

A History of Flag Day

On June 14th, 1777, during the Revolutionary War, the Second Continental Congress adopted the stars and stripes for the flag of the United States of America. It was not until 100 years later, however, that June 14th was celebrated as Flag Day for the first time. In 1877 the country celebrated the centennial of the American flag. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation for the national observance of Flag Day, but it still was not officially recognized until President Harry Truman signed it into law in 1949.

The original flag had 13 white stars on a blue field and 13 alternating red and white stripes. But congress did not specify where each item went, in what direction, or what the proportions should be. When two new states were added to the Union in 1795, a new flag act called for 15 stripes and 15 stars. Francis Scott Key was gazing at a flag like this in 1812 when he wrote The Star-Spangled Banner, a poem that later became the American national anthem.

This pattern of adding a new star and stripe continued until it became obvious that there would not be room for continuing to add stripes. In 1912 President Taft established the current pattern, of 13 stripes to represent the original thirteen colonies, and one star for each state. The flag added its last two stars in 1960 when Hawaii and Alaska became the most recent states to join the Union. In 1870 Betsy Ross' grandson gave a speech at a historic society in Philadelphia and related a story which he said his grandmother told him as a boy, of how General Washington came to her to ask that she design and sew a new flag for the country. Betsy Ross was an upholsterer who made flags for the Pennsylvania Navy, so it would make sense that she would be asked to do this. However, the fact that nearly one hundred years passed before she was given official credit has since caused many people to doubt if the story is true.

Flag Day Timeline



Cut out strips and glue onto the following page next to the year each event happened.

June 14th was celebrated as Flag Day for the first time.

The 50-star flag was created when Hawaii and Alaska joined the Union.

Two new states were added to the Union in 1795 and a new flag act called for 15 stripes and 15 stars.

Francis Scott Key wrote The Star-Spangled Banner, a poem that later became the American national anthem.

The Second Continental Congress adopted the stars and stripes for the flag of the United States of America.

Betsy Ross' grandson said General Washington asked his grandmother to design and sew a new flag for the country.

President Harry Truman signed Flag Day into law.

Flag Day Timeline



1777

Blank space for notes related to the year 1777.

1795

Blank space for notes related to the year 1795.

1812

Blank space for notes related to the year 1812.

1870

Blank space for notes related to the year 1870.

1877

Blank space for notes related to the year 1877.

1949

Blank space for notes related to the year 1949.

1960

Blank space for notes related to the year 1960.

13 Colonies Name Jumble



Virginia, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia

oonrcharlnait

airnigiv

oitaushroclna

rgegiao

smsatecshusat

neihsroladd

ermhashwinep

dwalaeer

ccocentintu

lanradym

keonyrw

reyjenwes

nanselniypav

50 States Word Search



O	M	O	N	T	A	N	A	L	A	B	A	M	A	T	Y	U	N
C	Q	K	E	W	E	O	L	H	R	R	T	A	D	E	I	K	O
I	A	L	W	P	O	I	A	A	I	N	D	I	A	N	A	A	R
X	W	A	H	Y	L	H	S	W	Z	K	J	N	V	N	A	N	T
E	O	H	A	G	O	O	K	A	O	M	H	E	E	E	I	S	H
M	I	O	M	F	W	M	A	I	N	A	D	S	N	S	N	A	C
W	Y	M	P	A	E	A	I	I	A	R	K	A	N	S	A	S	A
E	E	A	S	M	S	V	S	N	C	Y	X	Z	T	E	V	A	R
N	S	L	H	I	T	S	B	H	G	L	N	M	E	E	L	L	O
E	R	O	I	S	V	O	A	J	I	A	K	L	X	O	Y	A	L
W	E	U	R	S	I	U	I	C	H	N	G	F	A	R	S	T	I
Y	J	I	E	I	R	T	N	O	H	D	G	D	S	E	N	O	N
O	W	S	R	S	G	H	I	L	I	U	A	T	S	G	N	K	A
R	E	I	A	S	I	D	G	O	W	D	S	Q	O	O	E	A	T
K	N	A	W	I	N	A	R	R	E	R	A	E	T	N	P	D	O
N	I	N	A	P	I	K	I	A	P	O	I	H	T	U	Y	H	S
E	S	A	L	P	A	O	V	D	L	K	J	H	O	T	G	T	E
B	N	D	E	I	S	T	N	O	M	R	E	V	D	F	S	R	N
R	O	I	D	A	Z	A	I	N	R	O	F	I	L	A	C	O	I
A	C	R	C	X	T	U	C	I	T	C	E	N	N	O	C	N	M
S	S	O	R	H	O	D	E	I	S	L	A	N	D	J	K	L	P
K	I	L	L	I	N	O	I	S	G	Y	K	C	U	T	N	E	K
A	W	F	S	O	U	T	H	C	A	R	O	L	I	N	A	O	I
N	B	V	I	R	U	O	S	S	I	M	I	C	H	I	G	A	N
G	E	O	R	G	I	A	Q	W	E	R	T	H	A	T	U	Y	U

ALABAMA

ALASKA

ARIZONA

ARKANSAS

CALIFORNIA

COLORADO

CONNECTICUT

DELAWARE

FLORIDA

GEORGIA

HAWAII

IDAHO

ILLINOIS

INDIANA

IOWA

KANSAS

KENTUCKY

LOUISIANA

MAINE

MARYLAND

MASSACHUSETTS

MICHIGAN

MINNESOTA

MISSISSIPPI

MISSOURI

MONTANA

NEBRASKA

NEVADA

NEW HAMPSHIRE

NEW JERSEY

NEW MEXICO

NEW YORK

NORTH CAROLINA

NORTH DAKOTA

OHIO

OKLAHOMA

OREGON

PENNSYLVANIA

RHODE ISLAND

SOUTH CAROLINA

SOUTH DAKOTA

TENNESSEE

TEXAS

UTAH

VERMONT

VIRGINIA

WASHINGTON

WEST VIRGINIA

WISCONSIN

WYOMING

