














<b>East Asia</b>			
<p>China</p>  <p>Beijing</p>	<p>Red stands for revolution, the large star for the Communist Party, and four small stars for classes of people: workers, peasants, petty bourgeoisie, and patriotic capitalists.</p>	<p>Japan</p>  <p>Tokyo</p>	<p>A white flag with a large red disk (representing the sun) in the centre. Japan's name can be translated to mean "the land of the rising sun."</p>
<p>Mongolia</p>  <p>Ulaanbaatar</p>	<p>In the <i>soyombo</i>, fire stands for growth, the sun, moon and yin-yang for religion. Triangles stand for death to the enemy, horizontal and vertical rectangles for fairness and a fortress.</p>	<p>North Korea</p>  <p>Pyongyang</p>	<p>Red represents revolutionary traditions. The red star is for Communism. The blue and white stripes stand for friendship and purity respectively.</p>
<p>South Korea</p>  <p>Seoul</p>	<p>The red and blue taegeuk represents the origin of all things in the universe. The four trigrams symbolise the four elements: metal, fire, water and earth.</p>	<p>Taiwan</p>  <p>Taipei</p>	<p>Red represents the land of China. The sun on a blue field is the party flag of the Kuomintang (Nationalist Party). The twelve points represent 12 Chinese hours.</p>
<b>South East Asia</b>			
<p>Brunei</p>  <p>Bandar Seri Begawan</p>	<p>The National Crest shows a flag, an umbrella, a pair of wings, two hands, and a crescent signifying Islam. Yellow stands for the sultan, white and black for the chief and second ministers.</p>	<p>Cambodia</p>  <p>Phnom Penh</p>	<p>The central emblem represents the towers of Angkor Wat. Blue stands for royalty, red for the nation, and white for religion.</p>
<p>Indonesia</p>  <p>Jakarta</p>	<p>The flag is derived from the banner of the 13th century Majapahit Empire. Their flag had nine alternating red and white stripes.</p>	<p>Laos</p>  <p>Vientiane</p>	<p>The white disk represents a full moon over the blue Mekong River. Red stands for blood that was shed in the struggle for freedom.</p>
<p>Malaysia</p>  <p>Kuala Lumpur</p>	<p>The fourteen stripes and fourteen-pointed star represent the fourteen states of Malaysia. The crescent moon is a symbol of Islam.</p>	<p>Myanmar</p>  <p>Naypyidaw</p>	<p>Yellow, green and red stand for solidarity, tranquillity and courage. The white star reflects the perpetual existence of the Union.</p>
<p>Philippines</p>  <p>Manila</p>	<p>The eight rays on the sun stand for eight provinces that revolted against Spain. The three stars stand for the three island groups: Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.</p>	<p>Singapore</p>  <p>Singapore</p>	<p>Red stands for brotherhood and white for purity. The five stars were modelled off the flag of the People's Republic of China and the crescent moon is for the Muslims.</p>
<p>Thailand</p>  <p>Bangkok</p>	<p>The red stripes stand for the land and people, white for Theravada Buddhism and blue for the monarchy. An unofficial motto of Thailand is nation-religion-king.</p>	<p>Timor Leste</p>  <p>Dili</p>	<p>Black, yellow and red stand for obscurity to be overcome, colonialism, and the struggle for liberation respectively. The star points to the upper left corner.</p>
<b>South Asia</b>			
<p>Vietnam</p>  <p>Hanoi</p>	<p>The five-pointed yellow star represents the unity of workers, peasants, intellectuals, traders and soldiers in building socialism.</p>	<p>Afghanistan</p>  <p>Kabul</p>	<p>Black, red and green stand for occupied Afghanistan, the fight for independence and independence achieved. The emblem shows a <i>mehrab</i> (arch) and a pulpit.</p>









<p>Bangladesh</p>  <p>Dhaka</p>	<p>The red disc represents the sun. Green stands for the lush landscape. The disc is set slightly toward the hoist so that it appears centred when the flag is flying.</p>	<p>Bhutan</p>  <p>Thimphu</p>	<p>The flag features Druk, the Thunder Dragon of Bhutanese mythology. Yellow and orange signify civil and Buddhist spiritual traditions.</p>
<p>India</p>  <p>New Delhi</p>	<p>Initially the colours stand for the two main ethnic groups of India - saffron for Hindus and green for Muslims. The "Ashoka Chakra" is the wheel of the law of dharma.</p>	<p>Maldives</p>  <p>Male</p>	<p>Red stands for the blood of national heroes, green for peace and the crescent for Islam. Coincidentally the border is a reminder that Maldives is slowly being submerged.</p>
<p>Nepal</p>  <p>Kathmandu</p>	<p>The moon and sun stand for the King and the Rana family. They also stand for the cool weather of the Himalayas, and the heat at the lower part of Nepal.</p>	<p>Pakistan</p>  <p>Islamabad</p>	<p>Green represents the majority Muslim community and white represents the religious minorities. The crescent and star are Islamic symbols.</p>
<b>Middle East</b>			
