



ARMY DRESS REGULATIONS (ALL RANKS)

Part 11

Regulations covering the Flying of Flags in the United Kingdom

Ministry of Defence
PS12(A)
March 2013

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION

11.001. Scope. These regulations contain the regulations dealing with the flying of the national flag of the UK and others.

11.002. Application. These regulations are applicable to the Regular Army, the TA, the ACF and the CCF, and the MOD sponsored Schools.

11.003. Layout. These regulations is divided into the following Sections and related Annexes and Scales:

Section 1 – General Instructions.

Section 2 - Regulations for Flags.

Annex A – Precedence of Flags

Annex B – Personal Standards of Members of the Royal Family

Section 3 – Flags within the MoD

Section 4 – Design of Army Flags

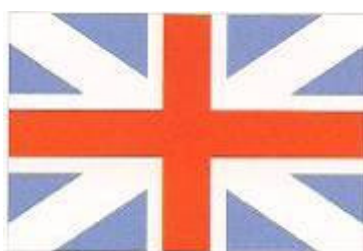
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SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS FOR THE FLYING OF FLAGS WITHIN THE UNITED KINGDOM

INTRODUCTION

11.005. The Union Flag. The national flag of the United Kingdom, the Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories is the Union Flag, which may also be called the Union Jack.¹ The first Union Flag was created in 1606 and combined the flags of England and Scotland. The present Union Flag dates from 1801 when St. Patrick's Cross was added to represent Ireland. It then became possible to display the flag upside down. There is no Flag Act in UK law and the Union Flag is the national flag by long established custom and practice, rather than by statute.



The first Union Flag



The modern Union Flag

11.006. The Flag Protocol of the United Kingdom. The national flags of the United Kingdom (ie. the Union Flag and the flags of England, Scotland and Wales) should be displayed only in a dignified manner befitting the national emblems. They should not be displayed in a position inferior to any other flag or ensign. It is improper to use the national flags as a table or seat cover or as a masking for boxes, barriers, or the intervening space between a dais or platform and the floor. The use of any of the national flags to cover a statue, monument or plaque for an unveiling ceremony is discouraged.

11.007. Position of Honour. Flags may be flown on every day of the year. Government and local authority buildings in England, Scotland and Wales are encouraged to fly national flags every day of the year (the flying of flags at certain locations in Northern Ireland is constrained by *The Flags Regulations [Northern Ireland] 2000* and *Police Emblems and Flag Regulations [Northern Ireland] 2002*). Flags are normally flown from sunrise to sunset but they may also be flown at night, when they should be illuminated. No permission is needed to fly the national flags and they are excluded from most planning and advertising regulations (but flagpoles may not be). National flags should never be flown in a worn or damaged condition, or when soiled. To do so is to show disrespect for the nations they represent.

Important: the Union Flag has a correct way up - in the half of the flag nearest the flagpole, the wider diagonal white stripe must be above the red diagonal stripe, as Scotland's St Andrew's Cross takes precedence over Ireland's St. Patrick's Cross – see illustration below. It is most improper to fly the flag upside down. If a purely

¹ See Hansard – House of Lords Debate 14 July 1908 vol 192 cc579-80

decorative effect is desired it is better to confine the display to flags of lesser status; for example, house flags, pennants or coloured bunting.



11.008. Position of Honour. The order of precedence of flags in the UK is: Royal Standards, the Union Flag, the flag of the host country (England, Scotland, Wales, etc.), flags of other nations (in alphabetical order, see the list on page 15), the Commonwealth Flag, the European Union Flag, county flags, flags of cities or towns, banners of arms, and house flags. See Appendix B (page 13) for a detailed precedence list and special precedence orders for international organizations. When British national flags are flown with the flags of other nations each flag should be the same size (or have the same width - the measurement from top to bottom) and should fly from a separate flagpole of the same height². The UK's flag shape of 3:5 works well with nearly all other nations' flags and it is recommended to use these proportions if a standard size is required for all the flags in a display.³ The senior British national flag (the Union Flag or the flag of England, Scotland or Wales) should be raised first and lowered last, unless all the flags can be raised and lowered simultaneously. Flags should be raised and lowered in a dignified manner. An alternative British tradition for flag raising is to hoist the flag while rolled up and secured with a thin piece of cotton or a slip knot. A sharp tug of the halyard will break the cotton and release the flag to fly free. This is known as 'breaking' the flag, and is sometimes used to signal the beginning of an event, or the arrival of a VIP

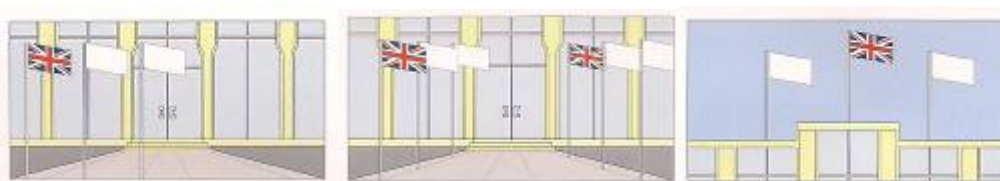
11.009. National flags should be displayed as follows:

- a. **In Front of and On a Building.** Where there are two or more flagpoles parallel to the building line, the senior national flag should be the first flag on the left of an observer facing the main entrance of the building. The remaining flags then appear in order of precedence from left to right. Where there are two or more flagpoles on the forecourt of a building angled to the main entrance, the senior national flag should be flown on the outermost pole when the flagpoles are to the left of the main entrance and on the innermost pole when the flagpoles are to the right of the main entrance, as shown in the diagram. If only one flag is to be flown and there are two flagpoles, it should be flown on the flagpole to the observer's

