 October** – United Nations Day.
- **11 November** – Remembrance Day (flags should be flown at the peak from 8 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., at half-mast from 10.30 a.m. till 11.30 a.m. and at the peak from 11.30 a.m. until the close of office business for a normal working day).

Salute

During the raising or lowering of the National Flag, or when the National Flag is passing in parade, all persons should face the flag. Everyone should stand at attention and salute.

A Cadet in or out of uniform salutes by placing his right hand over his heart.

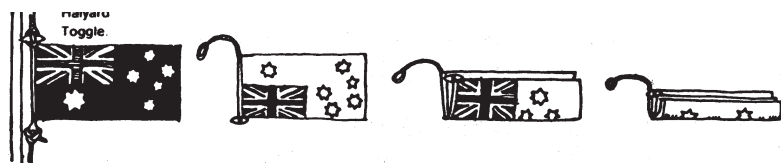
Pledge

'I will love God and my country, I honour the flag, I will serve the Queen, and cheerfully obey my parents, teachers and the laws.'

FLAG RULES

- The flag should be displayed only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and staffs.
- The flag should be lowered briskly and raised ceremoniously.
- The flag should not be displayed during stormy weather.
- The flag should be displayed on all special days.
- The flag should be displayed on school days, either on or near the buildings.
- The flag should never touch anything underneath it, such as the ground, floor, water etc.
- No other pennant should be placed over, above, or on the same level as the Australian flag. (Other National Flags may be displayed at the same height, the Australian Flag should have priority)
- When the flag is displayed on a motor vehicle, the staffed flag should be attached firmly to the chassis or the radiator.
- Never hang or drape the flag in any position below the seats on a platform.
- When displayed in church, the flag should be on the right-hand-side of the clergyman.
- When the flag is placed on a grave, it should not touch the ground.
- The Australian flag may be mended, but when it is beyond repair, it should be destroyed in a dignified manner, preferably by burning.

Preparing the Flag



1. Start like this.

2. Fold it lengthways once.

3. Then again.



4. Bring the two ends together.



5. Now concertina by folding backwards and forwards.



6. until it is neatly bundled.



7. It is kept bundled by winding the rope under itself.

Doing

1. From your local Member of Parliament or Council, obtain a booklet on the Australian National Flag.
In it you will find the information you need to complete this badge (it is free).

2. As a separate insert page:
- a. Make an attractive title page for this badge and a realistic drawing of the Australian National Flag.
 - b. Write the pledge to the Australian Flag.

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c. On which dates is the Australian Flag flown half mast?

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d. What does the seven-pointed star on the Australian Flag represent?

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3. What are the following, and where are they flown?

- Red Ensign
- White Ensign
- Blue Ensign

4. Write down the flag rules on a separate insert page.

5. Demonstrate how to display the flag:

- In an auditorium
- In a parade
- Crossed with other flags
- Against a wall
- Grouped with other flags

6. Demonstrate how to:

- Salute the flag
- Fold the flag

7. Write down how you feel God wants you to show respect to the National Flag and to the Government.

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Ask your Counsellor to sign below and arrange for the presentation of your badge.

..... date