

MISST 127 Flag Manual By: Ben Selesky



Respect the Flag

All flags flown on Mackinac Island should be treated with the same respect as what they represent, whether it be England, France, Canada, Michigan, or the USA.

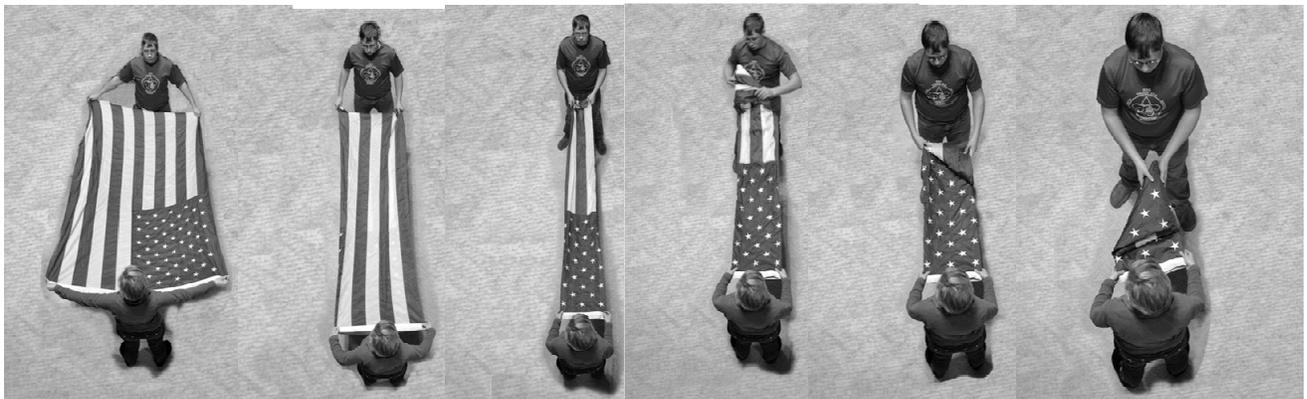
Part of showing this respect is properly raising, lowering, folding, and storing the flags. Flags should not touch the ground and should be folded and carried as specified in this flag manual.



US Flag and Star Spangled Banner

- Step 1: Pull flag tight. Remember the person holding the stars should remain still.
- Step 2: Fold flag in half lengthwise, then pull tight again. Make sure the stars are facing down.
- Step 3: Repeat step 2.
- Step 4: Bring corner of flag to opposite edge to form a triangle.
- Step 5: Fold triangle forward to make another triangle.
- Step 6: Bring corner of triangle to opposite side, the side you first folded from.
- Step 7: Repeat steps 4, 5, and 6 until you cannot make another fold. If possible fold left over into a triangle, if not just leave it, and tuck into the end of the flag.
- Step 8: Carry flag under right arm.

When finished, the flag should have no red showing, stagger the edges of the flag about a half inch when folding to avoid this, and there should be 13 stars showing counting both sides.



HALF-STAFF PROCEDURE:

The Post Cemetery flag is always flown at half-staff in accordance with Mackinac Island State Park Commission tradition. To raise a flag to half-staff, first raise the flag to the top of the pole. Pause for a three second salute, then respectfully lower the flag 1/3 the length of the pole. (The flag should be equal distance from the top and bottom of the pole), except at the Fort Main staff, where it will be lowered to 1/4 of the length of the pole, due to the cedar trees that restrict sight and will catch flags. To lower a half-staff flag the procedure is reversed.

The MSHP office and Coordinator will inform the troop when flags are to be flown at half-staff. Fort Main, Governor's, Scout Barracks, downtown building, Visitor's Center and the two flags at the bottom of the ramp (behind the sign) are the only flags at half mast on those days. Ramp and Avenue of flags remain at full-staff when they are flown.

British, French, Canadian, & Specialty Flags

Step 1: Pull flag tight, remember the person holding the eyelets should remain still while folding the flag.

Step 2: Fold flag in half lengthwise.

Step 3: Repeat step 2.

Step 4: One scout takes his end of the flag and hands it to the other.

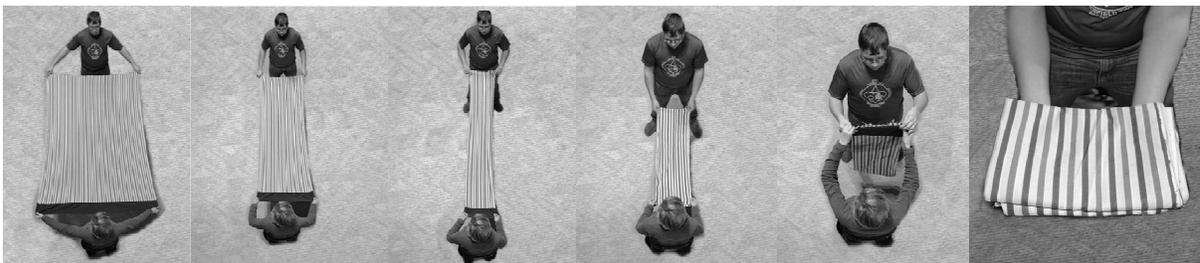
Step 5: The scout that is not holding the ends of the flag takes the folded end and pulls it tight.

Step 6: Repeat steps 4 and 5.

Step 7: Repeat steps 4 and 5 again.

Step 8: Place arm in the middle of the flag and fold over the arm and then remove arm.

When finished the flag should be a square or an almost square rectangle, carry it under the right arm.



Tying, Raising, & Lowering

TYING OFF YOUR FLAG: There are many ways to tie a flag, almost all are acceptable as long as they look neat, are tight, are in the shape of a figure 8, and do not have a long tail dangling and easy to access by a small child that might untie it. They also must be easy to untie by another scout.

RAISING & LOWERING: The flags will be raised quickly and lowered slowly at the shot of the troop cannon fired by the SPL. All flags will be raised and lowered at the same rate of speed within your flag detail. They will be raise quickly at morning flags and slowly at evening flags. To do this, the scouts will look at the first flag depending on the flag post at which they are stationed. Make the raising and lowering look good and in sync.