<p>Sri Lanka</p>  <p>Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte</p>	<p>The gold lion and sword came from the flag of the Sinhalese Kandyan Kingdom. The green and orange bands represent the Muslims and Tamils.</p>	<p>Bahrain</p>  <p>Manama</p>	<p>A white band separated from a red area by five triangles, representing the five pillars of Islam. The similarity with Qatar's flag reflects an intertwined history.</p>
<p>Iran</p>  <p>Tehran</p>	<p>Green, white, red represent Islam, peace and courage respectively. The tulip emblem spells 'Allah'. The <i>takbir</i> "Allahu Akbar" (God is great) is written 22 times.</p>	<p>Iraq</p>  <p>Baghdad</p>	<p>The flag has the pan-Arab colours of black, white, red and green. In green is the <i>takbir</i> "Allahu Akbar" (God is Great).</p>
<p>Israel</p>  <p>Jerusalem</p>	<p>The design is based on the Tallit, the Jewish prayer shawl, which is white with blue stripes. The Star of David is a widely-recognised symbol of Judaism.</p>	<p>Jordan</p>  <p>Amman</p>	<p>This is an example of the use of the pan-Arab colours: black, white, green and red. The seven-pointed star refers to the first seven verses of the Quran.</p>
<p>Kuwait</p>  <p>Kuwait City</p>	<p>This is an example of the use of the pan-Arab colours: green stands for meadows, white for deeds, red for the blood of enemies and black for battlefields.</p>	<p>Lebanon</p>  <p>Beirut</p>	<p>The cedar tree is traditionally connected with Lebanon, with reference to the Bible Psalms 92:12, "the righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon".</p>
<p>Oman</p>  <p>Muscat</p>	<p>The flag depicts crossed swords over a <i>khanjar</i>, a traditional dagger in which the scabbard has a 90 degree turn, linked by an ornate horse bit.</p>	<p>Palestine</p>  <p>Jerusalem</p>	<p>The pan-Arab colours of black, white, green and red drew its inspiration from the Arab Revolt against Ottoman rule (1916–1918).</p>
<p>Qatar</p>  <p>Doha</p>	<p>Maroon flag with a nine-point white serrated stripe, indicating that Qatar is the ninth member of the 'reconciled Emirates' of the Persian Gulf in 1916.</p>	<p>Saudi Arabia</p>  <p>Riyadh</p>	<p>Green flag with the <i>shahada</i> (Islamic profession of faith "There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is His Prophet") and a sword.</p>

<p>Syria</p>  <p>Damascus</p>	<p>The two stars represent Egypt and Syria, which joined to form the United Arab Republic in 1958.</p>	<p>Türkiye</p>  <p>Ankara</p>	<p>The moon stands for Diana, the patron goddess of Byzantium, and the star for the Virgin Mary, to whom Emperor Constantine dedicated Byzantium.</p>
<p>United Arab Emirates</p>  <p>Abu Dhabi</p>	<p>The pan-Arab colours of red, green, white and black stand for the Hashemite, Fatimid, Umayyad and Abbasid dynasties respectively.</p>	<p>Yemen</p>  <p>Sana'a</p>	<p>The flag is essentially the Arab Liberation Flag which served as the inspiration for the flags of Egypt, Iraq, Sudan, and Syria. Earlier North and South Yemen's flags were similar with a star each.</p>
<b>Central Asia</b>			
<p>Armenia</p>  <p>Yerevan</p>	<p>Red stands for the blood shed by Armenian soldiers, blue for the sky, and orange for the fertile lands of Armenia.</p>	<p>Azerbaijan</p>  <p>Baku</p>	<p>Blue stands for the Turkic heritage, red for progress and green for Islam. The eight pointed star denotes eight branches of the Turkic people.</p>
<p>Georgia</p>  <p>Tbilisi</p>	<p>The St. George Cross stands for St George, the patron saint of Georgia. Four small crosses were added when King Giorgi V drove out the Mongols.</p>	<p>Kazakhstan</p>  <p>Astana</p>	<p>Blue symbolizes the sky, with a stylised eagle beneath a golden sun. The ornamental pattern represents art and cultural traditions.</p>
<p>Kyrgyzstan</p>  <p>Bishkek</p>	<p>The sun's 40 rays represent the 40 Kyrgyz tribes unified by the epic hero Manas. In the centre of the sun is a stylized representation of the Kyrgyz yurt (tent).</p>	<p>Tajikistan</p>  <p>Dushanbe</p>	<p>The red, white and green stripes, taken from Iran's flag, show Tajikistan's Persian heritage. The name 'Tajik' comes from a Persian word meaning 'crown'.</p>
<p>Turkmenistan</p>  <p>Ashgabat</p>	<p>The crescent symbolises Islam. In the hoist are five traditional carpet designs or 'guls'. The five stars represent five provinces.</p>	<p>Uzbekistan</p>  <p>Tashkent</p>	<p>The crescent symbolises the rebirth of the nation and the 12 stars stand for the zodiac. Blue stands for water, white for peace and green for nature.</p>
<b>Western Europe</b>			
<p>Andorra</p>  <p>Andorra la Vella</p>	<p>Both France and Spain are represented with two colours in the flag (red and blue for France; and red and yellow for Spain). The coat of arms shows two cows and a mitre.</p>	<p>Austria</p>  <p>Vienna</p>	<p>During the Battle of Ptolemais (Acre) in 1191, Duke Leopold V's tunic was drenched in blood and remained white only where covered by his wide belt.</p>