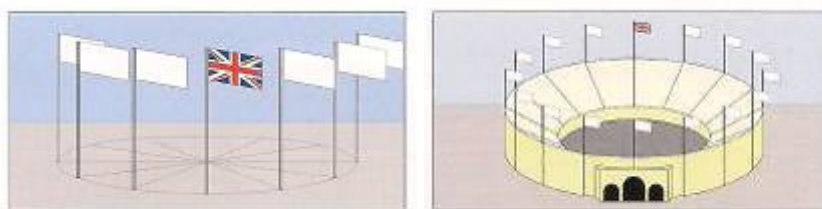
² International protocol prohibits the flying of any nation's flag higher than another (apart from at medal ceremonies during sporting events).

³ If each country's official dimensions are being used, any of the flags that are square or nearly square can have a slightly larger width (up to 25% more) to give a more equal area.

left. If there are more than two flagpoles, it should be flown as near as possible to the centre. This only applies when the other flagpoles remain empty. It is permissible to fly the same national flag on more than one flagpole by repeating the order of precedence. If one flagpole is higher than the rest, then the senior national flag can fly from that flagpole; however no non-UK national flags can be flown on the other flagpoles. These can be used for more junior flags such as county and house flags. Alternatively the higher flagpole can be left empty and the remaining flagpoles used. In general when siting flagpoles it is preferable to keep them at the same level to avoid protocol restrictions. The appropriate size of flag for any flagpole is a matter of aesthetics but, as a guide, a ground-level flagpole should have a flag whose length (its longer dimension) is no more than 1/3 of the pole's height. A flagpole on top of a building may need a larger flag because of the added height of the building.

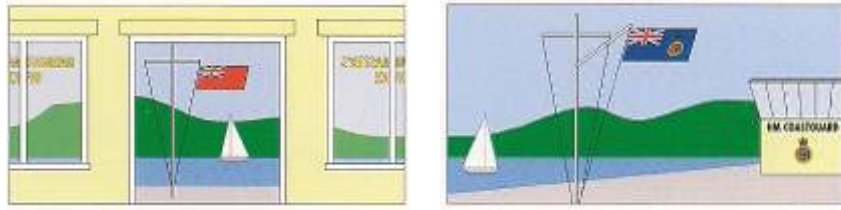


b. **Within a Circle of Flags** In a semi-circle of flags representing a number of nations, the senior national flag should be in the centre. The remaining flags should be placed with the next most senior flag (or first in alphabetical order if all the flags are of equal seniority) on the left of the central flag, the next on the right of the central flag, the next on the 2nd left from the central flag, and continuing to alternate left and right. In an enclosed circle of flags representing a number of nations, the senior national flag should be flown on a flagpole immediately opposite the main entrance to the venue, or above the Royal Box if there is no main entrance. The remaining flags should be arranged alphabetically going clockwise.

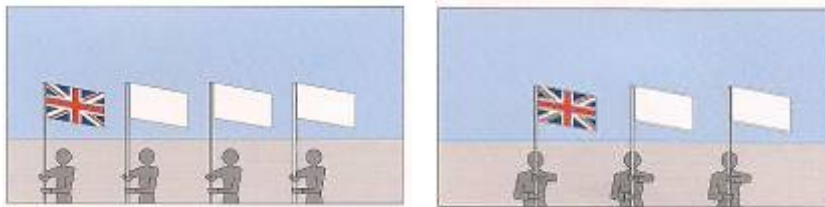


c. **From a Flagpole with Yardarm and Gaff** When displayed on a flagpole fitted with yardarms (horizontal crosspieces), the senior national flag or ensign⁴ should be flown from the starboard yardarm (the right as viewed from the rear, the left as viewed from the front). If the flagpole is fitted with a gaff (a short pole attached to the flagpole at an angle - see diagram), the senior *ensign* should be flown from the gaff. If there is no ensign to be flown, the gaff should be left empty and the senior national flag flown from the starboard yardarm, as described above. A yacht club burgee or distinguishing flag can be flown from the masthead, the highest point of the flagpole.

⁴ Ensigns are the national flags that identify a vessel's nationality and in the UK have the Union Flag in the top corner.



d. **In Processions** The senior national flag should always lead in a single file of flags. When two or more flags are carried side-by-side, the senior national flag takes the position of honour at the right-hand side of the line facing the direction of movement (the left of an observer watching the line approach). When passing the person taking the salute the flag should be lowered so that the staff is horizontal. This can be done by simply lowering the staff straight ahead, or by lowering the staff towards the person taking the salute and then swinging it round to straight ahead. All the movements should be slow and dignified. After the salute, the flag should be raised again.



e. **With Crossed Flags** Whenever crossed with the flag of another nation or organization, the senior national flag should be on the left of the observer facing the flag. Its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.



f. **Suspended Vertically Above a Street** Care should be taken to ensure that all flags suspended vertically across a street are hung to be seen from the same direction.

g. **Flat Against a Surface** Union Flag - If hung horizontally or vertically, the broad white diagonal should be uppermost in the top-left corner. Other flags - If hung vertically, the edge that would normally be the top of the flag should be on the left, so, for example, ensigns have their Union Flag canton in the upper left corner. On ensigns that have an armorial badge, if possible the badge should be upright, and the correct way round.

