

Colorado State Flag

Centennial State • Capital: Denver • Statehood: 1876

Overview

A bold “C” of red encircling a golden disc, set against stripes of blue and white. The colours speak of sky, snow and sunshine; the red earth anchors it. Few state flags are so modern and instantly legible, Colorado wears its landscape with graphic flair. Colorado’s flag is a simple yet powerful design, adopted to reflect natural beauty and the state’s centennial admission.

Flag specifications

Adopted: 1911-06-05
Designer: Andrew Carlisle Carson
Ratio: 2:3
Horizontal blue-white-blue stripes with red C containing a golden disk.

Colors









#002D72 #FFFFFF #B22234 #FFD700

Symbolism

blue stripes	Sky and clear skies.
white stripe	Snowcapped mountains.
red C	Stands for Colorado and red earth.
gold disk	Symbolizes abundant sunshine.

Historical timeline

- 1876: Colorado admitted as the 38th state on U.S. centennial.
- 1911: Flag design adopted.

Notable facts

- One of the most popular and recognizable state flags.
- The ‘C’ stands for Colorado and the state’s rich red soil.
- The gold circle inside the ‘C’ represents abundant sunshine.
- Blue stripes symbolize Colorado’s clear skies.
- White stripe represents the snow-capped Rocky Mountains.
- The flag uses only four colors: red, blue, white, and gold.
- The design was officially adopted in 1911.
- The bold, simple design makes the flag highly legible at a distance.

Seal deep dive

redC
A large red letter 'C' centered on the flag.
Meaning: The name Colorado and the Spanish word 'Colorado' meaning red

goldDisk
A gold circle contained within the red C.
Meaning: Abundant sunshine and the state’s gold mining history

stripes
Three horizontal stripes: blue, white, blue.
Meaning: Blue skies, white snow-capped Rocky Mountains, and clear air

Vexillology notes

Design type: Geometric letter emblem

Complexity: 2/10

Readability: 10/10

Printable reference sheet for classroom use.