<p>Belgium</p>  <p>Brussels</p>	<p>The colours came from the coat of arms of the Duchy of Brabant. The arms show a yellow lion with a red tongue and claws on a black field.</p>	<p>France</p>  <p>Paris</p>	<p>At the storming of the Bastille in 1789, the Paris militia wore blue and red cockades on their hats. To these two colours was added the royal white.</p>
<p>Germany</p>  <p>Berlin</p>	<p>The colours traced back to volunteers who fought in the wars of 1813 against Napoleon. The soldiers wore black coats with red braid and gold buttons.</p>	<p>Ireland</p>  <p>Dublin</p>	<p>Green stands for the catholic Irish republicans, orange for the protestant supporters of William of Orange, and white for peace between them. By coincidence, it is the reverse of Cote d'Ivoire's flag.</p>

<p>Liechtenstein</p>  <p>Vaduz</p>	<p>The colours are from the livery colours of the royal household. The crown was added after the 1936 Olympics when it was discovered that the flag was identical to that of Haiti.</p>	<p>Luxembourg</p>  <p>Luxembourg</p>	<p>The colours are derived from the coat of arms, which shows a red lion on a shield of white and blue stripes. Its similarity to the Netherlands' flag is a coincidence, and the blue is lighter.</p>
<p>Netherlands</p>  <p>Amsterdam</p>	<p>The flag was first used when the Dutch provinces revolted against Spain, under the leadership of Prince William of Orange. At first the flag was orange-white-blue, but later orange became red.</p>	<p>Portugal</p>  <p>Lisbon</p>	<p>The flag shows an armillary sphere, a navigational instrument, as a symbol of Portuguese epic maritime history, and a shield which shows five small shields and seven castles.</p>
<p>Spain</p>  <p>Madrid</p>	<p>Red-yellow-red was used to make the flag visible from far. The motto 'Plvs Ultra' (more beyond) refers to Spanish lands beyond the Pillars of Hercules.</p>	<p>Switzerland</p>  <p>Bern</p>	<p>The flag originated from 14th century Swiss soldiers who went into battle wearing emblems with a white cross on a red base as a sign of their Christian faith.</p>
<b>Southern Europe</b>			
<p>United Kingdom</p>  <p>London</p>	<p>England's St. George's cross (red on white), Scotland's St. Andrew's cross (white diagonal on blue), and Ireland's St. Patrick's cross (red diagonal on white).</p>	<p>Albania</p>  <p>Tirane</p>	<p>This is Skanderbeg's flag: red with a black double-headed eagle. Skanderbeg (1403-1468), who revolted against the Ottomans, is Albania's national hero.</p>
<p>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina</p>  <p>Sarajevo</p>	<p>The three points of the triangle stand for the Croats, Bosniaks and Serbs. The white stars represent Europe and they are meant to be infinite in number.</p>	<p>Bulgaria</p>  <p>Sofia</p>	<p>Identical to the flag of Russia, except that a green stripe replaces the blue stripe because Bulgaria was developed as an agricultural country after independence.</p>
<p>Croatia</p>  <p>Zagreb</p>	<p>Red, white and blue are pan-Slavic colours. The checkerboard has been a symbol of Croatian kings since at least the 10th century.</p>	<p>Cyprus</p>  <p>Nicosia</p>	<p>The map of the island is of the colour of copper, a metal that got its name from the island name. Olive branches signify peace between the Turks and Greeks.</p>
<p>Greece</p>  <p>Athens</p>	<p>The 9 stripes stand for the 9 syllables of the Greek motto: 'Ελευθερια η Θανατος' (freedom or death). The cross stands for Eastern Orthodox Christianity.</p>	<p>Italy</p>  <p>Rome</p>	<p>Green and white are from the uniform of the Milan civic militia, called 'remolazzitt' (small radish). Red was added when the militia became the National Guard.</p>
<p>Kosovo</p>  <p>Pristina</p>	<p>The six white stars above a golden map of Kosovo symbolise Kosovo's six major ethnic groups: Albanians, Serbs, Bosniaks, Gorani, Romas and Turks.</p>	<p>Malta</p>  <p>Valletta</p>	<p>The white and red flag shows the British George Cross. Malta was awarded this honour in 1942 for their exceptional bravery during World War II.</p>
<p>Monaco</p>  <p>Monaco</p>	<p>Red and white have been the heraldic colours of the House of Grimaldi since at least 1339. Monaco's flag is one of the world's oldest flags.</p>	<p>Montenegro</p>  <p>Podgorica</p>	<p>Red with a golden border and a double-headed golden eagle in the middle. It is based on the personal standard of King Nikola I of Montenegro.</p>

<p>North Macedonia</p>  <p>Skopje</p>	<p>The golden-yellow sun is a version of the 16-pointed Vergina Sun that was found on a golden larnax believed to belong to King Philip II of Macedon.</p>	<p>San Marino</p>  <p>San Marino</p>	<p>White and blue symbolise peace and liberty. The coat of arms shows three towers on three peaks, and a crown as a symbol of sovereignty, even though San Marino was always a republic.</p>
