

THE
American Patriot's
ALMANAC

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Daily Readings on America

New York Times Best-Selling Authors

WILLIAM J. BENNETT
and JOHN T.E. CRIBB

A PDF COMPANION TO THE AUDIOBOOK

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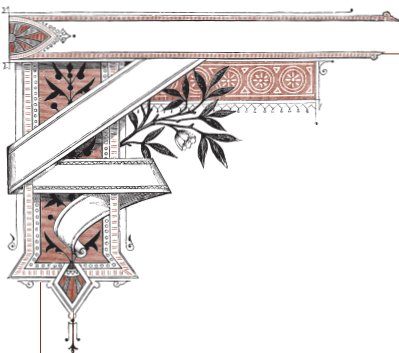
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FLAGS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

RATTLESNAKE FLAG



WASHINGTON'S CRUISERS FLAG



BUNKER HILL FLAG



FORT MOULTRIE FLAG



GREEN MOUNTAIN BOYS FLAG



RHODE ISLAND REGIMENT FLAG



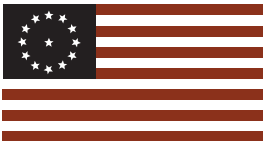
WASHINGTON'S COMMANDER-
IN-CHIEF FLAG

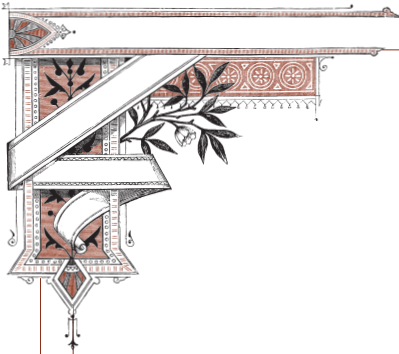


THE GUILFORD COURTHOUSE FLAG



COWPENS FLAG



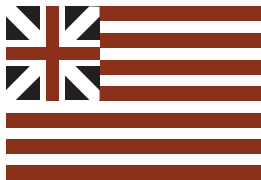


THE HISTORY OF THE STARS AND STRIPES

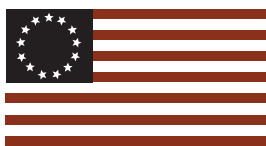
THE METEOR FLAG



THE GRAND UNION FLAG



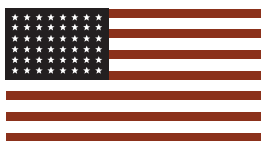
THE STARS AND STRIPES



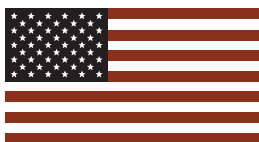
THE 15-STRIPE FLAG (THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER)

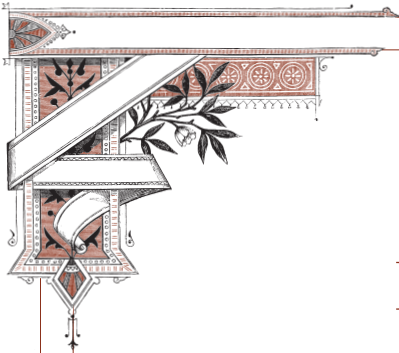


THE FORTY-EIGHT-STAR FLAG



THE FIFTY-STAR FLAG





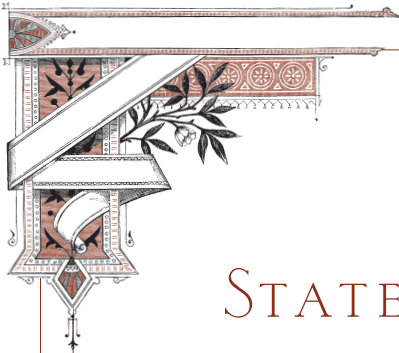
FLAG ETIQUETTE: GUIDELINES FOR DISPLAYING AND HANDLING THE U.S. FLAG

RECOMMENDED SIZES OF FLAGS

Flagpole height (ft.)	Flag size (ft.)	Flagpole height (ft.)	Flag size (ft.)
20	4 x 6	70	12 x 18
25	5 x 8	90	15 x 25
40	6 x 10	125	20 x 30
50	8 x 12	200	30 x 40
60	10 x 15	250	40 x 50

U. S. Census Bureau Population Estimates

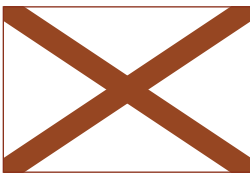
Year	Population	Land Area, sq. mi.	People per sq. mi.
1790	3,929,214	864,746	4.5
1800	5,308,483	864,746	6.1
1810	7,239,881	1,681,828	4.3
1820	9,638,453	1,749,462	5.5
1830	12,866,020	1,749,462	7.4
1840	17,069,453	1,749,462	9.8
1850	23,191,876	2,940,042	7.9
1860	31,443,321	2,969,640	10.6
1870	38,558,371	3,540,705	10.9
1880	50,189,209	3,540,705	14.2
1890	62,979,766	3,540,705	17.8
1900	76,212,168	3,547,314	21.5
1910	92,228,496	3,547,045	26.0
1920	106,021,537	3,546,931	29.9
1930	123,202,624	3,551,608	34.7
1940	132,164,569	3,551,608	37.2
1950	151,325,798	3,552,206	42.6
1960	179,323,175	3,540,911	50.6
1970	203,302,031	3,536,855	57.5
1980	226,542,199	3,539,289	64.0
1990	248,709,873	3,536,278	70.3
2000	281,424,603	3,537,438	79.6



STATE FLAGS, FACTS, AND SYMBOLS

Note: Figures for area represent total area (land and water). Population figures are 2009 estimates.

