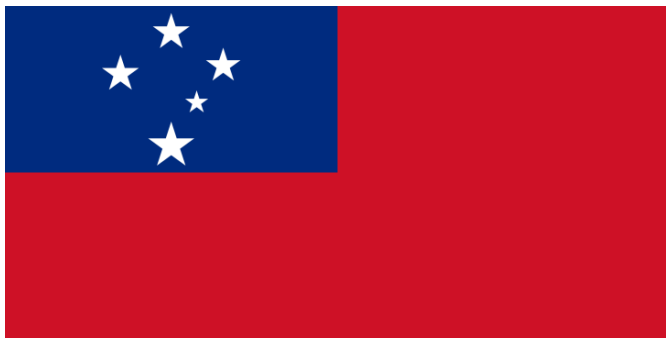


# Flag of Samoa - A Brief History



Where In The World



### Trivia

The flag was adopted on the year of independence from the diarchy.

### Technical Specification


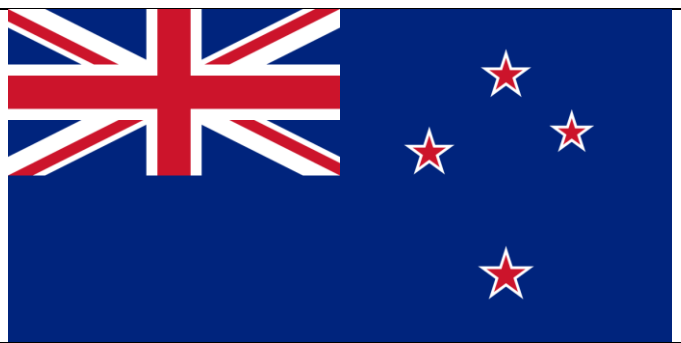
<b>Adopted:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> January 1962 (Originally 24 <sup>th</sup> February 1949)
<b>Proportion:</b>	1:2
<b>Design:</b>	A red field with a blue rectangle with a white southern cross top left.



<b>Colours:</b>	<b>PMS</b>	Red: 032	Blue: 281
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### Brief History

In 1900 Samoa became the only German Protectorate in the Pacific Ocean to not be administered by German New Guinea. The flag adopted was a black-white-red horizontal bicolour with a white disc and the black eagle coat of arms in the centre.

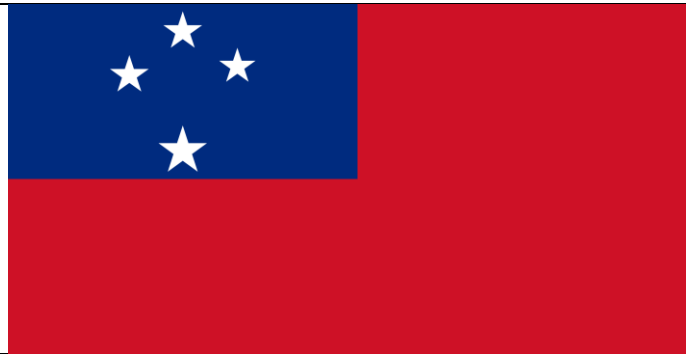
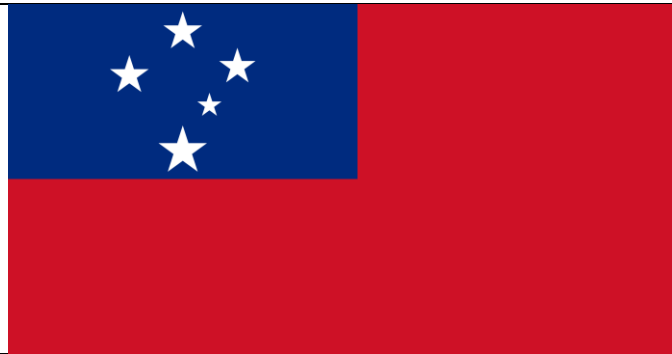
The New Zealand army took control of Samoa in 1914. The British Blue Ensign with the white-bordered red stars making a Southern Cross centre right was the flag flown in Soma and New Zealand at this point.

	
<p align="center"><b>The Flag of German Samoa (1900 – 1914)</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>The Flag of New Zealand (1914 – 1920)</b></p>
<p>The League of Nations allowed Western Samoa to become a Trust Territory of the United Kingdom of Great Britain in 1920. A British Blue and Red Ensign were adopted as the national flag and Civil flag of the Western Samoa Trust Territory with a disc depicting three palm trees on the sand.</p>	

	
<b>The Flag of the Western Samoa Trust Territory (1920 – 1962)</b>	<b>The Civil Flag of the Western Samoa Trust Territory (1920 – 1962)</b>

In 1948 a new flag for the trusteeships was acquired but never officially adopted. It was a red field with a blue rectangle with a four white five-pointed stars in the shape of a cross. A year later an extra star was added to the flag to make it more like the Southern Cross Constellation. The red colour stands for loyalty, white for purity and blue for patriotism.

When the country gained independence in 1963 the flag remained the same.

	
<b>The Unofficial Flag of Western Samoa (1948)</b>	<b>The Flag of Samoa (1949 to Present Day)</b>

### The Coat of Arms of Samoa

The Coat of Arms of Samoa was adopted in 1962.

It features a blue and white bordered shield with a blue portion with the white southern cross and a palm tree with a green sea. Behind the shield are red circles surrounded by a laurel wreath.

A red and white bordered blue cross above and a banner stating "THE PUBLIC STEAL OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA" below.



### The Historical Coat of Arms of Samoa

The Coat of Arms of German Samoa was adopted in 1900. It features a shield depicting the sea, sand and palm trees on a red background in the lower portion and a shielded German eagle in the top portion.

The Coat of Arms of Western Samoa was adopted in 1951. It features a blue and white bordered shield with a blue portion with the white southern cross and a palm tree with a green sea. Behind the shield are green circles surrounded by a laurel wreath. A red and white bordered blue cross above and a banner stating "FA'AVAEI LE ATUA SAMOA" below.



The Coat of Arms of German Samoa  
(1900 – 1914)



The Coat of Arms of Western Samoa  
(1951 – 1962)