<p>Serbia</p>  <p>Belgrade</p>	<p>Red, blue and white are pan-Slavic colours. The coat of arms shows a two-headed silver eagle, with a red shield on its chest.</p>	<p>Slovenia</p>  <p>Ljubljana</p>	<p>White, blue and red are pan-Slavic colours. The coat of arms shows the three-peaked Triglav mountain and three yellow stars.</p>
<b>Eastern Europe</b>			
<p>Vatican City</p>  <p>Vatican City</p>	<p>The gold and silver keys emblem refers to Jesus' words to Peter in St Matthew's Gospel 16:19 "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven."</p>	<p>Belarus</p>  <p>Minsk</p>	<p>Red was the colour of the Belarusian forces at the Battle of Grunwald. Green represents its many forests. The decorative pattern can be found on woven towels used for ceremonial events.</p>
<p>Czech Republic</p>  <p>Prague</p>	<p>A blue triangle was added to the flag of Bohemia to distinguish it from the flag of Poland. Upon separation of Czechoslovakia, the Czech Republic retained the flag.</p>	<p>Hungary</p>  <p>Budapest</p>	<p>The colours red, white and green come from the coat of arms of Hungary which shows a silver double cross on a green hill with a red background.</p>
<p>Moldova</p>  <p>Chisinau</p>	<p>The blue, red, and yellow tricolour is from Romania's flag, reflecting the two countries' national and cultural affinity. The shield shows an auroch's head.</p>	<p>Poland</p>  <p>Warsaw</p>	<p>The colours are based on the colours of the national coat of arms which has a white eagle on a red shield and dates back to the 13th century.</p>
<p>Romania</p>  <p>Bucharest</p>	<p>The colours came from the banners of Moldavia (red with gold auroch) and Wallachia (white later replaced by yellow). Blue stands for Transylvania.</p>	<p>Russia</p>  <p>Moscow</p>	<p>Tsar Peter the Great visited Holland in 1699 and was very impressed. He created Russia's naval flag by changing the sequence of colours in the Dutch flag.</p>
<p>Slovakia</p>  <p>Bratislava</p>	<p>White, blue and red are pan-Slavic colours. The two-armed Cross of Lorraine (on the Tatra, Fatra and Matra mountains) stands for Orthodox Christianity.</p>	<p>Ukraine</p>  <p>Kyiv</p>	<p>Blue and yellow stand for the sky and the golden wheat fields. Blue and yellow have been associated with Ukraine before Christianity.</p>
<b>Northern Europe</b>			
<p>Denmark</p>  <p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The <i>Dannebrog</i> is generally considered the world's oldest continuously used national flag. The cross is the symbol of Christianity.</p>	<p>Estonia</p>  <p>Tallinn</p>	<p>Blue is the colour of the sky, sea and lakes. Black comes from the traditionally black jacket of Estonian peasants. White is the colour of birch bark and snow.</p>
<p>Finland</p>  <p>Helsinki</p>	<p>Like all Scandinavian flags, Finland's flag is based on the Scandinavian cross. Blue stands for Finland's thousands of lakes and the sky, and white for the snow.</p>	<p>Iceland</p>  <p>Reykjavik</p>	<p>Iceland's first flag is a white cross on a blue background. A red cross was later inserted into the white cross. This flag is a reverse colour image of Norway's flag.</p>



<p>Latvia</p>  <p>Riga</p>	<p>Legend refers to a wounded Latvian chief who was wrapped in a white sheet. The part he was lying on remained white, but the edges were soaked in blood.</p>	<p>Lithuania</p>  <p>Vilnius</p>	<p>Yellow stands for the golden fields of Lithuania, green for its countryside, and red for blood that was shed. This flag replaces the historical flag featuring Vytis, a silver knight on a horse.</p>
<p>Norway</p>  <p>Oslo</p>	<p>The flag is based on the Danish flag, with a blue cross placed within the white cross. Red and blue refer to Denmark and Sweden, Norway's former partners.</p>	<p>Sweden</p>  <p>Stockholm</p>	<p>The design of this flag is based on Denmark's flag. The colours came from the coat of arms which features three yellow crowns on a blue base.</p>
<b>North Africa</b>			
<p>Algeria</p>  <p>Algiers</p>	<p>The crescent and star, and the colour green are traditional symbols of the official religion Islam. White symbolises peace.</p>	<p>Egypt</p>  <p>Cairo</p>	<p>Red stands for oppression, white for the bloodless revolution, and black for the end of oppression. The 'Eagle of Saladin' recalls Sultan Saladin who defeated the crusaders.</p>
<p>Libya</p>  <p>Tripoli</p>	<p>Red, black and green represent the Ottoman Caliphate, the Emirate of Cyrenaica and the Tripolitanian Republic. Libya's former all-green flag is found at the bottom.</p>	<p>Morocco</p>  <p>Rabat</p>	<p>The Solomon's seal (green interlaced five pointed star) is a magical ring said to be worn by King Solomon, which gave him the power to command demons.</p>
<b>West Africa</b>			
