

Mississippi State Flag

Magnolia State • Capital: Jackson • Statehood: 1817

Overview

A new flag, approved by voters in 2020 and adopted in January 2021, of blue with a central magnolia blossom ringed by stars, “In God We Trust” beneath. Red bars flank the edges. It replaces the Confederate battle emblem with a gentler, more inclusive symbol, magnolia for hospitality, stars for unity.

Flag specifications

Adopted: 2021-01-11
Designer: Rocky Vaughan and team
Ratio: 3:5
Blue field with central magnolia encircled by stars and red-gold bars on edges.

Colors

   
#002D72 #FFFFFF #B22234 #FFD700

Symbolism

magnolia blossom	Represents hospitality and rebirth.
20 stars	Symbolize Mississippi as the 20th state.
gold star	Honors Native American tribes.
motto	‘In God We Trust’ displayed beneath blossom.

Historical timeline

- 1817: Mississippi admitted as 20th state.
- 2021: New magnolia flag adopted after statewide vote.
- 1894–2020 — Flag included Confederate battle emblem, the current flag was adopted in 2021.

Notable facts

- Mississippi was the last U.S. state to remove the Confederate emblem.
- The magnolia blossom is the state flower.
- A gold five-pointed star completes the ring of stars at the top.
- The gold star represents the Native American nations of Mississippi.
- Red, white, and blue reflect Mississippi’s American identity.
- The redesign followed a statewide public vote.

Seal deep dive

magnolia

A white magnolia blossom centered on the flag.
Meaning: Hospitality, resilience, and Mississippi’s natural beauty

stars

Twenty white stars surrounding the magnolia, with one larger gold star above.
Meaning: Mississippi as the 20th state, with the gold star representing Indigenous peoples

field

Dark blue background field.
Meaning: Unity, stability, and continuity with American national colors

motto

The words ‘In God We Trust’ displayed beneath the magnolia.
Meaning: Shared values and faith held by the state’s citizens

Vexillology notes

Design type: Modern emblematic flag

Complexity: 4/10

Readability: 8/10

Printable reference sheet for classroom use.