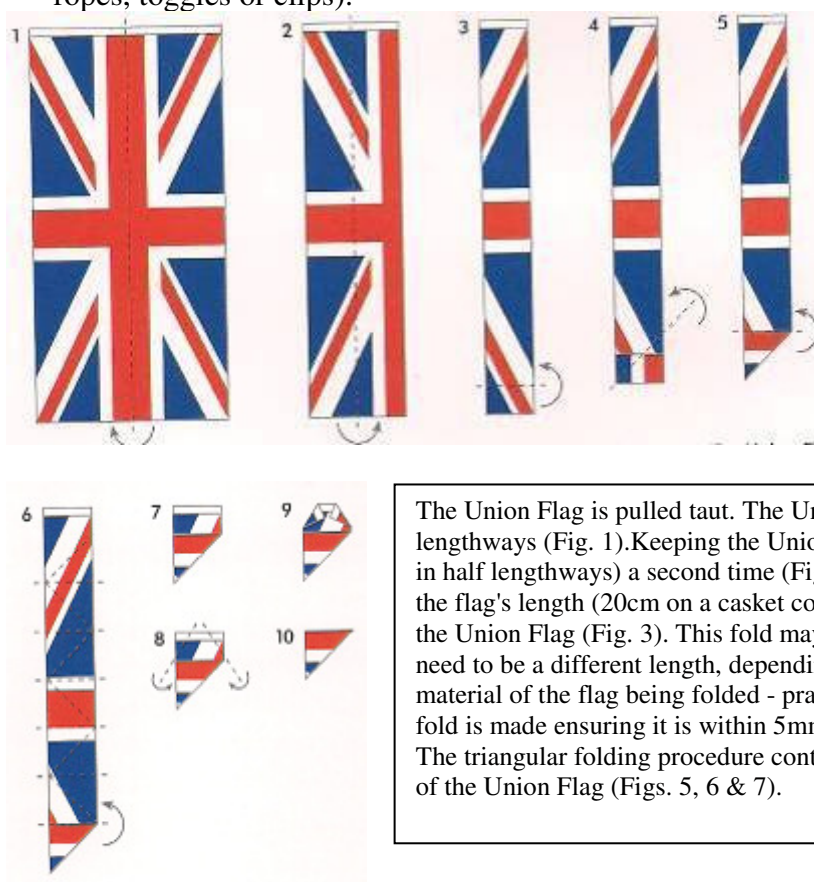


h. **On a Speaker's Platform** When displayed from a staff, on a speaker's platform, the senior national flag should be placed on the right-hand side of the speaker, and therefore to the audience's left. For interior or parade use a 'dress flag' may be used. This is sometimes made of silk or satin with a fringe around three sides. The fringe can be gold or red/white/blue for the Union Flag, red/white for St. George's Cross, blue/white for St. Andrew's Cross and green/white for the Red Dragon. The fringe is purely decorative.

i. **Double-Flagging.** Sometimes it may be desired to display two flags when only one flagpole is available. As long as both flags are British this is possible. The senior flag should fly at the top, with a gap of about 30cm (12"), assuming there is enough vertical space on the pole. For example, the Union Flag can be flown over the flag of England, Scotland or Wales (as shown), or over a county, city or house flag. When flags are at half-mast the lower flag must be removed.



j. **As a Pall for a Coffin.** If a national flag is to be used on a coffin, it should be placed so that the top-left corner of the flag is over the deceased's left shoulder. The flag should be removed before interment or cremation and folded. If the flag is to be retained by the next of kin it can be folded using the Royal Navy's method shown here, based on a 1:2 flag (138cmx276cm) with no fittings (ie. ropes, toggles or clips).

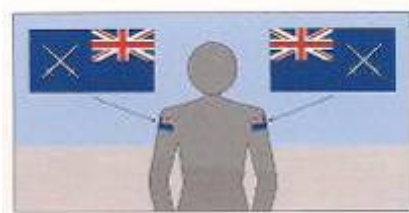


The Union Flag is pulled taut. The Union Flag is folded in half, lengthways (Fig. 1). Keeping the Union Flag taut it is then folded in half lengthways a second time (Fig. 2). A straight fold of $\frac{1}{14}$ of the flag's length (20cm on a casket cover) is taken from the foot of the Union Flag (Fig. 3). This fold may not be necessary, or may need to be a different length, depending upon the shape, size and material of the flag being folded - practise first! The first triangular fold is made ensuring it is within 5mm of the straight edge (Fig. 4). The triangular folding procedure continues until it reaches the head of the Union Flag (Figs. 5, 6 & 7).

k. **On Vehicles.** A car flag should be placed on a staff fitted to the front-right

wing, in the centre of front edge of the bonnet, or in the centre of the front edge of the roof. If two flags are to be flown, the senior flag should be on the front right wing and the junior flag on the front-left wing. When flags are painted onto a vehicle or on the tail fin of an aircraft, the flag on the port side should show the obverse of the flag (ie. the flagpole on the left), while that on the starboard side should show the reverse (ie. the flagpole on the right). On surfaces perpendicular to the direction of travel (eg. the back of the vehicle) the obverse of the flag should be shown.