<p>Tunisia</p>  <p>Tunis</p>	<p>The white circle represents the sun. The red crescent and the five-pointed star, two ancient symbols of Islam, were adopted from the Ottoman flag.</p>	<p>Benin</p>  <p>Porto-Novo</p>	<p>The colours are pan-African: green, yellow and red standing for hope, wealth and courage. They can also be associated with palm trees, savannah and the soil.</p>
<p>Burkina Faso</p>  <p>Ouagadougou</p>	<p>Red, yellow and green are pan-African colours. The yellow star is the guiding light of the revolution.</p>	<p>Cabo Verde</p>  <p>Praia</p>	<p>The ten yellow stars represent the ten main islands. Blue stands for the sky and the Atlantic Ocean, white for peace and red for effort.</p>
<p>Cote d'Ivoire</p>  <p>Yamoussoukro</p>	<p>The flag is similar to Niger's (both were former French colonies), except the stripes are vertical. Orange stands for the savannah, white for peace, and green for forests.</p>	<p>Gambia</p>  <p>Banjul</p>	<p>The blue strip represents the Gambia river that flows through the entire length of the country. Red stands for the sun overhead and green for the land.</p>
<p>Ghana</p>  <p>Accra</p>	<p>The first flag after Ethiopia to feature the pan-African colours. The black star (the lodestar of African freedom) was adopted from the Black Star Line, a shipping line.</p>	<p>Guinea</p>  <p>Conakry</p>	<p>When Guinea joined Ghana to form a union, it used the same colours as Ghana. But being a former French colony, it followed the design of the French tricolour.</p>
<p>Guinea-Bissau</p>  <p>Bissau</p>	<p>Rearrangement of the flag of Ghana. The red and star stand for the western region with its capital, Bissau. Yellow and green stand for the savannah and forest.</p>	<p>Liberia</p>  <p>Monrovia</p>	<p>The flag was derived from the flag of the United States. Liberia was founded in 1820 as a colony for freed American slaves.</p>

<p>Mali</p>  <p>Bamako</p>	<p>The flag is the reverse of Guinea's flag, with green at the hoist representing Islam. Previously there was a 'kanaga' (black man figure), later removed.</p>	<p>Mauritania</p>  <p>Nouakchott</p>	<p>Green, gold and red are pan-African colours. The crescent and star are symbols of Islam. The red stripes represent the sacrifices of the people.</p>
<p>Niger</p>  <p>Niamey</p>	<p>Orange stands for the Sahara desert in the north, green for the grassy plains of the south, and white for purity. The orange disc symbolises the sun.</p>	<p>Nigeria</p>  <p>Abuja</p>	<p>The two green bands represent the forests and natural wealth of Nigeria while the white band represents peace.</p>
<p>Senegal</p>  <p>Dakar</p>	<p>Senegal, formerly in the Mali Federation, used the same flag as Mali, but replaced the <i>kanaga</i> (black man figure) with a star. Green at the hoist represents Islam.</p>	<p>Sierra Leone</p>  <p>Freetown</p>	<p>Green stands for natural resources, white for unity and justice, and blue stands for Freetown's harbour.</p>
<b>Central Africa</b>			
<p>Togo</p>  <p>Lome</p>	<p>The five stripes represent Région maritime, Région Plateaux, Région Centrale, Région de la Kara and Région des Savanes.</p>	<p>Cameroon</p>  <p>Yaounde</p>	<p>Cameroon is the second modern African state (after Ghana) to adopt pan-African colours. Red symbolises unity, and the star is the 'star of unity'.</p>
<p>Central African Republic</p>  <p>Bangui</p>	<p>The flag combines the blue, white and red of the French tricolour and the pan-African colours of red, green and yellow. The red stripe running down the centre symbolises blood.</p>	<p>Chad</p>  <p>N'Djamena</p>	<p>Pan-African colours (green, yellow and red) were used but blue replaces green to avoid confusion with Mali. By coincidence, it is identical to Romania's flag, except that the blue is darker.</p>
<p>Democratic Republic of Congo</p>  <p>Kinshasa</p>	<p>Blue stands for peace and the star for a radiant future. The red diagonal stands for the martyrs' blood. Both Congos have a diagonal band in their flags.</p>	<p>Equatorial Guinea</p>  <p>Malabo</p>	<p>Green, white, red and blue symbolise jungles, peace, the fight for independence and the sea. The flag shows a silk cotton tree under which a treaty was signed.</p>
<p>Gabon</p>  <p>Libreville</p>	<p>Green, yellow and blue represent the forest, the Equator line (which crosses the country) and the Atlantic Ocean. Originally the yellow band was thinner.</p>	<p>Republic of Congo</p>  <p>Brazzaville</p>	<p>This is the fifth national flag to use pan-African colours. The diagonal pattern sets it apart from other pan-African flags which all have horizontal or vertical stripes.</p>
<b>East Africa</b>			
<p>Sao Tome and Principe</p>  <p>Sao Tome</p>	<p>The flag, although in the pan-African colours, is derived from that of the Liberation Movement. The two black stars express the unity of the two islands.</p>	<p>Burundi</p>  <p>Gitega</p>	<p>The three stars represent the three ethnic groups who live in Burundi: the Hutu, the Tutsi and the Twa.</p>
