

Drawing Other Flags

Draw the flag of another country or of a state of the US. Don't choose the country you or your ancestors came from; instead, choose a country with an interesting flag design. More complicated designs are worth more points. Examine a picture of the flag. Identify the symmetries. Draw the flag preserving those symmetries. Show me your flag on the screen. Print it after I've checked it. I'll give you the points when you turn in the printed flag.

Here are some symmetries to look for:

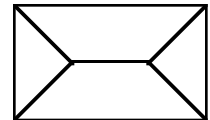
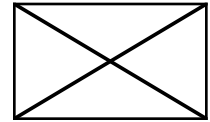
Symbol centered horizontally and/or vertically on flag or in stripe.

Item aligned on diagonal lines between the corners of the flag.


Symbol aligned along 45° diagonals.

Equal space between items.

Items spaced evenly along a line, or in a circle or arc.



Some other noteworthy features:

Stars point in a significant direction, particularly on Islamic flags. Some stars have more than five points. Some Central American flags have complex seals in the center: you can create a small painting in the center of the flag by using the  tool. The painting will have two modes: selected as an object with handles, and selected as a painting with paint tools showing.

Here are representative difficulty factors for perfectly-drawn flag projects:

Greece, Texas, Liberia: 5 points, too easy. Panama: 10.

North Korea, St. Vincent, Venezuela: 20, easy.

Islamic crescents: 20–30.

Israeli star: 20; 40 if the tips of the star points are sharp (very hard to do properly).

Canada: 25; to make the leaf perfectly symmetrical, draw half, duplicate and flip it.

Union Jack with skewed cross of St. Andrew: 25. The red lines must have proper margins.

New Zealand or Australia is worth an extra 5.

Maryland: 40 points; a gorgeous flag!

Algerian crescent across stripe boundary: 40 points. This is tough!

South Korea with I Ching symbols along flag diagonal: 50. 40 for I Ching symbols at 45° if they're really good.

Use guidelines!! Leave the guidelines showing, so I can see you know what you're doing. Make your flag about five inches wide by about three inches high. These dimensions will change depending on the specific flag.