Facts about Flags

Cut the cards along the dotted lines and match each flag with its state or fact card.

Alabama
Capital: Montgomery
A crimson cross of St. Andrew on a field of white, the flag was adopted on February 16, 1895. It represents a heraldic symbol of a diagonal cross known as ‘saltire’.

Alaska
Capital: Juneau
A dark blue field displaying eight gold stars, the flag was designed by young Benny Benson. Adopted in 1959, it represents the Alaskan sky with stars in the shape of the Big Dipper.

Arkansas
Capital: Little Rock
Adopted in 1917, the flag consists of 13 red and gold rays of the Western setting sun in the upper and blue field in the lower part. The center star denotes the copper production in the state.

California
Capital: Sacramento
William Todd designed the historic Bear Flag that was raised at Sonoma in 1846. The flag features the once common grizzly bear representing strength. The star refers to the Lone Star of Texas.
The flag was inspired by the Connecticut chapter of DAR. The flag consists of a black baroque shield with three purple grapevines on a field of azure blue. The flag reads the state’s motto ‘Qui Transtulit Sustinet’.

The flag consists of a diamond on a field of colonial blue with the coat of arms containing many state symbols. The date; December 7, 1787, is the day when it became the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

Approved in 1900, the flag consists of a red saltire on a white field. The Great Seal of the State is emblazoned on its center representing sunshine, flowers, lakes, rivers and palm trees.

The Peach State on May 8, 2003, adopted this new flag with three bars of red-white-red. The upper left corner of the flag has a blue canton, containing the state’s coat of arms with the words “In God We Trust”.

The aloha state flag was designed at the request of King Kamehameha I. The horizontal white, red and blue stripes represent its eight main islands. It has the Union Jack on it, to honor its friendship with the British.
Idaho
Capital: Boise

This silk flag displays the State Seal of Idaho in the center of a blue field. Rich with Idaho symbols, it is the only state seal designed by a woman. The words “State of Idaho” are embroidered in golden letters.

Illinois
Capital: Springfield

The State of Illinois’s flag features the State’s seal against a white background. The seal features an eagle holding a banner with the state motto on it. The name of the state “ILLINOIS” was added in 1970.

Indiana
Capital: Indianapolis

The flag designed by Paul Hadley was adopted as the State Flag in 1917. The flag features a flaming torch surrounded by 19 stars in gold, on a blue field. The 19th star is crowned by the word ‘Indiana’.

Iowa
Capital: Des Moines

The Hawkeye state has blue-white-red vertical stripes as in the French flag. A bald eagle bears a blue ribbon reading “Our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain”. The state’s name is emblazoned in red.

Kansas
Capital: Topeka

Centered on a navy blue field is the Great Seal, portraying the story of Kansas. Above the seal is the state’s lower resting on a twisted bar. The seal has the inscription of the state’s name below it, in yellow.

Kentucky
Capital: Frankfort

The Kentucky Flag was adopted on March 26, 1918. The Seal and the words “Commonwealth of Kentucky” are placed on a navy blue field. The two people featured on it, are enacting the meaning of the state motto.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Flag Description</th>
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<th>Name: __________________________</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>The flag of Louisiana represents a pelican and its young, in white and gold at the center of a solid blue field. Below is a white ribbon bearing the state’s motto: “Union, Justice, and Confidence”.</td>
<td>Baton Rouge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>The Pine Tree State’s flag displays its Coat of Arms on a blue field. The center shield features symbols of the natural richness of Maine and the North Star shines above the state motto: “Dirigo”.</td>
<td>Augusta</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>The State’s flag was adopted as the State’s flag in 1904, bearing the arms of the Calvert and Crossland families. The black and gold panels belong to the Calvert family while the red and white panels represent the Crossland family.</td>
<td>Annapolis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>The Bay State has the image of an Algonquin Native American on a blue shield against a white field. The Latin motto meaning, “By the Sword We Seek Peace, but Peace Only Under Liberty” is displayed.</td>
<td>Boston</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>The Great Lake State adopted its flag in 1911. The flag is deep blue charged with State’s Coat of Arms. It pictures a Moose, an Elk and the Bald Eagle around the shield labeled “TUEBOR”.</td>
<td>Lansing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>The royal blue flag displays the state’s seal in the center. Around it is a wreath of the state flower with three dates woven into it. 19 stars ring the wreath. The largest star represents the North Star.</td>
<td>St. Paul</td>
<td></td>
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The official flag was adopted in 1894. The flag consists of blue, white, and red horizontal bars with a square Union in the upper left corner that bears a blue cross and is emblazoned with 13 mullets.

