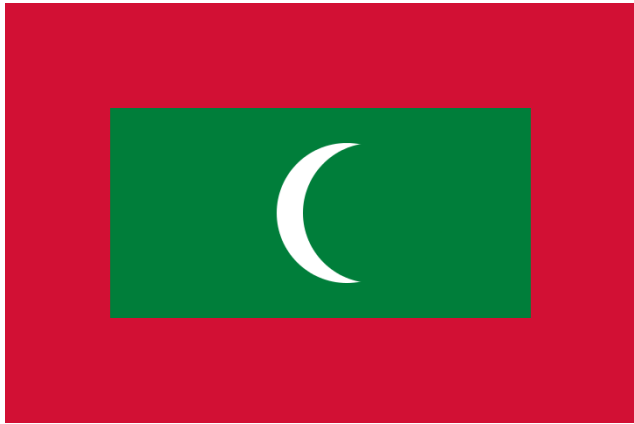


Part of the "History of National Flags" Series from Flagmakers

# Flag of The Maldives - A Brief History



Where In The World



### Trivia



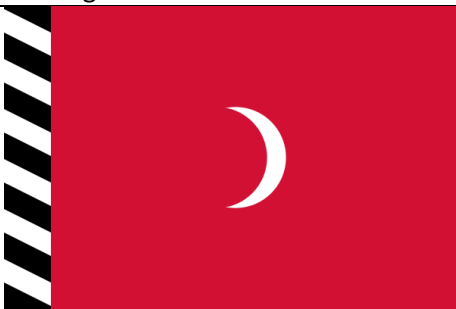
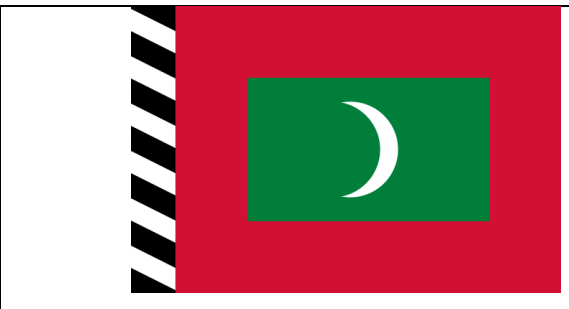
The red of the flag represents the blood shed for the people, green for peace and the crescent moon for Islam.

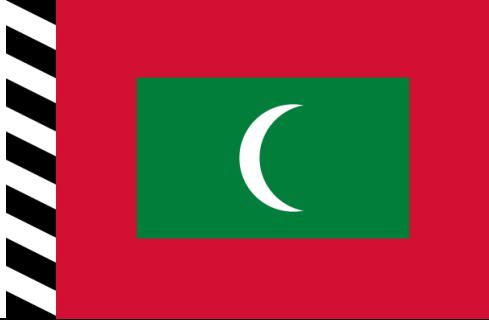
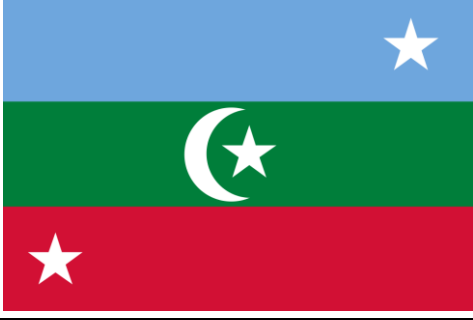
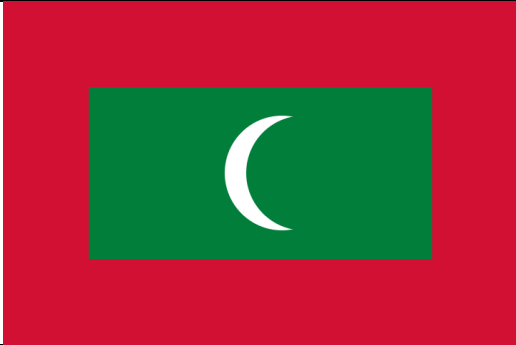
### Technical Specification

<b>Adopted:</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> July 1965		
<b>Proportion:</b>	2:3		
<b>Design:</b>	A plain red field with green rectangle and white crescent in the centre.		
<b>Colours:</b>	<b>PMS</b>	Red: 186	Green: 348

### Brief History

Under the rule of the Huraa Dynasty the first flag of the Maldives was a plain red field. Early in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century the Dhandimathi, black and white striped vertical band, was added to the flag.

	
<b>The First Flag of the Maldives</b>	<b>The Second Flag of the Maldives (Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century)</b>
In 1926 the then prime minister Amir Abdul Majid Didi introduced the white crescent moon and then a green panel to the flag.	
	
<b>The Third Flag of the Maldives</b>	<b>The Flag of the Maldivian Islands Protectorate</b>

<b>(1926 – 1953)</b>	<b>(1926 – 1953)</b>
<p>In 1953 the white crescent moon on the national flag was turned to face the right as a result of the country becoming a republic. When the Sultan was reinstated in 1954 the flag remained unchanged.</p> <p>In 1959 the southern atolls of the Maldive Islands broke away to create the United Suvadive Republic. The flag adopted was a blue-green-red horizontal tricolour with three five-pointed white stars in a diagonal line and a white crescent in the centre.</p>	
	
<b>The Flag of the Maldive Islands Protectorate (1953 – 1965)</b>	<b>The Flag of the Southern Atolls (1959 – 1963)</b>
<p>In 1965 the Maldives gained independence from the United Kingdom and the black and white vertical band was removed from the flag.</p> <p>Each element of the flag has a specific meaning. The red colour symbolises the bloodshed and boldness of the nation. The green is wealth and peace and the white crescent moon and star represents Islam</p>	
	<b>The Flag of Maldives (1965 to Present Day)</b>

### The Emblem of the Maldives

The Emblem of the Maldives originally designed in 1940 and modified in the 1990s.

It features a golden crescent and five-pointed star in front of a palm tree and two national flags. There is also a banner stating "STATE AOF THE MAHAL DIBIYAT".

The crescent and star symbolises Islam, coconut palm is the lively hood and tradition.



### The Presidential Standard of the Maldives

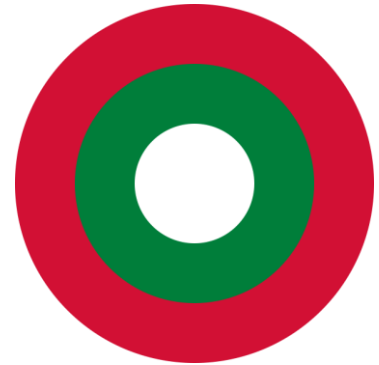
The Presidential Standard of the Maldives was adopted in 1968. It is similar to the national flag with an added five-pointed star.

The flag was also the Sultan's Standard between 1965 and 1968.



**The Roundel of the Maldives Air Force**

The Roundel of the Maldives Air Force features a red, a green and a white disc representing the colours of the national flag. The roundel is often found on the side of the air force planes.



**The Emblem of the Maldives National Defence Force**

The Maldives National Defence Force is a shield featuring a green-white-red tower on a blue background protecting crossed swords and an anchor with the national emblem on top and a banner below.