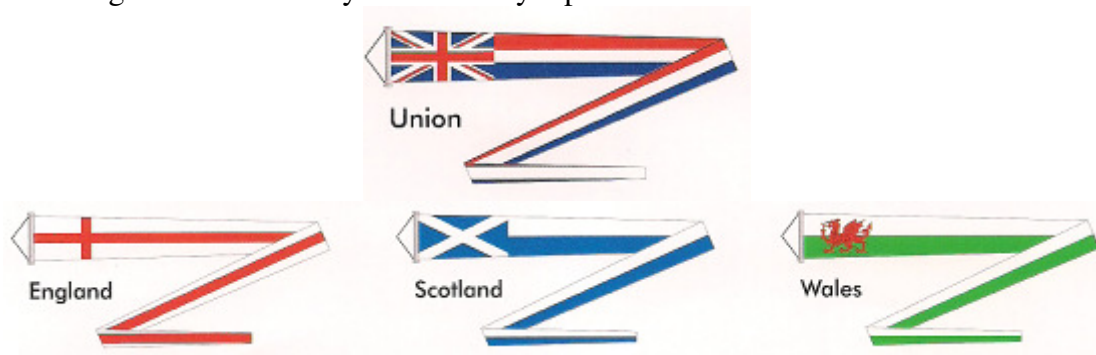
l. **On Uniforms.** When flag shoulder patches are worn on uniforms the flag on the left shoulder or sleeve should show the obverse of the flag (ie. the flagpole at the wearer's front). If there is a patch on the right shoulder or sleeve it should show the reverse of the flag (ie. still with the flagpole at the wearer's front). If more than one flag is to be worn, the Union Flag should be at the top



m. **At Civilian Transport Facilities.** Civilian marine facilities should fly the Civil Ensign (the undefaced Red Ensign) as their national flag, unless they belong to an organization that holds a warrant for a special ensign, when that ensign should be used instead. Civilian air facilities, such as airports and airfields, should fly the Civil Air Ensign as their national flag, rather than the Union Flag. They may additionally fly the flag of England, Scotland or Wales and the appropriate county flag.



11.010. Pennants. It is sometimes impractical to fly a full-size flag throughout the year – flags can wear out quickly, especially if they are flown in adverse conditions. Bare flagpoles are a sad sight. The pennant, or vimpel, is a solution to these problems. The long narrow streamer-like flags are designed to be left flying day and night. The optional single point attachment and the narrow tail reduce wear and their length means that they can be easily repaired.



11.011. The Royal Standard. The Royal Standard (actually the Royal Banner - a *standard* being an heraldic flag similar to the pennants above) should only be flown whilst the Royal person is on the premises, being hoisted (or broken) on their arrival and lowered following their departure. If the Royal person is to be present in a building, the Lord Chamberlain's Office or the Royal person's Private Secretary should be consulted. They will advise on the flag to be flown. The Royal Standard is never hoisted when the Royal person is passing in procession. The Royal Standard takes precedence over all other flags in the United Kingdom, including the Union Flag.



The Royal Standard used in UK
except Scotland



The Royal Standard used in
Scotland

11.012. Flags at Half-mast Half-mast means the flag is flown two-thirds of the way up the flagpole, with at least the height of the flag between the top of the flag and the top of the flagpole. Flags cannot be flown at half-mast on poles that are more than 45° from the vertical, but a mourning cravat can be used instead (see below). When a flag is to be flown at half-mast, it should first be raised all the way to the top of the mast, allowed to remain there for a second and then be lowered to the half-mast position. When it is being lowered from half-mast, it should again be raised to the top of the mast for a second before being fully lowered. When a British national flag is at half-mast, other flags on the same stand of poles should also be at half-mast or should not be flown at all. Flags of foreign nations should not be flown, unless their country is also observing mourning. The Royal Standard never flies at half-mast. It represents the Monarchy, which is continuous, and it would therefore be inappropriate for it to fly at half-mast. British national flags and regimental and formation flags should be flown at half-mast on the following occasions::

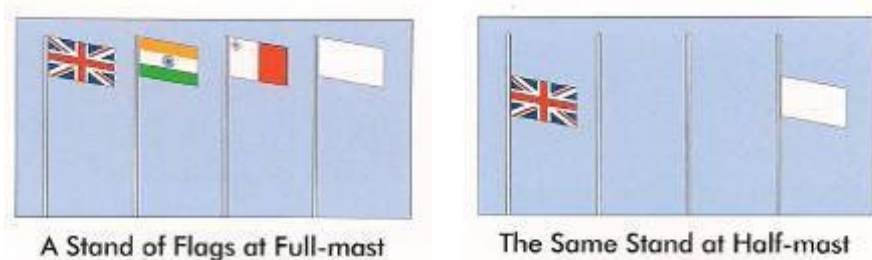
- a. From the announcement of the death until the funeral of the Sovereign, except on Proclamation Day when flags are flown at full-mast following the proclamation.
- b. From the announcement of the death until the funeral of a member of the Royal Family styled 'Royal Highness', subject to special commands from the Sovereign in each case.
- c. On the day of the announcement of the death and on the day of the funeral of other members of the Royal Family, subject to special commands from the Sovereign in each case.
- d. The funerals of foreign Rulers, subject to special commands from the Sovereign in each case.

- e. The funerals of Prime Ministers and ex-Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom, subject to special commands from the Sovereign in each case.
- f. The funerals of First Ministers and ex-First Ministers of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, subject to special commands from the Sovereign in each case. Unless otherwise commanded by the Sovereign, this only applies to flags in their respective countries.
- g. At British Embassies, High Commissions and Missions when flags in the host country are flown at half-mast, subject to the discretion of the *Chef de Mission*.
- h. Any other occasions where the Sovereign has given a special command
- i. On the Death of a Serving Military Officer or Other Rank. Flags to be flown at half-mast on significant days i.e. the day of death, day of repatriation and on the day of the funeral until after the burial when the flag will be full masted to denote the end of military mourning. It is usual for action to be limited to the unit, its Regimental or Corps Headquarters and the immediate superior formation of the deceased.