<p>Djibouti</p>  <p>Djibouti</p>	<p>Blue and green represent the Issa Somalis and the Afar. The star stands for the 5 areas Somalis live in: British and Italian Somaliland, Djibouti, the Ogaden and North Kenya.</p>	<p>Eritrea</p>  <p>Asmara</p>	<p>This flag is a combination of the Liberation Army flag (similar but with a star) and the 1950's Eritrean flag which has an olive branch enclosed by two branches.</p>

<p>Ethiopia</p>  <p>Addis Ababa</p>	<p>The green-yellow-red flag appeared in 1897 and became the basis for the pan-African colours. The star represents diversity and unity.</p>	<p>Kenya</p>  <p>Nairobi</p>	<p>Based on the Kenya African National Union (KANU) flag, black stands for the black majority, red for blood and green for the land. The emblem is a Masai shield and two spears.</p>
<p>Rwanda</p>  <p>Kigali</p>	<p>Blue stands for peace, yellow for development, and green for hope. The sun represents enlightenment. This new flag was adopted to disassociate the former flag from the 1994 genocide.</p>	<p>Seychelles</p>  <p>Victoria</p>	<p>Blue and yellow represent the Democratic Party. Red, white and green represent the Seychelles People's United Party. The expanding width of the stripes stands for growth and vitality.</p>
<p>Somalia</p>  <p>Mogadishu</p>	<p>Blue stands for the UN and Star of Unity for the 5 areas Somalis live in: Djibouti, the Ogaden, North Kenya, British and Italian Somaliland.</p>	<p>South Sudan</p>  <p>Juba</p>	<p>The blue triangle stands for the River Nile, and the star signifies optimism. Black, red and green stand for the people, bloodshed and agriculture.</p>
<p>Sudan</p>  <p>Khartoum</p>	<p>Pan-Arab colours are used: red stands for the struggle for independence, white for peace, black for Sudan (in Arabic 'Sudan' means black), and green for Islam.</p>	<p>Tanzania</p>  <p>Dodoma</p>	<p>The combination of Tanganyika's flag, which was green with a yellow edged black stripe, and Zanzibar's flag, which was blue, black and green.</p>
<b>Southern Africa</b>			
<p>Uganda</p>  <p>Kampala</p>	<p>Black, yellow and red stand for the Uganda People's Congress Party. The Grey Crowned Crane was the military badge of Ugandan soldiers under British rule.</p>	<p>Angola</p>  <p>Luanda</p>	<p>The flag is that of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA). A cog wheel and a machete were added to represent workers and peasants.</p>
<p>Botswana</p>  <p>Gaborone</p>	<p>Blue represents water. Botswana's motto is <i>Pula</i> "Let there be rain". The white-black-white band, inspired by the zebra, stands for racial harmony.</p>	<p>Comoros</p>  <p>Moroni</p>	<p>The four stars and the four horizontal stripes stand for the four islands: Mohéli (yellow), Mayotte (white), Anjouan (red) and Grand Comore (blue).</p>
<p>eSwatini</p>  <p>Mbabane</p>	<p>Red stands for battles, blue for peace, and yellow for natural resources. It shows a Swazi shield, two spears (<i>tikhali</i>) and a staff (<i>umgobo</i>) with tassels (<i>injobo</i>).</p>	<p>Lesotho</p>  <p>Maseru</p>	<p>The 'mokorotlo' or Basotho Hat is a symbol of Lesotho. Blue, white and green represent rain, peace and land respectively.</p>
<p>Madagascar</p>  <p>Antananarivo</p>	<p>Red and white indicate the origins of the Malagasy people in Southeast Asia, as shared by Indonesia's flag. Green stands for the Hova, the peasant class.</p>	<p>Malawi</p>  <p>Lilongwe</p>	<p>Black, red and green stand for Africa, the blood of martyrs and vegetation. The rising sun stands for the dawn of hope and freedom for Africa.</p>
<p>Mauritius</p>  <p>Port Louis</p>	<p>The colours are taken from the coat of arms which shows a red key, a star in the blue Indian Ocean, a golden ship and green palm trees.</p>	<p>Mozambique</p>  <p>Maputo</p>	<p>Based on the FRELIMO (Liberation Front of Mozambique) flag with an emblem added. The book, hoe and rifle stand for study, production and defence.</p>



<p>Namibia</p>  <p>Windhoek</p>	<p>The blue, red, green were taken from the flag of SWAPO (South West African People's Organization). The sun represents life and energy of the desert.</p>	<p>South Africa</p>  <p>Pretoria</p>	<p>Black, green and yellow of the African National Congress' flag, together with red/orange and blue of the previous flag. The Y shape stands for convergence of diverse elements of society.</p>
<p>Zambia</p>  <p>Lusaka</p>	<p>Green stands for vegetation, red for the struggle for freedom, black for the people, orange for mineral wealth, especially copper, and the eagle for freedom.</p>	<p>Zimbabwe</p>  <p>Harare</p>	<p>Based on the flag of the Zimbabwe African National Union (Patriotic Front). The Zimbabwe Bird comes from soapstone carvings found at the Great Zimbabwe Ruins.</p>
