

Rules for Displaying the American Flag

Here are the rules for proper display and use of the United States of America flag as established by custom and federal law:

- The flag may be displayed for 24 hours a day only if it is properly illuminated during hours of darkness.
- The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
- The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is used.
- Never display the flag with the union down, except as a signal of dire distress in instance of extreme danger to life or property.
- Do not let the flag touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, floor, water or merchandise.
- By order of the president, the flag shall be flown half-staff upon the death of principal figures of the U.S. Government and the governors of a state, territory or possession as mark of respect to their memory.
- The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used or stored in such a manner as will permit it to be easily torn, soiled or damaged.

Accepted: December 2003

Reviewed: December 2009

Reviewed: April 2016

EMCL General Service Policies