If the body of a very distinguished citizen is lying in a building, the flag should fly at half-mast on that building until the body has left.

An alternative mark of mourning, used when half-masting is unsuitable, is to add a black cravat or ribbon to the top of the flag, at the hoist.

The above cover Royal and National Mourning, but flags may be flown at half-mast on private or non-Government buildings on other relevant occasions. Flags fly at full-mast on Remembrance Sunday.



11.013. The Proper Disposal of Flags. When a flag becomes tattered or faded and is no longer in a suitable condition for use, it should be destroyed in a dignified way, for example by burning, tearing or cutting into strips that no longer resemble the original flag.

Precedence of Flags

The order of precedence for flags in the United Kingdom:

General Precedence

1. The Royal Standards (see Note 1)
2. The Union Flag
3. The national flag of England, Scotland, Wales, a Crown Dependency or a British Overseas Territory (within those countries, dependencies or territories)
4. The White Ensign of the Royal Navy (see Note 2)
5. The Ensign of the Royal Air Force (see Note 2)
6. The Blue and Red Ensigns (see Note 2)
7. The Civil Air Ensign (see Note 2)
8. The national flags of England, Scotland, Wales, the Crown Dependencies
9. and the British Overseas Territories (when displayed elsewhere)
10. The national flags of other nations (in English alphabetical)
11. The United Nations Flag
12. The Commonwealth Flag
13. The European Union Flag
14. The British Army Flag (Non-Ceremonial)
15. Flags of counties and metropolitan cities
16. Flags of other cities and towns
17. Banners of Arms (both personal and corporate)
18. House flags


Notes:

1. Only one Royal Standard is normally flown, and the order of precedence is: The Royal Standard of HM The Queen, The Personal Flags of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, HRH The Prince of Wales and Duke of Rothesay, HRH The Duke of Cambridge, HRH Prince Henry of Wales, HRH The Duke of York, HRH The Earl of Wessex, HRH The Princess Royal, HRH The Duke of Gloucester, HRH The Duke of Kent, HRH Prince Michael of Kent, HRH Princess Alexandra, The Other Members' Standard. See Annex B for personal standards.

2. When these ensigns are flown in place of the Union Flag they take the same precedence as the Union Flag.


PERSONAL STANDARDS OF MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY


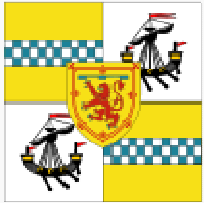
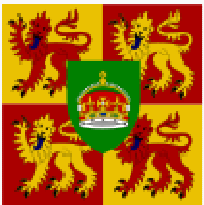

The Duke of Edinburgh

	<p>Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh Consort of Elizabeth II</p>	<p>Standard based on the Duke's Greek and Danish roots. The flag is divided into four quarters:</p> <p>The first quarter, representing Denmark, consists of three blue lions passant and nine red hearts on a yellow field. The second quarter, representing Greece, consists of a white cross on a blue field. The third quarter, representing the Duke's surname, Mountbatten, contains five black and white vertical stripes. The fourth quarter, alludes to his title as Duke of Edinburgh, and includes a black and red castle which is also part of the City of Edinburgh's arms.</p>
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Prince of Wales

The Prince of Wales has a number of distinct standards and banners for use throughout the United Kingdom; those for use in England and Northern Ireland, those for use in Scotland, those for use in Wales, and those for use in Cornwall.





Standard	For Use In	Description
	<p>England and Northern Ireland</p>	<p>The Royal Standard of the United Kingdom is used, defaced with a white label of three points. In the centre, the crowned arms of the Principality of Wales — four quadrants, the first and fourth with a red lion on a gold field, and the second and third with a gold lion on a red field — is superimposed. This is the standard that is used outside the United Kingdom</p>





		by the prince.
	Scotland	The Royal Standard of Scotland is used, defaced with a blue label of three points. This is the standard of the heir apparent to the King of Scots.
	Scotland	The flag is a banner based on two Scottish titles of the heir apparent: Duke of Rothesay and Lord of the Isles. The flag is divided into four quadrants. The first and fourth quadrants include a blue and white checkerboard band in the centre of a gold field. The second and third quadrants include a ship on a white background. In the centre, a gold inner shield bearing the lion rampant of the Kingdom of Scotland defaced with a three point label.
	Wales	The flag is a banner of the coat of arms of the Principality of Wales and is divided into four quadrants, the first and fourth with a red lion on a gold field, and the second and third with a gold lion on a red field. Superimposed is a green shield bearing a crown.
	Cornwall	The flag is "sable fifteen bezants Or", that is, a black field bearing fifteen gold coins, which Prince Charles uses in his capacity as Duke of Cornwall.

