
GUIDELINES FOR FOLDING FLAGS AT 4-H ACTIVITIES

WHY DOES IT MATTER HOW WE FOLD THE U.S. FLAG?

Flags are more than scraps of colorful cloth: they're supposed to mean something – to symbolize our country itself. The United States has adopted a unique ritual as to how the United States flag will be folded. This skill, while it may not seem overly important to you now, may come in handy at some point in your life. Additionally, honoring our flag and our country are, and should be, something that not only we take seriously, but that we teach those younger than us to take seriously as well.

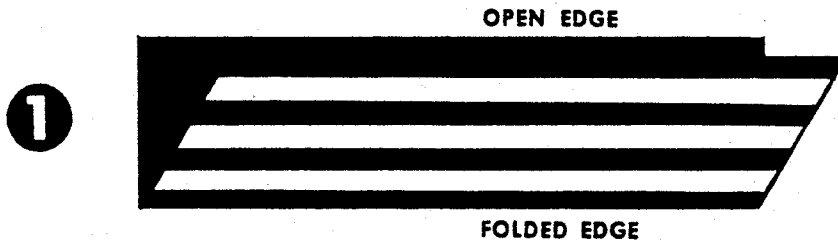
WHY IS THE 4-H FLAG IMPORTANT?

The 4-H flag is important because it represents what we believe 4-H offers to each of us. 4-H gives us just what our pledge says: ...my head to clearer thinking (a chance to gain knowledge), my heart to greater loyalty (a chance to belong to something important), my hands to larger service (a chance to serve my community and neighbors), and my health better living (a chance to grow and experience life in a healthy way)... 4-H gives us an opportunity to experience life in exciting ways. The 4-H flag represents this opportunity.

FLAG FOLDING PROCEDURES

UNITED STATES FLAG

1. Fold the lower striped section of the flag over the blue field.



2. The folded edge is again folded over to meet the open edge.



3. Bring the striped corner of the folded edge to the open edge, making a triangle.



4. Continue the triangular folding until the end of the flag.

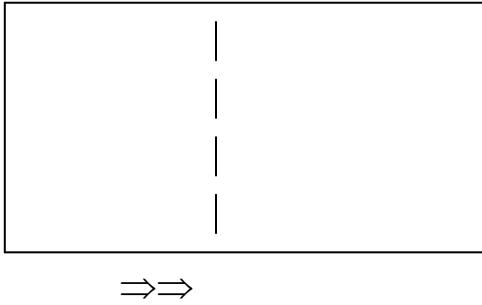


5. When the flag is completely folded, only the blue field should be showing. The flag should be in a triangular shape.

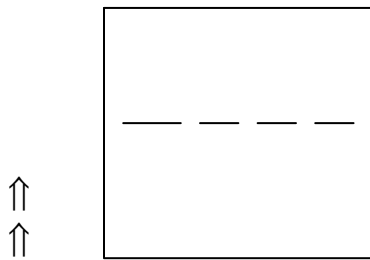


4-H FLAG

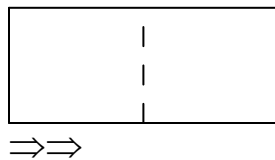
1. Fold the flag in half widthwise.



2. Fold the flag in half again. This time fold it lengthwise.



3. Fold the flag in half again, making a square.



4. The final square.

