

The Forming of our Nation, Our Flag, and Our Anthem!

(With a Geography Game!)



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I give ALL of the glory to my Father God, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit for the collection of books which He has written, for the illustrations, materials, and lessons - ALL of which would not have been possible without Him. He instructed me to put the copyright in my name and I have obeyed. God's Loving World Ministries™ is a Christian Literacy organization whose mission is to teach remedial reading, writing, math, and English to English as a Second Language Learners FOR FREE. All of our books and materials can be read from any computer, cell phone, or tablet for FREE, or they can be printed out.

Psalm 115:1

"¹ Not to us, LORD, not to us
but to your name be the glory,
because of your love and faithfulness." (NIV)

SETTING A PURPOSE FOR READING AND GET READY TO PLAY A GEOGRAPHY GAME!

On the following pages, you will read important historical facts that influenced the creation of our nation and our flag. You will learn what the symbols and colors on our flag mean, how our flag changed over time, how our National Anthem was created, when each state ratified the Constitution and became a State in the United States of America, PLUS, YOU WILL SEARCH FOR THE STATES ON A MAP!

FOR THE BOOK VERSION: There will be one page that has a picture of a United States map that SHOULD NOT be stapled into the book after printing. YOUR JOB is to USE THE MAP to find EACH of the 50 states on the map as you read the book!

FOR THE VIDEO VERSION: There will be a picture of a United States map following each flag page.

STOP THE FILM.

THEN YOUR JOB is to find the States listed on the right hand side of the map as you go along!

Return again and again to play and see if you can shorten the amount of time it takes you to find each state.

Also, each State usually offers freebies for learning, For example, a color page with important facts about each State. Moms, Dads or legal guardians you can find those pages made especially for kids!





WHAT DO THE COLORS AND SHAPES USED IN OUR FLAG MEAN?



The flag of the United States of America consists of 13 stripes: seven that are red and alternate with six white. The stripes represent the 13 original colonies and each star represents each state in the Union. The colors have significance as well.

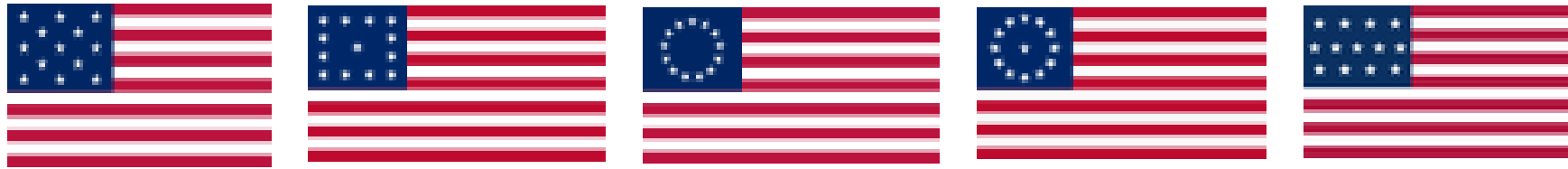
White represents purity, and innocence - which means holiness. This is a quality that we are supposed to aspire to. Purity, innocence, and holiness, can only be acquired through Father God, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit and obeying Him.

Red represents hardiness which means to be bold and brave, having the capability and strength to fight against evil and adversity, valor which means personal bravery in spirit, soul, and body, mind, will, and emotions, and the courage and readiness to sacrifice your life for a cause. (1 Timothy 6: 10 - 12) (2 Timothy 1:7, Luke 10:19) It has in the past, also represented the blood shed by those who fought to protect our freedoms, who fought to protect the freedom of others, and to protect our country. (John 15:12-14) It can also represent the blood of Christ - sacrificed to save us for our sins. Who through HIS sacrifice now lives IN US and THROUGH US. It is HE that gives us the ability to do ALL things through Him who gives us strength. (Phil. 4:13)(Luke 17:20-21)



The blue canton represents justice for all, (Matthew 12: 17-21) (Acts 10: 34 - 35), vigilance which means to be watchful and attentive, (1 Peter 5:8) and perseverance which means to take action and to put forth the effort to achieve something even against opposition, obstacles, or difficulties - to be immovable and firm and determined in one's beliefs and adhering to those beliefs - to be loyal. (Romans 5: 1 - 5)(2 Peter 1: 1 - 11) The one TRUE belief all humankind is meant to hold is that Father God, the Lord Jesus Christ - His Son and Messiah, and the Holy Spirit IS the ONLY, ONE TRUE LIVING GOD and there is no other.