<b>North America</b>			
<p>Belize</p>  <p>Belmopan</p>	<p>The coat of arms shows a mulatto man holding an axe and a black man holding an oar. The 50 mahogany leaves stand for 1950 when British Honduras began its quest for independence.</p>	<p>Canada</p>  <p>Ottawa</p>	<p>The colour red was taken from the Saint George's Cross. The maple leaf has been a symbol of the nature and environment of Canada since the 18th century.</p>
<p>Costa Rica</p>  <p>San Jose</p>	<p>Red was added to the flag of the Federal Republic of Central America after being inspired by France's 1848 Revolution. The coat of arms shows three volcanoes.</p>	<p>El Salvador</p>  <p>San Salvador</p>	<p>The blue-white-blue flag commemorates the Federal Republic of Central America. The five volcanoes and five flags stand for the five states in the federation.</p>
<p>Guatemala</p>  <p>Guatemala City</p>	<p>Guatemala turned the stripes of the flag of the Federal Republic of Central America vertical in 1871. The coat of arms shows a Quetzal.</p>	<p>Honduras</p>  <p>Tegucigalpa</p>	<p>The blue-white-blue flag commemorates the Federal Republic of Central America. The five stars reflect the hope that the five nations may form a union again.</p>
<p>Mexico</p>  <p>Mexico City</p>	<p>The coat of arms shows an eagle on a prickly-pear cactus eating a snake. In a legend, the gods told the Aztecs to build a city where they spot this sign.</p>	<p>Nicaragua</p>  <p>Managua</p>	<p>The flag is based on the blue-white-blue flag of the Federal Republic of Central America. The five volcanoes stand for the five states in the federation.</p>
<p>Panama</p>  <p>Panama City</p>	<p>The colours represent two political parties of Panama, the Liberals (red) and the Conservatives (blue). The U.S. helped Panama to gain independence in 1903, and to build the Panama Canal.</p>	<p>United States</p>  <p>Washington D.C.</p>	<p>The 13 stripes on "the Stars and Stripes" stand for the original 13 colonies, and the 50 stars for the 50 states. The last star added in 1960 represents Hawaii.</p>
<b>Caribbean</b>			
<p>Antigua and Barbuda</p>  <p>Saint John's</p>	<p>The sun stands for the dawn of a new era, black for the African heritage, blue for the sea, white for the sand and red for energy.</p>	<p>The Bahamas</p>  <p>Nassau</p>	<p>The gold and blue stripes represent the sand and the sea respectively. The black triangle symbolises unity.</p>
<p>Barbados</p>  <p>Bridgetown</p>	<p>The gold and blue stripes represent the sand and the sea respectively. The broken trident shows the break with England at independence.</p>	<p>Cuba</p>  <p>Havana</p>	<p>The three blue stripes stand for the original three provinces, and red for bloodshed. The white star represents Cuba's wish to be a new state of the USA.</p>

<p>Dominica</p>  <p>Roseau</p>	<p>The flag shows a Sisserou parrot, which is unique to Dominica. The ten green stars represent the ten parishes of Dominica.</p>	<p>Dominican Republic</p>  <p>Santo Domingo</p>	<p>Blue, white and red stand for liberty, salvation and the blood of heroes. The coat of arms shows a bible, a gold cross and six spears, four of which support a banner.</p>
<p>Grenada</p>  <p>Saint George's</p>	<p>The six stars stand for six parishes, with the middle star standing for the capital, Saint George's. The nutmeg signifies that Grenada is one of the world's largest producers of nutmeg.</p>	<p>Haiti</p>  <p>Port-au-Prince</p>	<p>The flag originated from the French flag, with the white stripe, representing colonial oppression, omitted. The coat of arms shows a palm tree, cannons and flags.</p>
<p>Jamaica</p>  <p>Kingston</p>	<p>The early interpretation was: "hardship there is but the land is green and the sun shines". Now black, green, yellow stand for strength, vegetation and sunshine.</p>	<p>Saint Kitts and Nevis</p>  <p>Basseterre</p>	<p>The two stars stand for hope and liberty, or the two islands: Saint Kitts and Nevis. Green stands for fertility, red for struggle, and black for African heritage.</p>
<p>Saint Lucia</p>  <p>Castries</p>	<p>Blue stands for the ocean, gold for sunshine, black and white for the black and white culture. The triangles represent the Pitons, the island's two volcanic peaks.</p>	<p>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</p>  <p>Kingstown</p>	<p>The green diamonds are arranged in a V which stands for Vincent. Blue stands for the sky and the sea, yellow for the sands, and green for vegetation.</p>
<b>South America</b>			
<p>Trinidad &amp; Tobago</p>  <p>Port-of-Spain</p>	<p>Red, black and white symbolise fire (the sun, representing courage), earth (representing dedication) and water (representing purity and equality) respectively.</p>	<p>Argentina</p>  <p>Buenos Aires</p>	<p>The flag was created by General Manuel Belgrano just before a battle. He was inspired when he saw the sun and white clouds in a blue sky.</p>
