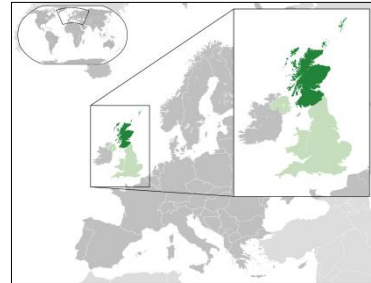


HISTORY OF THE FLAG OF SCOTLAND



Where In The World



Trivia

As James was the King of Scotland before he became the King of England, this flag became the basis of the future Union Jack (flag).

Technical Specification

Adopted:	1512
Proportion:	3:5
Design:	On a Blue (Azure) field a White (Argent) Saltire
Colours:	PMS - Blue: 300 CMYK - Blue: Cyan 100%, 91% Magenta

Brief History

The national flag of Scotland is the Saltire. It is made up of a great white cross which spans diagonally across the flag on a blue background. This was the supposed shape of the cross that St. Andrew was put to death on and therefore the flag is also known as the 'Cross of St. Andrew'.

Interestingly the Saltire, which dates back to the 12th century, is thought to be one of the oldest national flags in the world.

Traditionally the background blue field was of a lighter variation than is currently used. It changed to the darker version in 1606 when King James proclaimed the design for the Union Flag.

There is another Scottish Flag which is called the 'Royal Flag' of Scotland or the 'Rampant Lion'. It bears the emblem of a red lion raised up on its hind quarters on a yellow background bordered by a red border with Fleury and counterfleury. This flag is only supposed to be used by Scottish monarchs or government officials acting in their capacity to govern the country but it has seen more wide-spread use in recent years.

The rampant lion emblem was originally introduced by William the Lyon in 1165 to replace the boar emblem which once decorated the country's flags.



Traditional Flag of Scotland



Current Flag of Scotland



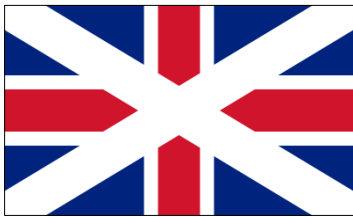
Royal Flag / Rampant Lion

The Saltire as Part of the Union Jack 1606

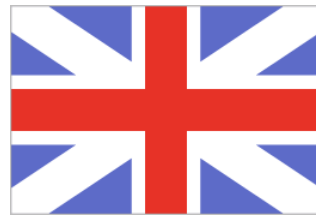
In 1606 King James proclaimed that there would be one flag that would represent the whole of the United Kingdom. This was met with consternation by people on both sides of the border as they felt the proposed flag weakened their national identity.

A compromise was therefore put forward whereby the Scottish version had the Saltire on top whereas the English version had St. Georges on top.

Although the actual proclamation has survived history unfortunately the actual designs of the flags has not. However, based on the wording, the flags below are assumed to be the actual designs.



1606 Union Jack - Scotland Version (*assumed*)



1606 Union Jack - England Version (*assumed*)