THE FLAGS OF THE USA AS STATES RATIFIED (affirmed and formally sanctioned) THE CONSTITUTION



**These flags existed from between June 14, 1777 and May 1, 1795
13 stars and 13 stripes - ALL representing the 13 original colonies**

Delaware (December 7, 1787)

Pennsylvania (December 12, 1787)

New Jersey (December 18, 1787)

Georgia (January 2, 1788)

Connecticut (January 9, 1788)

Massachusetts (February 6, 1788)

Maryland (April 28, 1788)

South Carolina (May 23, 1788)

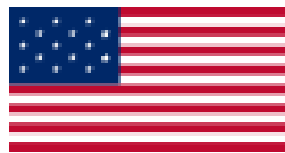
New Hampshire (June 21, 1788)

Virginia (June 25, 1788)

New York (July 26, 1788)

North Carolina (November 21, 1789)

Rhode Island (May 29, 1790)



This flag existed from between May 1, 1795 and July 3, 1818
15 stars and 15 stripes

Vermont (March 4, 1791)

Kentucky (June 1, 1792)

During the early 1800'S, the British had been interfering with American trade, seizing American sailors, and enslaving them into service to the British. So, on June 18, 1812, America declared war against the British.

A little more than a year later, in July of 1813, Major George Armistead (Commander of Fort McHenry in Baltimore, MD) commissioned Mary Pickersgill (a flag maker from Baltimore) to make 2 flags. She and her 5 assistants (according to the Fort McHenry website) made:

1. A smaller storm flag that was 17 x 25 feet and ...
2. a larger garrison flag - its original size was 30 feet x 42 feet. This flag was a 15 STAR and 15 STRIPE flag. Each star on the larger flag was about 2 feet in diameter and each stripe about 24 inches wide. It was HUGE, because it was meant to be seen from afar. The U.S. Government paid Pickersgill \$405.90 for the garrison flag AND \$168.54 for the storm flag. They were delivered to Fort McHenry on August 19, 1813. Keep in mind, that until at least the 1850's when Isaac Singer mass produced the treadle sewing machine, ALL FLAGS WERE MADE BY HAND! So, when you are viewing these flags, consider the amount of hard work that went into them.

Just so you can get an idea of how big the garrison flag was...

