

Flag Etiquette

1. The Union Jack is the official flag of Canada.
2. The flag should not be hoisted before sunrise, nor allowed to remain up after sunset.
3. In hoisting the flag, the broad stripe in the Cross of St. Andrew should be above the red stripe of St. Patrick on the side of the flag next the mast head; if reversed, it is an indication of distress.
4. When flown on Parliament or Legislative Buildings it indicates the presence of government under the British Constitution; when flown above our Law Courts it is the sign of the administration of British Law.
5. The dimensions of a flag, according to Heraldry, should be either square or in the proportion of two to one.
6. A flag flying half mast high is the universal symbol of mourning. The flag after having been run up to the top of the pole must be lowered a distance equal to its own width.
7. In time of peace international usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another on the same flagstaff.
8. At public meetings, the flag should be displayed above and behind the speaker, but should never be used as a drape for table or platform, and nothing must be placed on it.
9. At unveiling ceremonies, the flag should be carried aloft to wave over the memorial for the remainder of the service.
10. During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag, or when it is being carried past in a parade or a review, all persons present should stand at attention, those in uniform giving the military salute, while all other male British subjects should raise their hats.
11. When carried in procession, the Union Jack should be on the marching right, or when several flags are carried in line it should be in front of the central and highest point of the group.
13. When displayed with another flag against a wall from crossed staffs it should be on the right (observer's left) with its staff in front of the other staff.
14. When the flag is displayed in a manner other than by being flown from a staff it should be displayed flat. When drapings, festoons, etc., are required, bunting should be used, but not the flag itself, excepting as the centre, or centres, of decorative schemes, and then it should not be placed lower than a person seated.
15. In street decorations, the flag should be hung so that it points north on streets running east and west, and east on streets running north and south.
16. The flag should never be allowed to touch the ground nor trail in the water.