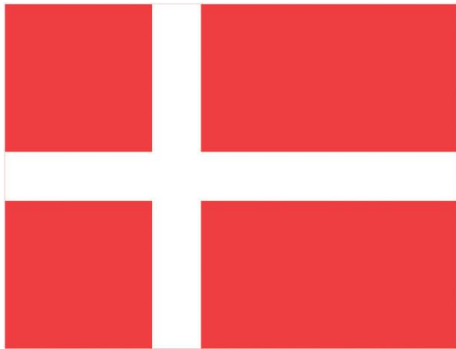


FLAG OF DENMARK - A BRIEF HISTORY



Where In The World



Trivia

The Flag of Denmark is called the Dannebrog, and its origin is a subject of legend and myth.

Technical Specification

Adopted:	Unknown
Proportion:	28:34 - 28:37
Design:	A white Scandinavian cross that extends to the edges of the flag set on a red field
Dimensions:	5:2:9 horizontally and 4:2:4 vertically.
Colours:	To this day, the exact red colour has never been standardised.

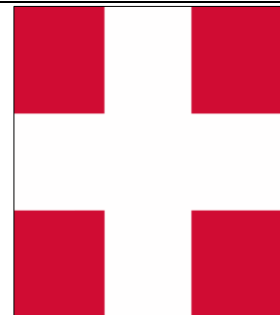
Brief History

The first appearance of the Danish cross, or the 'Dannebrog' is largely speculative. It is said to have descended from Heaven at the Battle of Lyndanisse in 1219, and the Danes, spurred on by this divine revelation, carried on to victory.

In 1397, a personal union brought all the Scandinavian nations into one empire, the Kalmar Union. With Copenhagen as its capital, the union effectively lasted for a few decades, before descending into rebellion and warfare in the 15th Century. Although the Kalmar Union was a failure, Norway and Denmark maintained their union until 1814, when the province of Norway was acquired by Sweden in the Treaty of Kiel.

During this time, the colours of the Dannebrog saw use in civil ensigns.

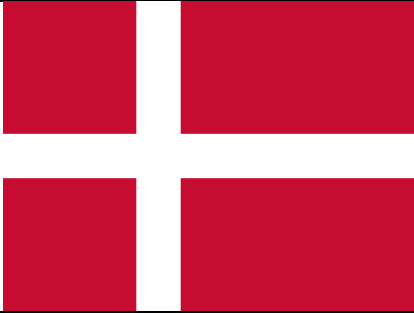
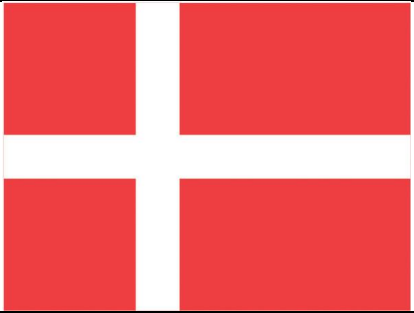
It was after the union of Denmark-Norway came to an end that the white cross became a national flag in its own right. The only changes to the flag since then were in terms of length ratio; the flag has become more elongated, and there is still no absolutely 'correct' ratio for this flag.



An Early Dannebrog



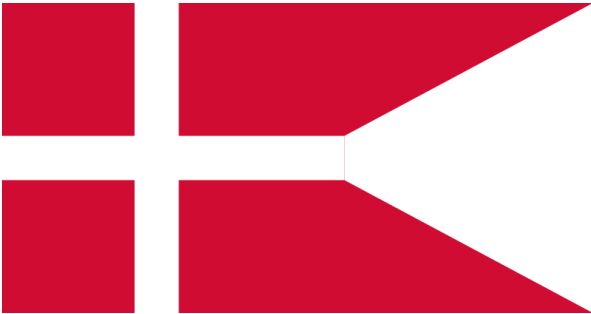
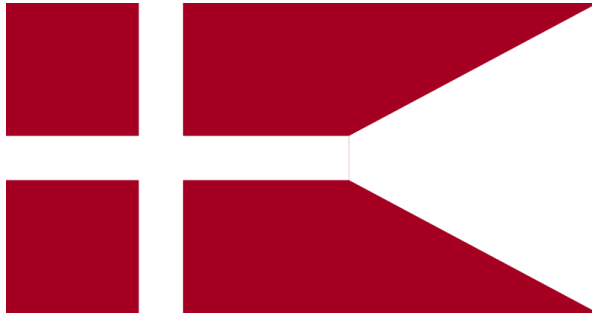
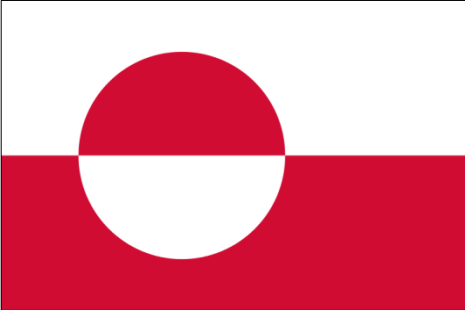
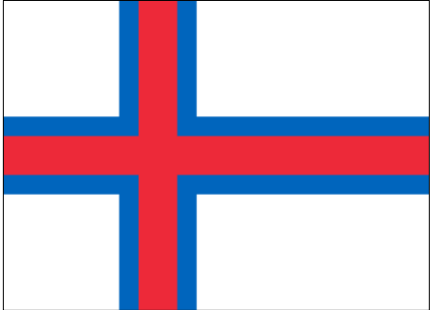
(Probable) Flag of the Kalmar Union
1397-1523