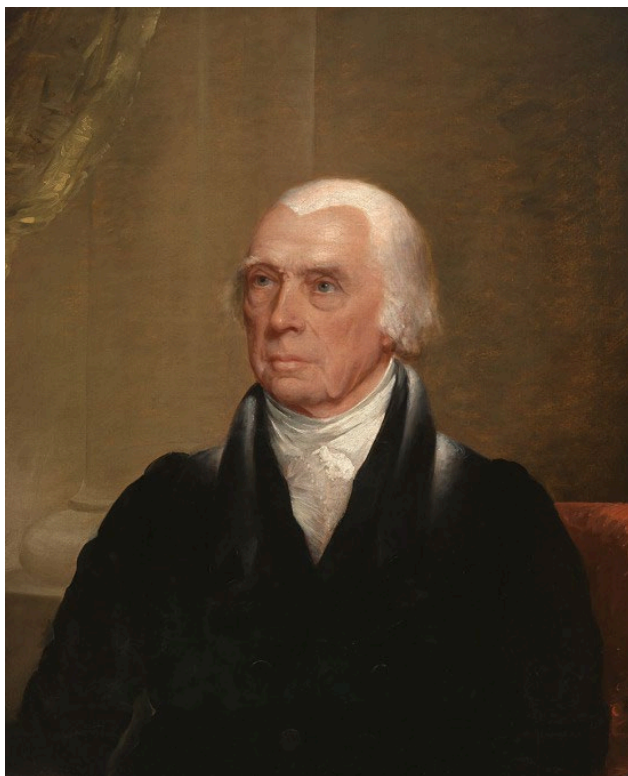


The flag that was equal in size to the original garrison flag IS flown in good weather at Fort McHenry, National Park.

Photo of the Evening Flag Change, Courtesy of the National Park Service at Fort McHenry, 2018, (Public Domain)

In August of 1814, the British had practically destroyed Washington D.C.





President James Madison and his wife, Dolley, had barely escaped with their own lives.



Francis Scott Key (a Georgetown lawyer) was asked to help John Skinner (a U.S. government agent), to negotiate the release of 65-year-old Dr. William Beanes (a civilian and well-known physician). Beanes had been captured by the British after confronting British soldiers who were attempting to ransack his home in Upper Marlboro, MD. Scott Key and Skinner WERE successful in gaining Beanes release, but the British were not sure how much Scott Key and Skinner had overheard about their plans to attack Baltimore in the future. As a result, the British kept Francis Scott Key and Skinner on their OWN AMERICAN truce ship, (meaning a ship used to sign agreements concerning stopping battles or releasing prisoners). The truce ship was tied to a British ship (which was not in the battle.) It was about 6 to 8 miles away from Fort Mchenry.

Next, the British laid their sights on destroying Fort McHenry in Baltimore and wanted to enter Baltimore Harbor too. Baltimore was about the third largest city on the east coast at that time - with an estimated population of 47,000 people. These were people who were attracted to the fact that it was right on the Patapsco River, had access to the Chesapeake Bay, and the Atlantic. It had a deep protected harbor suitable for large ships and was growing into an important location for ship building, trade, and privateering (meaning private ships that were armed, licensed, and hired to attack enemy shipping entities for the U.S. Government.) Scott Key and Skinner WERE able to watch the entire battle from their position, but take into account the gun powder and cannons of the day and their resultant billowing clouds of smoke. With cannons shooting back and forth it would be difficult to know who was winning and who was losing!



Look how much smoke was created when just ONE cannon was fired! Imagine how the air was filled with smoke because of MANY cannons and OTHER weapons being fired repeatedly!



This is an Aerial photo of Fort McHenry, National Park.

The Baltimore Harbor is in the direction of the arrow.

The British attack on Fort McHenry also came with heavy rainfall. So, Major Armistead had taken down the larger garrison flag and replaced it with the smaller storm flag. As Francis Scott Key watched and waited for the outcome, he began to write a poem describing the events of the battle. It was supposed to be sung to the tune of an old London song. To the surprise of the British, on September 14, 1814 the battle for Fort McHenry was an AMERICAN victory! When the British began to retreat, Armistead ordered that the storm flag be taken down and that the larger garrison flag be raised instead! It was the flag that Francis Scott Key described from a distance and that confirmed the AMERICAN victory! Francis Scott Key's song and the documentation of its first public performance was on October 19, 1814 at the Holliday Street Theatre in Baltimore, Maryland. The song was widely loved and really used for centuries as our National Anthem long before March 3, 1931, when President Herbert Hoover made - "THE STAR- SPANGLED BANNER" the official National Anthem for the United States of America. The word "ramparts" in the poem/song means the fort itself - the fortification - the wall of protection. This is what Francis Scott Key saw...

The Star-Spangled Banner

O say can you see,
by the dawn's early light,
what so proudly we hail'd
at the twilight's last gleaming.