Princes and princesses of royal blood

Other members of the Royal Family have personal standards of their own. These are variants of the Royal Standard of the United Kingdom, (including that which is used in Scotland), with the bearing of a white label and either three points or pendants (for children of a sovereign), or five points (grandchildren of a sovereign). Traditionally all princes and princesses of royal blood (i.e. descendants of the sovereign) are granted arms on their 18th birthday, thus giving them a banner to fly from their residences:

The following members of the Royal Family have personal standards

Standard	Member of the Royal Family	Description
	HRH The Duke of Cambridge	Unlike other grandchildren of the sovereign, Prince William uses a label with three points. The middle point bears a red shell, while the first and last points are blank.
	HRH The Duke of York	The middle point bears a blue anchor, while the first and last points are blank.
	HRH The Earl of Wessex	The middle point bears a red rose, while the first and last points are blank.
	HRH The Princess Royal	The first and last point each bear a red cross. The middle point bears a red heart.

	HRH Prince Henry of Wales	The first, middle, and last points each bear a red shell, while the second and fourth points are blank.
	HRH The Duke of Gloucester	White label with five points, three with St George's Cross, two with red lions passant guardant.
	HRH The Duke of Kent	White label with five points, three with blue Anchor, two with St George's Cross.
	HRH Prince Michael of Kent	White label with five points, three with St George's Cross, two with blue anchors.

SECTION 3 – REGULATIONS FOR THE FLYING OF FLAGS WITHIN THE MOD

Flags at Headquarters and Establishments.

11.014. Unified Headquarters. The distinguishing flag of the unified CinC or commander is to be flown at the mast head and the Union Flag at the peak.

11.015. Joint Service Units and Establishments. The Joint Service Flag is to be flown at units and establishments provided that they are;

- a. Under the control, of the relevant complementing authority.
- b. Manned by members of more than one Service for a joint purpose.
- c. Under the direct functional control of either the Ministry of Defence or the headquarters of a unified commander

and that there are no local circumstances that may make it undesirable for him or her to fly this flag. Other establishments which although manned by personnel from more than one Service which are primarily single Service, are to fly the flag of that Service. Exceptions to the foregoing rules are the staffs of the UK National Military Representatives to International Defence Organisations and UK Support Units, for whom the national flag is the appropriate flag to be flown alongside those of units from other countries.

11.016. Single Service Establishments.

- a. The ceremonial Army Flag is the Union Flag. Only the Union Flag is to be flown to represent the Army at any event of a ceremonial nature.
- b. The Army Flag (non-ceremonial) is a Flag with red background with two swords in saltire proper pommels and hilts or surmounted by the Royal crest. The Army Flag (non-ceremonial) is authorised to be flown at any Army or inter-Service events of a non ceremonial nature, such as sporting events, tattoos, pageants and displays. It may also be flown at Army headquarters and recruiting offices. The Army Flag is not to be flown as the principal flag denoting Army participation at any international event where the Union Flag should be flown. This is because the Army Flag (non-ceremonial) is not a national flag and it can never be flown alongside the Royal Navy or Royal Air Force ceremonial flags.



- c. When there is only one flagpole the flag distinguishing the appropriate Army headquarters is flown at the masthead and the Union Flag at the peak.
- d. Units are to have permission from Headquarters Support Command to fly the Army ceremonial flag (Union Flag) daily.

e. The rules for the flying of the Union Flag, in its national capacity, and the establishment at which it is to be flown, are shown at Annex A to this Section.

f. The Union Flag, in its national capacity, is also to be flown at half-mast.

Flags in Vessels and Boats

11.017. Seagoing vessels in service as operational units of the Army, flying the Army Ensign, commanded by Army officers and manned by Army personnel in uniform are designated 'HM Army Vessels' (HMAV) and are permitted to wear the Union Flag at the jack staff when in harbour or under way and dressed with masthead flags.

11.018. All Army vessels designated 'HM Army Vessels' are authorised to wear the Army Ensign, which is the Blue Ensign defaced by the Army Badge in gold. All other Army vessels, that are vessels manned by mixed crews of Army and civilian personnel, are authorised to wear the Blue Ensign defaced with the RLC 'crossed swords' device.



11.019. HM Army Vessels and other Army vessels are to wear the appropriate ensign subject to the following rules:

a. Wearing the Ensign in Vessels - The ensign is to be worn –

i) In Harbour - At the ensign staff.

ii) At Sea - At the ensign staff whenever possible, but in bad weather, or whenever the ensign staff is not available from any cause, such as the vessel being cleared for action, it should be worn:

(1) In vessels with one mast, on a staff in a suitable position on the after superstructure.

(2) In vessels with 2 masts, either as in (a) or at a small gaff to be fitted as a 'peak' on the mainmast.

The local commander is to arrange for the necessary uniformity

b. Ensign, Hoisting and Hauling Down, in Vessels –

i) Vessels, when lying in home ports and roads, are to hoist their Ensigns at 0800 hours from 25 March to 20 September inclusive, and at 0900 hours from 21 September to 24 March inclusive; but, when abroad, at 0800 hours or 0900 hours as the local commander will direct; and they are to be worn if the weather permits, or the senior officer present sees no objection thereto, throughout the day until sunset, when they are to be hauled down.

ii) Whenever a vessel takes up her berth, or gets under way, if there be sufficient light for the Ensign to be seen, it is to be hoisted, though earlier or later than aforesaid; also on her passing, meeting, joining, or parting from, any of Her Majesty's ships; and also, unless there should be sufficient reason to the contrary, on her falling in with any other ship or ships at sea, or when in sight of, and near, the land, and

especially when passing or approaching forts, batteries, signal or coastguard stations, lighthouses, or towns.

c. Wearing the Ensign in Boats - Boats are to wear their Ensigns on the following occasions:

- i) In foreign waters.
- ii) In British waters –
 - (1) When the parent vessel is dressed;
 - (2) When going alongside a foreign warship on all occasions day and night.
- iii) In British waters, boats are to wear their Ensigns in accordance with ii) above between the times the colours are hoisted in the morning and sunset only, except as provided for in ii) (2) above.
- iv) In foreign waters, boats are to fly their Ensigns when away from their vessels at any time between dawn and dusk, and also in ii) (2) above.
- v) When the colours are half-masted in vessels, boats' Ensigns (if flown) are also to be half-masted.
- vi) When a corpse is being conveyed in a boat, either in British or foreign waters, that boat is to fly her Ensign at half-mast.

