

## Why I Honor the American Flag

When one looks at a typical American flag, what they may see at first is just red white and blue, but when one who is devoted to America looks at it, they can see all fifty states, all thirteen colonies and the history behind them. They see the people who sacrificed themselves for America. They can see bravery, valor, purity, and devotion. This is why I honor the American flag.

According to popular legend, the American flag was sewed by Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross and designed by Francis Hopkinson, a New Jersey Congressman in 1776. The flag was given the name, Old Glory, due to its grand appearance despite the fact that it was old and battered. It had survived multiple attacks from other countries, and another flag similar to this, the Star Spangled Banner, inspired Francis Scott Key to write the poem that would soon become the National Anthem.

The flag was originally made with thirteen red and white stripes, and a circle of thirteen stars to represent the thirteen colonies. As time went on, the government made changes to the shape, design, and arrangement of the flag, adding new stars everytime a new state was added to the Union. The modern U.S flag consists of thirteen red and white stripes, which represent the thirteen colonies, and a total of fifty white stars, representing each of the fifty states in today's Union. The colors of the flag are also symbolic. The red stripes represent hardiness and valor, while the white stripes and stars represent purity and innocence. The blue symbolizes vigilance, perseverance, and justice.

The reason I honor the American flag is because of what it represents, and what America had to go through to create it. Millions of soldiers sacrificed themselves serving the country, and many people risked their lives trying to make America united and turn it into the place we know today. Without the flag, we wouldn't be standing together, united. We all wouldn't have been looking towards one common goal, sharing the same desires. We all wouldn't fight for America, or for what we believe in. I pledge my allegiance to the flag, and I think it is the right time for the rest of us to do so too.