Missouri
Capital: Jefferson City

The Show-Me State adopted its flag in January 1822. The state’s seal is centered on red-white-blue fields. Two grizzly bears support the circular shield encircled by the motto of the state: “United We Stand, Divided We Fall.”

Montana
Capital: Helena

Displaying the symbols of Montana’s history and natural beauty, the flag has the State’s seal on a field of deep blue. The state’s motto, “Gold and Silver” features at the bottom. The state’s name appears above the seal in gold.

Nebraska
Capital: Lincoln

In 1963, Nebraska finally adopted the state’s flag. The state’s seal in gold and silver adorns the center of a blue rectangular cloth. The motto “Equality Before The Law” is displayed on the ribbon.

Nevada
Capital: Carson City

Nevada’s state flag has a cobalt blue background. The canton contains two sagebrush branches encircling a silver star. A ribbon above the star displays the text “Battle Born” and below the star is the state’s name.

New Hampshire
Capital: Concord

The Granite State has the state’s seal with the frigate Raleigh, surrounded by a wreath of laurel leaves and nine stars in the center of a blue field. It did not officially adopt a flag until 1909.
The Garden State officially adopted its state's flag on January 15, 1896. The state's coat of arms is centered on a buff background that consists of three plows, two women and a ribbon reading “Liberty and Prosperity”.

New Mexico
Capital: Santa Fe

The New Mexico flag represents the ancient Zia sun symbol highlighting the state's Native American roots. The red and yellow colors are of old Spain. The red sun with four rays represents the four directions.

New York
Capital: Albany

Adopted in 1901, the New York state flag features the state’s Coat of Arms in the center of a dark blue field. A banner below the shield reads the state's motto “Excelsior” or “Ever Upward”.

North Carolina
Capital: Raleigh

The flag was designed by General John Johnston Jones. The flag consists of a blue union with a silver star in the center. The state’s initials “N” appear in gilt on either side of the star.

North Dakota
Capital: Bismarck

The flag designed on a dark blue field is a bald eagle holding an olive branch and a bundle of arrows in its talons. A ribbon in its beak has the motto “E Pluribus Unum”. The name of the state appears below, on a red scroll.

Ohio
Capital: Columbus

The Buckeye State flag was designed by John Eisemann. The unique swallowtail design is called Burgee. The red and white stripes represent roads and waterways and the white circle with its red center represents “O” in Ohio.
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<td>Oregon</td>
<td>Salem</td>
<td>Oregon is the only two-sided flag. The navy blue and gold flag has an eagle above a heart-shaped shield surrounded by 33 stars on the front. The reverse side of the flag features a golden figure of a beaver, the state's animal.</td>
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<td>Keystone State</td>
<td>Pierre</td>
<td>The Keystone state's flag was adopted in 1907. The flag has a deep blue color field of Old Glory. The state's Coat of Arms has two draft horses on either side. The scroll at the bottom reads “Virtue, Liberty, and Independence”.</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>South Carolina's blue field of the flag was chosen by Colonel William Moultrie to match their uniforms. The flag features the state tree, a white palmetto in the center and a white crescent in the upper left corner.</td>
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<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>Pierre</td>
<td>The flag features its state's seal surrounded by a yellow blazing sun with golden triangles. The names, South Dakota and The Mount Rushmore State are arranged in a circle around the sun on a sky blue background.</td>
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LeRoy Reeves of the Third Regiment designed the flag. On a crimson field, the flag shows three stars bound together in an unbroken circle with a blue background, representing the three grand divisions of the state.

In the year 1945, Texas adopted its state flag. It features the famous Lone Star. The horizontal red and white fields and the vertical blue field represent bravery, purity and loyalty.

The Beehive state’s flag has the state’s seal centered on a blue field with a sego lily on either side of a beehive, symbolizing peace. The state’s motto “INDUSTRY” represents progress and hard work.

On June 1, 1923, the General Assembly adopted the state’s flag. The dark blue field displays the coat of arms in the center. A crimson banner below the seal bears the name “Vermont” and the state motto “Freedom and Unity”.

The Evergreen State adopted its flag on March 5, 1923. Bunting with its state’s seal in the center, it is the only state flag on a field of green and also to display an image of an actual person; George Washington.
The Mountain State's flag was designed by Joseph H. Diss Debar. The coat of arms in the center of a pure white field is wreathed by Rhododendron, the state flower and topped with the state motto “Mountaineers are Always Free.”

**West Virginia**
Capital: Charleston

Wisconsin's state flag was designed in 1863. The flag consists of a dark blue field featuring the state's coat of arms at its center, which includes the state motto. The state's name; “Wisconsin” above, and the year “1848” are displayed below the state's seal.

**Wisconsin**
Capital: Madison

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Wyoming was one of the last states to ratify an official state flag in 1917.