

# Flag of the United States

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The national flag of the United States of America, often referred to as the American flag, consists of thirteen equal horizontal stripes of red (top and bottom) alternating with white, with a blue rectangle in the canton(referred to specifically as the "union") bearing fifty small, white, five-pointed stars arranged in nine offset horizontal rows of six stars (top and bottom) alternating with rows of five stars. The 50 stars on the flag represent the 50 states of the United States of America and the 13 stripes represent the thirteen British colonies that declared independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain and became the first states in the Union.<sup>[1]</sup> Nicknames for the flag include the "Stars and Stripes", "Old Glory",<sup>[2]</sup> and "The Star-Spangled Banner".

Colors: Possible Meanings: Red: Courage, Boldness, Valor/Bravery, Sacrifice, War, Hardiness, bloodshed; White: Liberty/Freedom, innocence, Purity Blue: the color of the Chief signifying vigilance, perseverance & justice

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# Flag of South Korea

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The Flag of South Korea, or Taegukgi is the national flag for the Republic of Korea. It has three parts: a white background, a red and blue Taeguk, which is a red and blue Taiji yin- and yang-symbol (Korean terms are Um and Yang) in the center, and four black trigrams, which are selected from the original eight, on each corner of the flag.

The white background is a traditional Korean color. It represents peace and purity. The circle in the middle is derived from the philosophy of UM and YANG and represents the balance of the universe. The blue section represents the negative cosmic forces (water, passive, female), and the red section represents the opposing positive cosmic forces (fire, active, male). The trigrams together represent the principle of movement and harmony. Each trigram (hangeul: kwae) represents one of the four classical elements.<sup>[1]</sup> Solid lines are Yang, broken lines are Um. The four trigrams are described in this table (beginning with upper left corner then counter clockwise):

Trigram	Protection Meanings	Cardinal Directions	Four Elements	Nature	Seasons	Four Virtues	Family	More Meanings	Name in Korean
	strong protecting the strong	east	heaven	sky	spring	humanity	father	justice	<i>geon</i>
	strong protecting the weak	south	fire	sun	autumn	justice	daughter	fruition	<i>ri</i>
	weak protecting the strong	north	water	moon	winter	intelligence	son	wisdom	<i>gam</i>
	weak protecting the weak	west	earth	earth	summer	courtesy	mother	vitality	<i>gon</i>