

Flag and the autonomy of the state. the

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Flag of Chile.

The national flag of Chile consists of a white stripe on the upper side and a red stripe on the lower side. A blue square with a white five-pointed star at the center lies on the far left of the white stripe. It is locally known as the *La Estrella Solitaria* which translates to the Lone Star. The white color represents the Andes while the red symbolizes the blood spilled during the struggle for independence. The blue color represents the Pacific and the sky while the star represents honor and the autonomy of the state. The colors of the flag were derived from the flag used by the Mapuche during the Arauco War. It was officially adopted on the 18th October 1817.

On 9th July every year, Chile marks "Flag day" to commemorate seventy-seven soldiers who were killed during the Battle of La Concepción in 1882. History of the flag. On 26 May 1817, Chile won the Battle of Chacabuco and adopted the Flag of the Transition. It was the first recognized national flag of Chile. The flag was a triband with blue, white, and red stripes and it was designed by Juan Gregorio de Las Heras. Although the flag was well received by the Chileans, it could not be used in official matters because it resembled the flag of the Netherlands and France. It was replaced five months later. The current flag of Chile was designed by Antonio Arcos although historians claim that it was developed by Gregorio de Andía y Varela.

José Ignacio Zenteno who was the then Minister of War advocated its use as the national flag. The original version of the flag had a slightly tilted star with an eight-pointed star at the center, and National Coat of Arms. The use of the star can be traced back to the Mapuche. The flag proved to be challenging to

construct and consequentially the asterisk, and the coat of arms was removed. The star was also set to stand upright. A popular legend in Chile states that the flag won the contest for the world's most beautiful flag in the world although no historical record of the record exists.

Hoisting the Flag. The law stipulates that the flag must be hoisted on the tip of a white pole. If raised with other flags, they must be of equal size or shorter. It must be raised on the left side if the number of flags to be raised is even and at the center in case of an odd number.

Since 2011 the public is allowed to use the flag without the consent of the authority. All Chilean public and private residences are required to display the flag on 21 May, 18 September, and 19 September, the days in which the country marks the Navy, National, and Army day respectively. Failure to display or incorrect display of the flag might lead to a fine by the state.

Similar flags The national flag of Chile resembles the flag of Texas, but the blue square on the canton of the flag is elongated to form a vertical strip on the hoist side.

Texas adopted its flag on 25 January 1839, 22 years after Chile. Without the blue square on the canton, it becomes the flag of Poland.