



Flag Etiquette

*I Pledge Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America,
and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God,
indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.*

- The Flag should *not* be used as a drapery or for any decoration in general. Blue, white and red striped bunting is used for this purpose. When using bunting, the blue stripe should be on top.
- The Flag should *not* be used in any form of advertising, such as on clothing, napkins, hats or anything else that is used for temporary purposes. Likewise, the Flag should never be used on an athletic uniform, other than a patch that can be worn on military, fire or police personnel uniforms.
- When the flag is lowered, *no part of it* should touch the ground. It should be received by waiting hands and arms. It should be raised quickly and lowered slowly, and ceremoniously.
- The flag should be cleaned and mended when appropriate, and it should be folded and ceremoniously folded for storage.
- The Flag should be raised at daybreak and lowered before dark.
- When a flag is worn, faded or torn, it is not fit to serve as a symbol of our country. It should be properly disposed of. Most American Legion Posts regularly conduct dignified flag burning ceremonies for this purpose.
- When flown with other banners, the other flags may be smaller, but none may be larger. No other flag may be placed above it. The Flag of the United States should be the first to be raised and the last to be lowered. When flown with flags of other nations, each flag must be displayed on separate poles of the same height, and each flag must be the same size. They must be raised and lowered simultaneously.
- When the National Anthem is played, all should stand at attention and salute at the first note and hold the salute until the last note.
- When used for mourning purposes, hoist the flag to its peak before lowering to half-staff. The flag must be hoisted again to its peak before lowering at the end of the day. When used to cover a casket, the union should be placed at the head and over the left shoulder. It should not be lowered into the grave.

For more information, please visit www.usflag.org

Brought to you by
Congressman Adam H. Putnam

Washington
1725 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
p. 202-225-1252

Florida
650 East Davidson Street
Bartow, FL 33830
p. 863-534-3530

www.adamputnam.house.gov