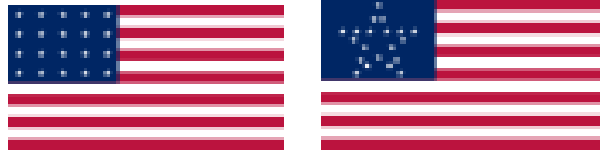
Whose broad stripes and bright stars
through the perilous fight.

O'er the ramparts we watch'd
were so gallantly streaming.

And the rocket's red glare,
the bombs bursting in air,
gave proof through the night
that our flag was still there.

O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave

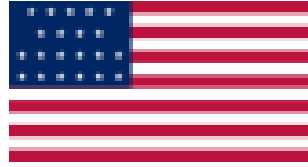
O'er the land of the free
and the home of the brave.



**These flags existed from between July 4, 1818 and July 3, 1819
20 stars and 13 stripes**

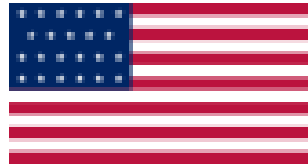
**Tennessee (June 1, 1796)
Ohio (March 1, 1803)
Louisiana (April 30, 1812)
Indiana (December 11, 1816)
Mississippi (December 10, 1817)**

On April 4, 1818, an act designated that the U.S. Flag would have 13 stripes and one star for each state, to be added to the flag on the 4th of July following the admission of each new state.



**This flag existed from between July 4, 1819 and July 3, 1820
21 stars and 13 stripes**

Illinois (December 3, 1818)



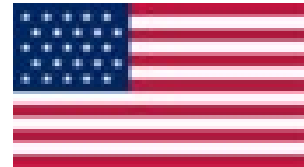
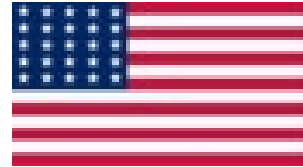
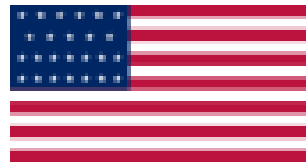
**This flag existed from between July 4, 1820 and July 3, 1822
23 stars and 13 stripes**

Alabama (December 14, 1819)

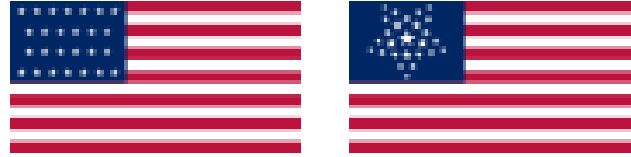
Maine (March 15, 1820)



This flag existed from between July 4, 1822 and July 3, 1836
24 stars and 13 stripes
Missouri (August 10, 1821)

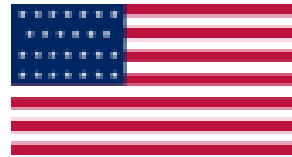


These flags existed from between July 4, 1836 and July 3, 1837
25 stars and 13 stripes
Arkansas (June 15, 1836)



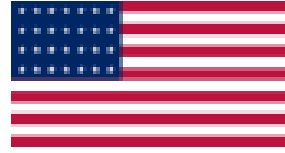
**These flags existed from between July 4, 1837 and July 3, 1845
26 stars and 13 stripes**

Michigan (Jan. 26, 1837)



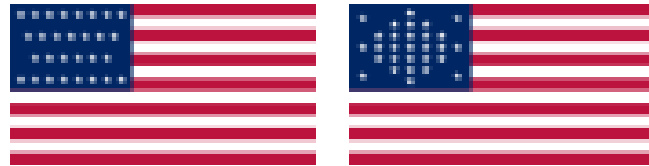
**This flag existed from between July 4, 1845 and July 3, 1846
27 stars and 13 stripes**

Florida (March 3, 1845)



**This flag existed from between July 4, 1846 and July 3, 1847
28 stars and 13 stripes**

Texas (December 29, 1845)



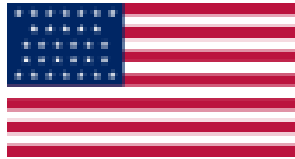
**These flags existed from between July 4, 1847 and July 3, 1848
29 stars and 13 stripes**

