

Tennessee State Flag

Volunteer State • Capital: Nashville • Statehood: 1796

Overview

A crimson field with a blue vertical bar at the fly. Centred is a blue circle edged in white, containing three white stars, representing East, Middle and West Tennessee, bound in unity. Compact, geometric, and memorably distinct.

Flag specifications

Adopted: 1905-04-17
Designer: LeRoy Reeves
Ratio: 3:5
Red field with blue circle containing three white stars; narrow vertical blue bar at fly end bordered in white.

Colors

  
#B22234 #002D72 #FFFFFF

Symbolism

three stars	Symbolize East, Middle, and West Tennessee.
blue circle	Unity of the three divisions.
vertical blue bar	Balances the design near the fly end.

Historical timeline

- 1796: Admitted as the 16th state.
- 1905: Current flag adopted, designed by a Tennessee National Guard starman.

Notable facts

- One of the most recognizable and well-rated U.S. state flags.
- The three stars represent the state's three Grand Divisions.
- The blue circle around the stars symbolizes unity.
- The red field reflects courage and valor.
- The narrow blue stripe along the fly edge balances the design.
- The flag was designed by Captain LeRoy Reeves of the Tennessee National Guard.
- The current design was officially adopted in 1905.

Seal deep dive

threeStars
Three white five-pointed stars arranged within a blue circle.
Meaning: Tennessee's three Grand Divisions: East, Middle, and West Tennessee

circle
A blue circle surrounding the three stars.
Meaning: Unity and equality among the state's three regions

fieldAndBorder
A red field with a vertical blue stripe edged in white at the fly.
Meaning: Valor (red), loyalty (blue), and purity (white)

Vexillology notes

Design type: Symbolic emblem flag
Complexity: 3/10

