

Order of Precedence for Flags

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ORDER OF PRECEDENCE FOR FLAGS

(1) National Flags

Alphabetically after the U.S. Flag

(2) State Flags

In order as they entered the Union

(3) Service Flags

U.S. Army
U.S. Marine Corps
U.S. Navy
U.S. Air Force
U.S. Coast Guard
Army National Guard
Army Reserve
Marine Corps Reserve
Naval Reserve
Air National Guard
Air Force Reserve
Coast Guard Reserve

(4) Organizational Flags

Highest ranking to lowest ranking
Alphabetically or numerically within equal ranks
Host flag displayed at the center of the grouping

(5) Individual Flags

President of the United States
Vice-President of the United States
Secretary of Defense
Deputy Secretary of Defense
Inspector General, Department of Defense
Director of Defense Research and Engineering
Assistant Secretary of Defense
Civilian Leadership of Each Branch (see #3 for appropriate order)
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Military Leadership of Each Branch (see #3 for appropriate order)
Chief of Staff
Vice Chief of Staff

Generals and Admirals (highest rank to lowest rank)

Individual Flags are not used for ...

Personnel simply in attendance and not formally taking part in a ceremony

Retired personnel (unless in uniform)

Senior Executive Service personnel not filling one of the positions listed above

Personnel selected for, but not confirmed to, one of the positions listed above

U.S. sister service general officers when their appropriate service flag is not available

General Officer flags may not be substituted for foreign country general officers of equivalent rank

STATE FLAG PRECEDENCE

In the order States entered the Union ...

- 1 - Delaware
- 2 - Pennsylvania
- 3 - New Jersey
- 4 - Georgia
- 5 - Connecticut
- 6 - Massachusetts
- 7 - Maryland
- 8 - South Carolina
- 9 - New Hampshire
- 10 - Virginia
- 11 - New York
- 12 - North Carolina
- 13 - Rhode Island
- 14 - Vermont
- 15 - Kentucky
- 16 - Tennessee
- 17 - Ohio
- 18 - Louisiana
- 19 - Indiana
- 20 - Mississippi
- 21 - Illinois
- 22 - Alabama
- 23 - Maine
- 24 - Missouri
- 25 - Arkansas
- 26 - Michigan
- 27 - Florida
- 28 - Texas
- 29 - Iowa
- 30 - Wisconsin
- 31 - California
- 32 - Minnesota
- 33 - Oregon
- 34 - Kansas
- 35 - West Virginia
- 36 - Nevada
- 37 - Nebraska
- 38 - Colorado
- 39 - North Dakota
- 40 - South Dakota
- 41 - Montana
- 42 - Washington

- 43 - Idaho
- 44 - Wyoming
- 45 - Utah
- 46 - Oklahoma
- 47 - New Mexico
- 48 - Arizona
- 49 - Alaska
- 50 - Hawaii

Flags of American Territories should be positioned next in alphabetical order. County flags should be positioned next and in alphabetical order within a state. City flags should be positioned next, with the capitol city placed first and other cities within the state positioned alphabetically. Municipal flags (town, township, unincorporated) should be positioned next, in alphabetical order within each group.

ORGANIZATIONAL FLAG PRECEDENCE

Flags representing Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) chartered by the U.S. Congress and that have been approved by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to represent Veterans in front of the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), are positioned in the following order ...

- 1 - American Ex-Prisoners of War
- 2 - American Legion
- 3 - AMVETS
- 4 - Blinded Veterans Association
- 5 - Catholic War Veterans
- 6 - Congressional Medal of Honor Society
- 7 - Disabled American Veterans
- 8 - Jewish War Veterans
- 9 - Legion of Valor
- 10 - Military Order of the Purple Heart
- 11 - Military Order of the World Wars
- 12 - National Association for Black Veterans
- 13 - Paralyzed Veterans of America
- 14 - The Retired Enlisted Association
- 15 - Veterans of Foreign Wars
- 16 - Veterans of the Vietnam War
- 17 - Vietnam Veterans of America

Flags representing all other organizations chartered by the U.S. Congress are positioned next, followed by civic groups and patriotic organizations in alphabetical order and then alphabetically or numerically within equal groups.

*This information is copied from Page 23 and Page 24 of the **United States Flag Manual**, a publication distributed by the Military Salute Project. [Click the following link to view or download the complete manual ...](#)*