Iowa (December 28, 1846)



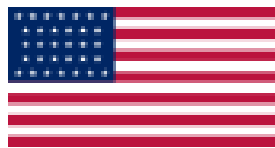
**This flag existed from between July 4, 1848 and July 3, 1851
30 stars and 13 stripes**

Wisconsin (May 29, 1848)



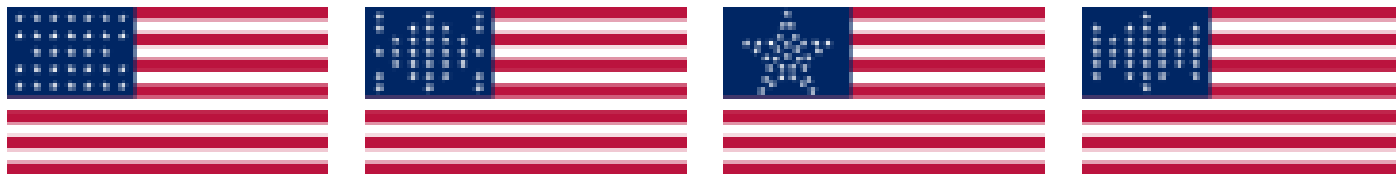
**This flag existed from between July 4, 1851 and July 3, 1858
31 stars and 13 stripes**

California (September 9, 1850)



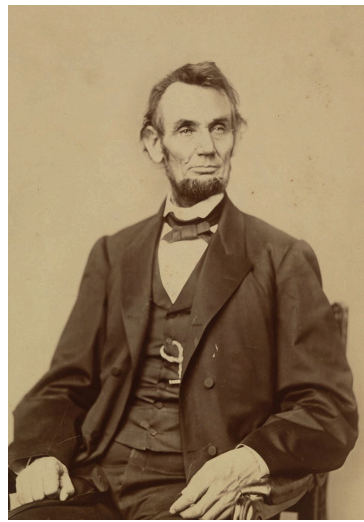
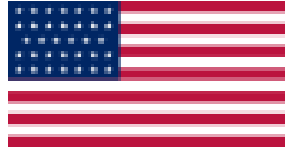
**This flag existed from between July 4, 1858 and July 3, 1859
32 stars and 13 stripes**

Minnesota (May 11, 1858)



**These flags existed from between July 4, 1859 and July 3, 1861
33 stars and 13 stripes**

Oregon (February 14, 1859)



These flags existed from between July 4, 1861 and July 3, 1863

34 stars and 13 stripes

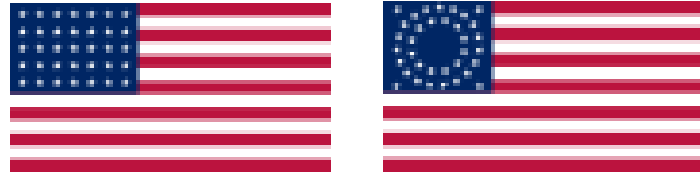
Kansas (January 29, 1861) Kansas entered the Union just 3 months before the Civil War began. The 34th star for Kansas was added on July 4th 1861.

Even before Abraham Lincoln was elected as the 16th President of the U.S. in 1860, conflicts between the northern industrialized states and the southern farming states were growing both politically and economically over the issue of slavery. South Carolina was the first state to secede (meaning to leave) the United States of America on December 20, 1860 in order to form their own country. They intended to name it the Confederate States of America.

The next month, the state of Mississippi also seceded (January 9, 1861), and so did other states in rapid succession - Florida (January 10, 1861), Alabama (January 11, 1861), Georgia (January 19, 1861), Louisiana (January 26, 1861), Texas (February 1, 1861). On March 4, 1861 President Lincoln was inaugurated. The Civil War began on April 12, 1861 after the Confederates attacked Fort Sumter in South Carolina. Virginia seceded on (April 17, 1861), Arkansas (May 6, 1861), North Carolina (May 20, 1861), and Tennessee (June 8, 1861). Jefferson Davis, a slave owner himself, was elected as their President - of eleven states in all. Please note that 4 of these states that seceded had been a part of the 13 original colonies and had had slavery and indentured servants during the colonial period. They were: South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia.

