

Part of the "History of National Flags" Series from Flagmakers

FLAG OF CYPRUS - A BRIEF HISTORY







Trivia

The flag is a symbol of peace for the Turkish and Greek communities.

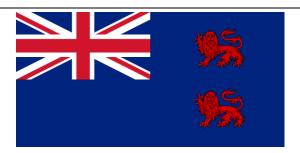
Technical Specification	
Adopted:	16 th August 1960 (modified 2006)
Proportion:	2:3
Design:	The country of Cyprus on top of two olive branches on a white background.
Colours:	PMS – Yellow: 144 C, Green: 336 C
	CMKY – Yellow: 0% Cyan, 50% Magenta, 100% Yellow, 0% Black; Green: 100% Cyan, 0% Magenta
	65% Yellow, 40% Black

Brief History

The first flag of Cyprus came when it was leased to the British Empire after the fall of the Ottoman Empire. It was given its own colonial flag in 1881 and this flag was updated in 1920 to a dark blue flag with Union Jack in the right and corner and two red lions centre right.

When Cyprus became an independent state in 1960 a modern flag was designed. The colours are neutral and peaceful to attempt to create neutrality between the rival Turkish and Greek communities.

People have been known to fly either the Greek or the Turkish flag alongside the flag of Cyprus. Northern Cyprus was declared a Turkish Republic in 1983 and chose a reversed colour Turkish flag. However many still use the flag of Cyprus in this region too.



The Flag of Cyprus under British Rule (1920 – 1960)



The Flag of Cyprus (1960 – Present Day)





The Coats of Arms of Cyprus

There are three separate coats of arms used in Cyprus. The first being the Coat of Arms of the Republic of Cyprus, this is a dove carrying an olive brand on a copper-yellow shield with 1960 on it. Underneath the shield is a wreath of olive branches. This was adopted in 1960 and remains the main coat of arms to this day.

The second is the Coat of Arms of Northern Cyprus, his is a very similar design to the Coat of Arms of Cyprus, but it has 1983 on top of the shield with a Turkish star and crescent.

Finally the Coat of Arms of The United Kingdom is used on the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia.