11.020. The Chief of the Defence Staff is authorised, when embarked in vessels or boats, to fly a distinguishing flag. This is of equal dark blue, red and light blue horizontal bands with the tri-Service emblem embroidered on both sides.



11.021. CinCs or GOCs when embarked in vessels or boats, are authorised to fly a special Union Flag bearing in its centre, as a distinguishing mark, the Royal Cypher surrounded by a garland on a blue shield and surmounted by a crown. When a CinC or GOC embarks in one of HM ships to proceed on any military duty, this flag may, with the approval of the senior naval officer, be hoisted at the fore of such vessel, and be kept flying within the limits of the military command.

11.022. CinCs or GOCs who are also governors of territories and the lieutenant governors of Guernsey and Jersey, when embarked in vessels or boats, are to use the distinguishing flag appointed for governors, or for such lieutenant governors, viz, the Union Flag with the approved arms or badge of the territory emblazoned in the centre thereof on a white ground surrounded by a green garland instead of the general officer's flag.

11.023. When joint operations are being carried out, should the officer commanding the army, air or Royal Marine components be embarked in a warship or transport, the appropriate distinguishing flag of the senior non naval officer of the equivalent rank of commodore or above may be hoisted at the fore to denote the presence of the headquarters. Such a flag is not to displace any flag officer's flag, broad pennant or masthead pennant, and is to be flown in an inferior position to it.

Distinguishing Flags on Motor Cars

11.024. When Royal or distinguished persons entitled to fly personal standards or distinguishing flags travel in Service vehicles, the appropriate standard is to be flown.

11.025. Lists of the Service officers entitled to fly car flags and descriptions of the appropriate flags are contained in QRs Ch 8.

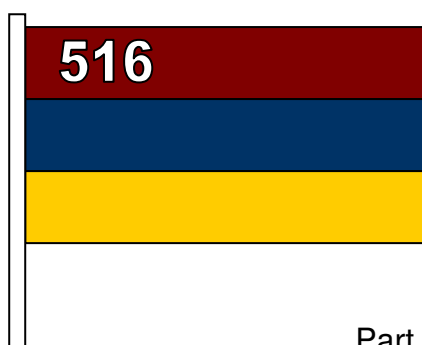
11.026. All distinguishing flags of Service officers are to be flown from a forward position on the front bonnet of the car, but only when the car is occupied by the officer entitled to the flag.

11.027. Occasions on which Car Flags are to be Flown:

- a. Flags are to be flown:
 - i) On official occasions only: only the senior officer attending the function may authorise a departure from the normal practice.
 - ii) In areas where there is a need for the car or its occupant to be recognised, e.g. because of the proximity of Service establishments, etc. On cross-country journeys flags are not normally to be flown but are to be hoisted at a short distance from the destination.
- b. A car flag may be flown by an officer wearing civilian clothes on duty, if the officer considers it desirable.
- c. An officer is not to fly the flag of his superior officer when acting as his representative, but is to fly the flag, if any, to which he is entitled.
- d. In foreign and Commonwealth countries, officers may fly their car flags on those occasions when the British Ambassador or High Commissioner considers that it would be appropriate for them to do so. In certain countries the flying of car flags may be completely precluded by laws, customs or local conditions.
- e. A Defence Attaché, or Adviser who is also accredited as a single Service Attaché, or Adviser may fly the car flag of his own Service when attending functions relating to that Service as opposed to those of a Defence character.
- f. Subject to these general rulings, commanders may limit the flying of flags when they consider the political or local circumstances in the area make it desirable to do so.

Corps and Regimental/Camp Flags

11.028. Corps and regimental Camp flags are normally flown outside the appropriate Corps and Regimental HQs. They may also be flown outside sub-unit HQs. Designs are based on regimental or corps colours as depicted on stable belts. If individual regiments/battalions within a Corps wish to differentiate between themselves, then a numeral (or numerals) or other symbol can be placed in the top left quadrant (nearest to the flagpole) of the flag. Below is a fictitious example of a unit flag for 516 Field Hospital RAMC:



11.029. MoD PS12(A) will maintain a register of all regimental or camp flag designs.

11.030. – **11.034** Reserved

ANNEX A TO SECTION 3

LIST OF FLAG STATIONS AND FLAGS TO BE FLOWN.