Four states which DID allow slavery remained with the Union: Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, and Missouri. This DID in TRUTH divide their loyalties. Abraham Lincoln should never have allowed this. It could have prevented his death at the hands of John Wilkes Booth who WAS from Maryland.

The Western part of Virginia DID NOT want to secede, so the State of West Virginia was born!

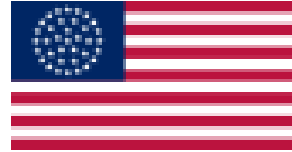
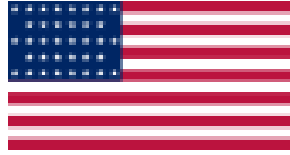


**These flags existed from between July 4, 1863 and July 3, 1865
35 stars and 13 stripes**

West Virginia (June 20, 1863)

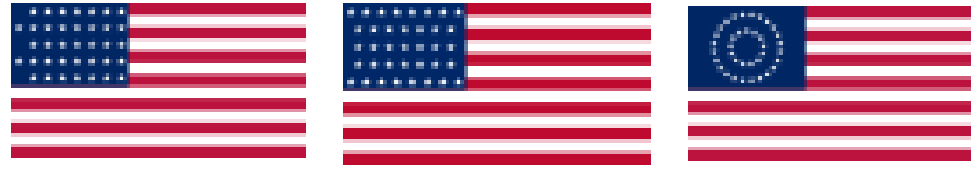
You'll note that President Abraham Lincoln was always optimistic that the conflicts would be resolved and that the Confederates would rejoin the Union, because NOT ONE star was removed from the flags of the United States of America even though states had seceded. Instead, one was added to it to make 35 with the addition of West Virginia in 1863.

On April 9, 1865 General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox Courthouse and the Civil War was over. It took a while for troops to find out and the last battle of the Civil War was fought on May 13, 1865 at Palmito Ranch, Texas.



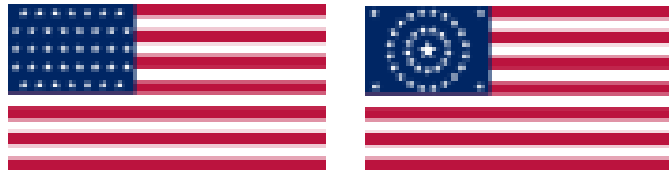
These flags existed from between July 4, 1865 and July 3, 1867
36 stars and 13 stripes

Nevada (October 31, 1864)



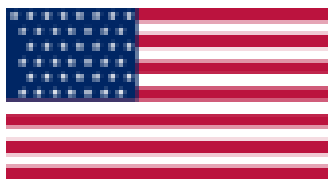
**These flags existed from between July 4, 1867 and July 3, 1877
37 stars and 13 stripes**

Nebraska (March 1, 1867)



**These flags existed from between July 4, 1877 and July 3, 1890
38 stars and 13 stripes**

Colorado (August 1, 1876)



This flag existed from between July 4, 1890 and July 3, 1891

43 stars and 13 stripes

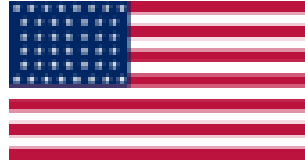
North Dakota (November 2, 1889)

South Dakota (November 2, 1889)

Montana (November 8, 1889)

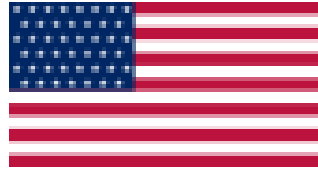
Washington (November 11, 1889)

Idaho (July 3, 1890)