	
The Flag of Denmark-Norway c. 1536-1814	The Flag of Denmark 1814 - Present Day

Other Flags of Denmark

While the national Danish flag doubles as a civil ensign, there exists a separate flag for the state and the army. The Danish naval ensign is similar, but in darker colour and of greater length.

Furthermore, the autonomous provinces of Greenland and the Faroe Islands are represented in Danish government by their own flags.

	
The State Flag of Denmark	Danish Naval Ensign
	
The Flag of Greenland	The Flag of the Faroe Islands

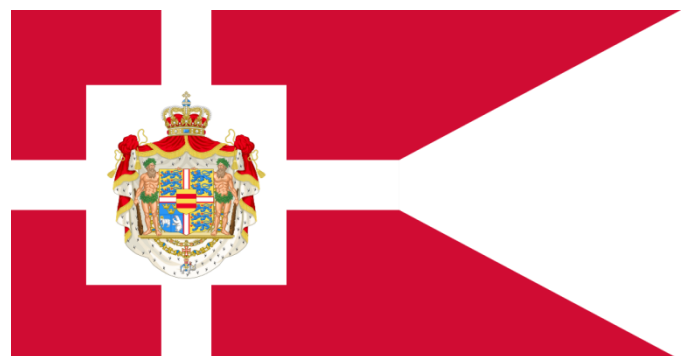
Royal Standards

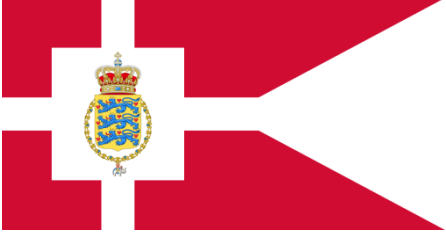
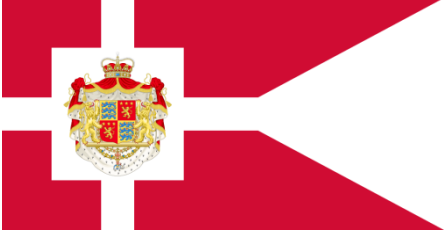
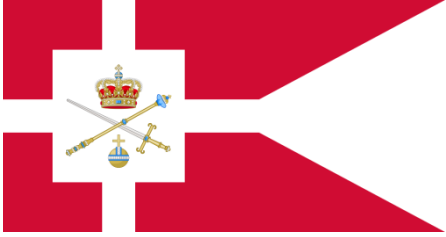
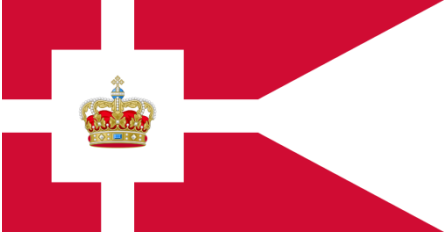
Royal Standards have been used as far back as the 13th century and there have been many variations over time.

The most recent version dates from 16 November 1972 when the Queen used her personal coat of arms to adopt a new version.

The current royal standard is based on the flag of Denmark with a swallow-tail and set with the monarch's coat of arms residing in a white square.

Variations of this theme are used for other members of the Royal household (shown below).



	
Standard of Frederik the Crown Prince of Denmark	Standard of Henrik the Prince Consort of Denmark.
	
Standard of the Regent of Denmark	Standard of the Royal House- used by other members of the Royal Family