FLAG STATIONS	UNION 12ft X 7½ft	FLAGS 6ftX 4ft
Army Headquarters	1a	
JHC	1b	1a
HQ 16 Air Assault Bde and Colchester Garrison	1b	1a
 NORTHERN IRELAND		
Government House Hillsborough	1c	
HQ 38 (IRISH) Bde	1b	1a
Aldergrove		1a
Ballykinler		1a
Hollywood		1a
 HQ ARRC	1b	1a
 1 ST (UK) ARMOURED DIVISION		
Headquarters	1b	1a
HQ 7 Armd Bde	1b	1a
HQ 20 Armd Bde	1b	1a
 HQ BFG	1b	1a
 3 RD (UK) DIVISION		
Headquarters and Bulford Garrison	1b	1a
HQ 1 Mech Bde and Tidworth Garrison	1b	1a
HQ 4 Mech Bde	1b	1a
HQ 12 Mech Bde	1b	1a
 THEATRE TROOPS		
HQ Theatre Troops and Netheravon Garrison	1b	1a
HQ 1 Arty Bde	1b	1a
HQ 8 Force Engr Bde	1b	1a
HQ 1 Sig Bde	1b	1a
HQ 11 Sig Bde	1b	1a
HQ 101 Log Bde	1b	1a
HQ 102 Log Bde (Gutersloh)	1b	1a
HQ 104 Log Sp Bde	1b	1a
HQ 2 Med Bde	1b	1a
HQ 1 MI Bde and Chicksands Station	1b	1a
 SUPPORT COMMAND		
Headquarters and Aldershot Garrison	1b	1a
HQ 2 (SE) Bde and Shorncliffe Garrison	1b	1a
HQ 15 (NE) Bde	1b	1a
HQ 42 (NW) Bde	1b	1a
HQ 43 (Wx) Bde	1b	1a
HQ 49 (E) Bde and Chillwell Station	1b	1a
HQ 143 (WM) Bde	1b	1a
HQ 145 (HC) Bde	1b	1a

HQ 160 (W) Bde	1b	1a
Headquarters Royal Armoured Corps	1b	1a
Headquarters Royal Artillery Larkhill	1b	1a
Headquarters Royal School of Signals and Blandford Garrison	1b	1a
Headquarters Warminster Garrison	1b	1a
Headquarters Catterick Garrison	1b	1a
Royal Citadel Plymouth	1b	1a
Dover Castle	1a	
Walmer Castle	1f	
Duke of York's Military School	1b	1a
Royal Military Academy Sandhurst	1b	1a
Royal School of Military Engineering Chatham	1b	1a
The Defence Academy Shrivenham	1b	1a
Castlemartin Range	1b	1a
Castletown (Isle of Man)	1b	
LONDON DISTRICT		
Headquarters	1b	
Ministry of Defence Main Building	1b	
Royal Military School of Music		1a
HM Tower of London	1ad	
Windsor Castle	1de	
SCOTLAND		
HQ 51 (SCOT) Bde	1b	1a
Edinburgh Castle	1b	1a
Fort George	1b	1a
Army Personnel Centre, Glasgow	1b	1a
Queen Victoria School Dunblane		1a
St Kilda Detachment Royal Artillery Range Hebrides		1a
Stirling Castle	1b	1a
OVERSEAS		
CYPRUS		
Headquarters British Forces Cyprus	1c	1a
Residence of Commander British Forces Cyprus		1a
Headquarters Dhekelia Garrison		1a
Headquarters Episkopi Garrison		1a
GIBRALTAR		
Headquarters British Forces Gibraltar	1c	
Residence of the Commander British Forces Gibraltar		1a
Royal Battery (Rock Gun)	1a	
Devil's Gap Battery	1c	
FALKLAND ISLANDS		
Headquarters British Forces Falkland Islands	1c	1a
Residence of the Commander British Forces Falkland Islands		1a

Notes:

a. Daily

b. On Sundays, the Official Birthday of The Queen, Commonwealth Day and the following other anniversaries:

Jan 9	Duchess of Cambridge's Birthday
Jan 20	Countess of Wessex's Birthday
Feb 6	The Queen's Accession
Feb 19	The Duke of York's Birthday
Mar 1	St David's Day (Wales)
Mar 10	The Earl of Wessex's Birthday
Mar	Commonwealth Day (Second Monday in March)
Mar 17	St Patrick's Day (Northern Ireland only)
Apr 21	The Queen's Birthday
Apr 23	St George's Day
May 9	Europe Day
Jun 2	Coronation Day
Jun 10	The Duke of Edinburgh's Birthday
Jun 21	The Prince William of Wales's Birthday
Jul 17	The Duchess of Cornwall's Birthday
Aug 15	The Princess Royal's Birthday
Sep 15	The Prince Henry of Wales's Birthday
Nov	Remembrance Sunday
Nov 14	The Prince of Wales's Birthday
Nov 20	The Queen's Wedding Day
Nov 30	St Andrew's Day (Scotland)

It should be noted that when a gun salute is associated with any of the dates above and it falls on a Sunday, the gun salute is not fired on the Sunday but is fired the following Monday. In this instance, the flag is to be flown on both the Sunday and the day of the gun salute.

c. On anniversaries (see note b above) only when specially required for saluting purposes;

d. Special sizes may be supplied to Windsor Castel and HM Tower of London as demanded.

e. Instructions will be issued by the Constable and Governor of Windsor Castle.

f. Instructions will be issued by the Lord Chamberlain's office.

SECTION 4 – DESIGN OF ARMY FLAGS

11.035. Introduction. The authority on the design of army flags and when flags should be flown by the Army is MoD PS12(A).

11.036. Purpose. The purpose of this Section is to highlight the process for the design of Army flags.

11.037. Process for the Design of Army Flags. In the past units have designed flags, which have misused national flags and wrongly depicted army emblems. Unfortunately the errors have only been identified during the procurement process, too late a stage to remedy them. In future any unit wishing to design a new regimental or camp flag (sub-unit flags are not required) should consult with MoD PS12(A) during the initial stages of design process for approval.