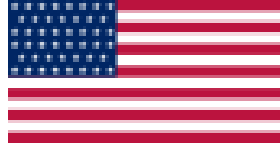
**This flag existed from between July 4, 1891 and July 3, 1896
44 stars and 13 stripes**

Wyoming (July 10, 1890)



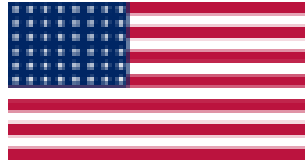
**This flag existed from between July 4, 1896 and July 3, 1908
45 stars and 13 stripes**

Utah (January 4, 1896)



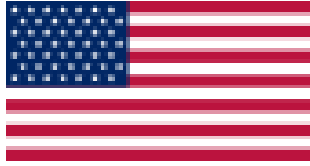
**This flag existed from between July 4, 1908 and July 3, 1912
46 stars and 13 stripes**

Oklahoma (November 16, 1907)



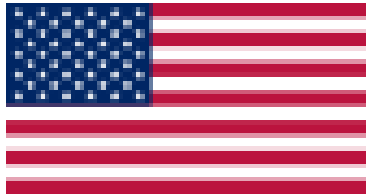
**This flag existed from between July 4, 1912 and July 3, 1959
48 stars and 13 stripes**

**New Mexico (January 6, 1912)
Arizona (February 14, 1912)**



**This flag existed from between July 4, 1959 and July 3, 1960
49 stars and 13 stripes**

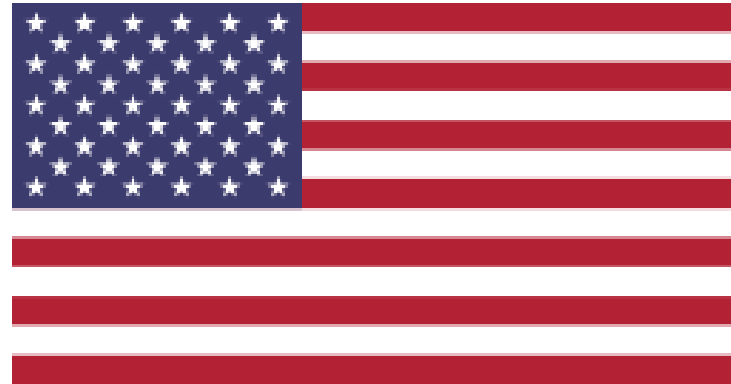
Alaska (January 3, 1959)



**This flag existed from between July 4, 1960 to the present day in 2023
50 stars and 13 stripes**

Hawaii (August 21, 1959)

As you could see, the United States of America as we know it today was not formed in one day! It took **MANY YEARS** to build our country to 50 United States!



If you need help with learning and reading God CAN help you.
Let us pray.

Just say, Lord Jesus the Christ,
I've made so many mistakes I must confess.
I repent of them now and turn from them.
I no longer want that mess.

Lord Jesus, I believe you are the Son of God
and believe in your resurrection.
I want to be a child of God
and receive your love and affection.

Lord Jesus the Christ, be my Savior.
Come into my heart.
Cleanse me now of all unrighteousness
and give me a brand-new start.

I ask for the baptism of the Holy Spirit
and the baptism by Holy fire too.
I WANT to be changed and to do the RIGHT things
I need help from you.

Please help me to read, write, and do my math.
I want to start learning today.
I want my life to take a turn
and start in a whole new way.

Thank you Lord Jesus for helping me to learn.
I KNOW you can help make my ability,
greater than anyone ever imagined
and bring back my self-respect and dignity.

I ask this in the name of the Lord Jesus the Christ.
I say "Amen" and make it sure.
Now I'll start learning the RIGHT way.
I KNOW Lord Jesus, YOU are the door.

AMEN!

Photo Resources

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Isaiah 61:11

"11 For as the soil makes the
sprout come up and a
garden causes seeds to grow,
so the Sovereign LORD will make
righteousness and praise spring up
before all nations." (NIV)

