

The Flag Folding Presentation

The flag folding ceremony represents the same religious principles on which our country was originally founded. The portion of the flag denoting honor is the canton of blue containing the stars, representing states our veterans served in uniform. The canton field of blue dresses from left to right and is inverted only when draped as a pall on a casket of a veteran who has served our country honorably in uniform.

The first fold of our flag is the symbol of life.

The second fold is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life.

The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks, who gave a portion of life for the defense of our country and to attain peace throughout the world.

The fourth fold represents our weaker nature; for, as American citizens trusting in God, it is in Him we turn to in times of peace, as well as in times of war for His divine guidance.

The fifth fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it still is our country; right or wrong."

The sixth fold reminds us of the sixth battle-weary fighters who vigilantly struggled to the top of the Mount Suribache on Iwo Jima during World War II. Once there, they proudly rose above the battle. Our flag, the symbol "that we all hold dear," is the symbol of "freedom, democracy, government of the people, by the people, and for the people." It is our duty to defend the flag which stands for them all.

The seventh fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our hearts that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with the liberty and justice for all.

The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered onto the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood and mothers; for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty, and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great have been molded.

The tenth fold is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since he or she was first born.

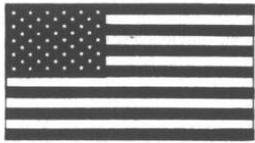
The eleventh fold, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The twelfth fold, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

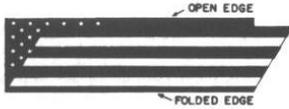
When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "In God We Trust."

Spengel-Boulanger
FUNERAL HOME

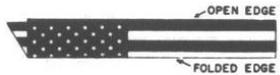
CORRECT METHOD OF FOLDING THE UNITED STATES FLAG



(a) Fold the lower striped section of the flag over the blue field.



(b) Folded edge is then folded over to meet the open edge.



(c) A triangular fold is then started by bringing the stripe corner of the folded edge to the open edge.



(d) Outer point is then turned inward parallel with the open edge to form a second triangle.



(e) Triangular folding is continued until the entire length of the flag is folded in the triangular shape of a cocked hat with only the blue field visible.



United States Flag Etiquette

The handling and displaying of our American flag should be done with respect and adherence to the rules as prescribed in the United States Code. Some of the rules are as follows:

- **Display the flag after dusk or dark with proper illumination.** Light should shine directly on or towards the flag at a distance or angle. The lighting should illuminate the flag so that it is easily distinguishable.
- **The flag should be raised while it is unfurled (without folds).** It should be unfurled and then hoisted quickly to the top of the staff. It should not touch the ground during this process.
- **Lower the flag slowly.** The flag should be lowered slowly and with dignity.
- **Properly display your flag.** The flag should never touch the floor, water, merchandise, or the sides of a truck, boat, vehicle, etc.
- **Display a flag in proper condition.** Do not display a flag that is tattered, torn, dirty, or faded. If you are going to display a flag, then look at it every day to make sure it is in the proper condition. When, or if, a flag becomes torn, tattered, or faded, it should be quickly removed and properly destroyed by burning in a dignified manner.
- **Keep your flag clean.** When a flag becomes soiled, it can and should be either dry-cleaned or washed by hand. If ever wrinkled, it can and should be ironed or pressed.

For more information about flag etiquette, visit www.usflag.org.