

THE FLAG AND SCOUTING

The flag of the United States is a symbol of our country and all it represents. One of the many great things our flag represents is Scouting. Let's look at the flag from our Scouting viewpoint.

The white stripes are all Scouts with their clean, fresh desire to learn, be with the best of others, and still stand out in their own individuality.

The red stripes can represent the parents, who have given their sons the blood of inheritance, the closeness of constant support, the brilliance of visible good example and distinction of encouraging self-reliance.

The blue field represents the Scouting organization with its broad principles and high ideals bound together with sound practices serving a teaching and supporting background.

The white stars are Scout leaders - Scoutmasters, Cubmasters, Den Leaders, Patrol Dads, and Den Chiefs. All those who assume the color and interest of the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, guide them in self-leadership, brighten the way of their growth, and illuminate the goals to constructive manhood, that basic ingredient that supports our country and earns our Flag its most distinctive honor -RESPECT.

FLAG ETIQUETTE

RAISING— Raise flag briskly, should reach the top before other flags.

LOWERING— Lower flag slowly, should be the last flag down.

HALF-MAST— Raise flag briskly, when at the top pause for 2 seconds and lower slowly to half-mast. When lowering a half-mast flag raise to top before lowering.

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A Sample Flag Ceremony

Color guard starts at the right of the flagpoles as viewed from the audience.

LEADER: Color guard, attention!
LEADER: Troop (or camp, or patrol, or whatever), attention!
LEADER: Color guard, forward march.
LEADER: Color guard, halt.
LEADER: Color guard, right face.
LEADER: Clear the halcyards.
LEADER: Troop (camp/patrol), salute!

For a flag raising: LEADER: Post the colors!
For a flag lowering: LEADER: Retire the colors!

LEADER: Two!
LEADER: Secure the halcyards.
LEADER: Color guard, right face.
LEADER: Color guard, forward march.
LEADER: Color guard, at ease.
LEADER: Troop (or camp, or patrol, or whatever), at ease.

At this point, the LEADER may dismiss the troop/camp/patrol, or may turn leadership over to another individual.

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