<p>Bolivia</p>  <p>La Paz</p>	<p>Red stands for Bolivia's brave soldiers, green for fertility and yellow for mineral deposits. The coat of arms shows an Andean condor and an alpaca.</p>	<p>Brazil</p>  <p>Brasilia</p>	<p>Green and yellow represent the Braganza-Habsburg dynasty. The celestial sphere shows the sky over Rio de Janeiro on November 15, 1889.</p>
<p>Chile</p>  <p>Santiago</p>	<p>Blue, white and red stand for the sky and Pacific Ocean, the Andes, and blood spilt to achieve independence. 'La Estrella Solitaria' (the Lone Star) is a guide to progress.</p>	<p>Colombia</p>  <p>Bogota</p>	<p>Derived from the flag of Gran Colombia. Yellow, blue and red symbolise the gold of the Americas separated by the blue sea from 'bloody Old World of Europe'.</p>
<p>Ecuador</p>  <p>Quito</p>	<p>As former territories of Gran Colombia, the flags of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela are similar. The coat of arms shows a condor and Mount Chimborazo.</p>	<p>Guyana</p>  <p>Georgetown</p>	<p>The 'Golden Arrowhead' was designed by Mr. Whitney Smith. Green stands for agriculture, gold for mineral wealth and red for dynamism.</p>
<p>Paraguay</p>  <p>Asuncion</p>	<p>This is the only national flag with different emblems on its obverse (the coat of arms showing a yellow star) and reverse (the treasury seal showing a yellow lion) sides.</p>	<p>Peru</p>  <p>Lima</p>	<p>The inspiration for the flag came when Jose San Martin landed to launch the invasion of Peru and he saw red flamingos flying across a white clouded sky.</p>

<p>Suriname</p>  <p>Paramaribo</p>	<p>Red, white and green stand for the political parties during independence. The star stands for five ethnic groups: Creoles, American Indians, Asian Indians, Chinese and Europeans.</p>	<p>Uruguay</p>  <p>Montevideo</p>	<p>The nine stripes represent the nine original departments of Uruguay at the time of independence. The "Star of May" has 8 straight and 8 wavy rays alternating.</p>
<b>Oceania</b>			
<p>Venezuela</p>  <p>Caracas</p>	<p>The flags of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela are similar. The stars represent the seven provinces that united against Spain, and the Province of Guayana.</p>	<p>Australia</p>  <p>Canberra</p>	<p>The seven points of the Commonwealth Star represent the six states and other territories. On the right is the Southern Cross constellation.</p>
<p>Federated States of Micronesia</p>  <p>Palikir</p>	<p>The four stars represent Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae and Yap. Previously there were two more stars representing Palau and the Marshalls.</p>	<p>Fiji</p>  <p>Suva</p>	<p>Blue symbolises the Pacific Ocean. The shield from the Fiji coat of arms shows sugar cane, a coconut tree, bananas and a dove of peace.</p>
<p>Kiribati</p>  <p>Tarawa</p>	<p>The 17 rays of the sun represent the 16 Gilbert Islands and Banaba. The frigatebird symbolises command of the sea, and the wavy bands represent the Pacific Ocean.</p>	<p>Marshall Islands</p>  <p>Majuro</p>	<p>The star's 24 points represent 24 electoral districts. The two stripes represent the Ralik island chain (orange) and the Ratak chain (white).</p>
<p>Nauru</p>  <p>Yaren District</p>	<p>The 12-pointed star stands for 12 tribes. The star's position below the yellow stripe shows that Nauru is situated south of the equator.</p>	<p>New Zealand</p>  <p>Wellington</p>	<p>The Union Flag recalls New Zealand's colonial ties to Britain. The stars represent the constellation of Crux, the Southern Cross.</p>
<p>Palau</p>  <p>Ngerulmud</p>	<p>The off-centre yellow disc represents the moon. The Palauans consider the full moon to be the optimum time for human activity.</p>	<p>Papua New Guinea</p>  <p>Port Moresby</p>	<p>The bird of paradise symbolises Papua New Guinea's emergence into nationhood. The Southern Cross constellation reflects ties with Australia.</p>
<p>Samoa</p>  <p>Apia</p>	<p>The five stars represent the Southern Cross constellation. It symbolises Samoa's link to New Zealand.</p>	<p>Solomon Islands</p>  <p>Honiara</p>	<p>The five stars represent the five main islands groups: Malaita, Eastern, Central, Western and the Polynesian outliers.</p>
<p>Tonga</p>  <p>Nuku'alofa</p>	<p>The red cross symbolises Christianity. The first flag was identical to the Red Cross Flag, and so it was placed in the canton of a red one.</p>	<p>Tuvalu</p>  <p>Funafuti</p>	<p>The nine stars stand for Tuvalu's nine islands (although only eight were originally inhabited, hence the name Tuvalu, "eight together").</p>
<p>Vanuatu</p>  <p>Port Vila</p>	<p>The boar's tusk stands for prosperity and the ferns for peace. The islands that make up Vanuatu form a Y shape, as represented on the flag.</p>		