

Idaho State Flag

Gem State • Capital: Boise • Statehood: 1890

Overview

On dark blue, the state seal framed in gold. Mountains, rivers, a miner and a woman symbolise industry and liberty. Beneath runs a red-and-gold scroll that simply reads “State of Idaho.” It is formal, almost old-fashioned, a banner of identity rather than bold design.

Flag specifications

Adopted: 1907-03-12
Designer: Legislative adoption
Ratio: 26:33
Blue field with state seal centered and banner reading ‘State of Idaho’ beneath.

Colors

   
#002D72 #FFD700 #008000 #FFFFFF

Symbolism

miner and woman	Represent liberty, justice, and mining heritage.
motto	‘Esto Perpetua’ means ‘Let it be perpetual.’
state name	Spelled below seal for clarity.

Historical timeline

- 1890: Idaho admitted as 43rd state.
- 1907: Flag officially adopted.

Notable facts

- Idaho is nicknamed the Gem State for its natural resources.
- One of several state flags with seals on blue fields.
- The state seal is the central feature of the flag.
- Idaho’s seal is the only state seal designed by a woman, Emma Edwards Green.
- The gold fringe is optional and used for ceremonial versions.
- The seal depicts mining, agriculture, forestry, and justice.
- The flag was officially adopted in 1907.
- The blue field represents loyalty and justice.

Seal deep dive

stateSeal
The Great Seal of the State of Idaho centered on a blue field.
Meaning: Idaho’s natural resources, justice, liberty, and economic foundations

motto
The Latin motto ‘Esto Perpetua’ displayed on the seal.
Meaning: Let it be perpetual, expressing endurance and continuity

field
Dark blue background with optional gold fringe on ceremonial flags.
Meaning: Tradition, authority, and alignment with other U.S. state flags

Vexillology notes

Design type: State seal on blue field

Complexity: 9/10
Readability: 3/10

Printable reference sheet for classroom use.