

Arizona State Flag

Grand Canyon State • Capital: Phoenix • Statehood: 1912

Overview

Half rays of red and yellow blaze above a copper star, set against blue. The colours nod to both the Spanish legacy and the desert sunsets. Copper, central to the state's industry, shines literally at the flag's heart. Arizona is "The Grand Canyon State," and the flag radiates its drama.

Flag specifications

Adopted: 1917-02-27
Designer: Charles W. Harris
Ratio: 2:3
Top half with alternating red and gold rays, bottom half blue, with copper star centered.

Colors

   
#B22234 #FFD700 #002D72 #CD7F32

Symbolism

13 rays	Represent 13 original colonies and the Western setting sun.
copper star	Symbolizes Arizona's copper mining industry.
blue field	Represents liberty.

Historical timeline

- 1912: Arizona admitted as 48th state.
- 1917: Flag design adopted.

Notable facts

- Arizona is the largest producer of copper in the U.S.
- The rays reflect Arizona's sunny climate and western heritage.
- The thirteen rays stand for the thirteen original colonies.
- The red and yellow rays symbolize the sunsets of the western desert.
- The blue field mirrors the color of the U.S. flag.
- Copper-colored star references the state's mining history.
- The flag was officially adopted in 1917.
- Arizona was the last of the contiguous states to join the Union.

Seal deep dive

raysOfSun

Thirteen alternating red and gold rays rising from the center.
Meaning: The thirteen original colonies and the beauty of western sunsets

copperStar

A large copper-colored star centered on the flag.
Meaning: Arizona's status as the nation's leading copper-producing state

blueField

Solid blue lower half of the flag.
Meaning: Liberty, vigilance, and alignment with U.S. national colors

Vexillology notes

Design type: Radiant sunburst with central emblem

Complexity: 4/10
Readability: 9/10

Printable reference sheet for classroom use.