

## What the United States Flag Stands For

Red, white, and blue; Fifty stars, thirteen stripes. Why these colors? Why these emblems? What do they stand for? Over the years we encounter the flag on school buildings, in churches, and in our homes, but do we realize the true meaning of our emblem? What does it really stand for?

America's flag stands for us, for America: our freedom, our country, our government, our military. It is a beautiful symbol reminding us daily of where we live, and who we serve. Our flag stands for the choices we make, and the paths that we pursue as a country and as individuals. America's flag stands for who we are and what we've done. When others see our flag, they see our flaws, and our triumphs. Our flag stands for the country we have created as Americans. If we are the image of courage and victory, then so also, is our flag.

The thirteen stripes represent our original colonies, our beginning. They stand for those who had the courage to found our country, and the innumerable multitude who spilled their blood to create a world without slavery, oppression, or monarchy. This is what our flag stands for.

The fifty stars are our states, not individually represented, but as one unit. Why stars? The stars are a beautiful reminder of America's divine goal as a country. We are God's people. And this is what our flag stands for.

The colors in our flag stand for our American aspirations and achievements. Red: courage, bravery, and the blood that was spilled to achieve our freedom. White: innocence, purity, and the youth of our country. Blue: perseverance, vigilance, and justice which represents a strong government. This is what our flag stands for.

When I see the flag, I am filled to the brim with awe and pride. Generations of my people, Americans, have gazed at this same flag, and glimpsed the glory that I still see today, the glory of one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. And that, friends, is what our flag stands for.

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