

Maine State Flag

Pine Tree State • Capital: Augusta • Statehood: 1820

Overview

On blue, the state coat of arms shows a moose resting beneath a pine tree, flanked by farmer and sailor. Above, the North Star and the motto Dirigo, "I lead." It is rustic yet resolute, Maine presenting itself as both hardy and guiding.

Flag specifications

Adopted: 1909-02-23
Designer: Legislative adoption
Ratio: 26:33
Blue field with coat of arms featuring pine tree, moose, and motto ribbon.

Colors

   
#002D72 #008000 #FFD700 #FFFFFF

Symbolism

pine tree	Represents forests and independence.
moose	Symbol of wildlife.
motto	'Dirigo' means 'I lead.'

Historical timeline

- 1820: Maine admitted as 23rd state.
- 1909: Current coat of arms flag adopted.
- 1901 — Earlier flag with green pine tree and North Star on buff field.

Notable facts

- The North Star appears on the state seal and motto.
- Maine's first flag (1901) was much simpler and has a revival movement.
- The current flag features the state seal on a blue field.
- The North Star symbolizes guidance and direction.
- The motto 'Dirigo' means 'I Lead.'
- A moose resting beneath a pine tree represents Maine's wildlife and natural resources.
- The flag design was officially adopted in 1909.
- Maine's original pine tree flag remains popular among vexillology enthusiasts.

Seal deep dive

stateSeal

The Maine state seal centered on a dark blue field.
Meaning: Maine's natural resources, labor, maritime heritage, and guidance toward the future

pineTree

A tall pine tree standing at the center of the seal.
Meaning: Maine's forests, resilience, and historic timber industry

moose

A resting moose beneath the pine tree.
Meaning: Abundant wildlife and the natural wilderness of Maine

motto

The Latin motto 'Dirigo' displayed on a ribbon.
Meaning: I lead, representing guidance and leadership

Vexillology notes

Design type: State seal on blue field

Complexity: 9/10

Readability: 3/10

Printable reference sheet for classroom use.