ALABAMA



Nicknames: Heart of Dixie, Camellia State, Yellowhammer State

Name Origin: after the Alabama River and Alabama tribe that once lived in the area; *Alabama* may mean “plant gatherers,” from the Choctaw words *alba* (plant) and *amo* (to gather)

Capital: Montgomery

Area: 52,419 sq mi (30th largest state)

Population: 4,709,000 (23rd most populous state)

Date Entered Union: December 14, 1819 (22nd state)

State Motto: *Audemus Jura Nostra Defendere* (We dare defend our rights)

State Flag: a crimson cross of St. Andrew on a field of white

State Symbols—Flower: Camellia **Wildflower:** Oak-leaf hydrangea **Tree:**

Southern longleaf pine **Bird:** Yellowhammer **Game Bird:** Wild turkey

Saltwater Fish: Fighting tarpon **Freshwater Fish:** Largemouth bass **Insect:**

Monarch butterfly **Mascot and Butterfly:** Eastern tiger swallowtail **Mammal:**

Black bear **Horse:** Racking Horse **Reptile:** Alabama red-bellied turtle

Amphibian: Red Hills salamander **Gemstone:** Star Blue quartz **Mineral:**

Hematite (red iron ore) **Rock:** Marble **Fossil:** *Basilosaurus cetoides* **Shell:**

Johnstone’s Junonia **Soil:** Bama **Fruit:** Blackberry **Tree Fruit:** Peach **Nut:**

Pecan **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Song:** “Alabama”

ALASKA



Nickname: The Last Frontier

Name Origin: from the Aleut word *alyeska*, meaning “great land”

Capital: Juneau

Area: 663,267 sq mi (largest state)

Population: 698,000 (47th most populous state)

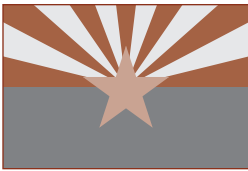
Date Entered Union: January 3, 1959 (49th state)

State Motto: North to the future

State Flag: eight gold stars, representing the Big Dipper and the North Star, on a dark blue field; the blue field stands for Alaska’s sky and wildflowers; the North Star represents the northernmost state; the Big Dipper is part of the constellation Ursa Major (Great Bear), representing strength

State Symbols—**Flower:** Forget-me-not **Tree:** Sitka spruce **Bird:** Willow ptarmigan **Fish:** Giant king salmon **Land Mammal:** Moose **Marine Mammal:** Bowhead whale **Insect:** Four spot skimmer dragonfly **Gemstone:** Jade **Mineral:** Gold **Fossil:** Woolly mammoth **Sport:** Dog mushing **Song:** “Alaska’s Flag”

ARIZONA



Nickname: Grand Canyon State

Name Origin: perhaps from a Basque word meaning “good oak tree”

Capital: Phoenix

Area: 113,998 sq mi (6th largest state)

Population: 6,596,000 (19th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: February 14, 1912 (48th state)

State Motto: *Ditat Deus* (God enriches)

State Flag: thirteen red and yellow rays, representing the 13 original colonies and a setting sun; the copper star, representing Arizona’s copper production, rises from a blue field the same shade as the U.S. flag

State Symbols—**Colors:** blue and old gold **Flower:** Saguaro cactus blossom **Tree:** Palo verde **Bird:** Cactus wren **Fish:** Apache trout **Butterfly:** Two-tailed swallowtail **Mammal:** Ringtailed cat **Reptile:** Arizona ridge-nosed rattlesnake **Amphibian:** Arizona tree frog **Gemstone:** Turquoise **Fossil:** Petrified wood **Soil:** Casa Grande **Neckware:** Bola tie **Songs:** “Arizona March Song”; “Arizona”

ARKANSAS



Nicknames: Natural State, Razorback State

Name Origin: from a Quapaw tribe word meaning “downstream people” or “people of the south wind”

Capital: Little Rock

Area: 53,179 sq mi (29th largest state)

Population: 2,889,000 (33rd most populous state)

Date Entered Union: June 15, 1836 (25th state)

State Motto: *Regnat Populus* (The people rule)

State Flag: a blue-bordered white diamond set on a red field; the diamond represents the state’s diamond mines; the 25 stars around the diamond signify that Arkansas is the 25th state admitted to the Union; the blue star above “ARKANSAS” commemorates the Confederate States of America; the three stars below represent France, Spain, and the United States, nations to which Arkansas has belonged

State Symbols—Flower: Apple blossom **Tree:** Pine **Bird:** Mockingbird **Insect:** Honeybee **Butterfly:** Diana fritillary **Mammal:** White-tailed deer **Gemstone:** Diamond **Mineral:** Quartz crystal **Rock:** Bauxite **Soil:** Stuttgart **Fruit and Vegetable:** South Arkansas vine ripe pink tomato **Grain:** Rice **Beverage:** Milk **Musical Instrument:** Fiddle **Historic cooking vessel:** Dutch oven **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Songs:** “Arkansas (You Run Deep in Me)”; “Oh, Arkansas”; “Arkansas”; “The Arkansas Traveler”

CALIFORNIA



Nickname: Golden State

Name Origin: thought to be named by early Spanish explorers after a legendary gold-laden island described in a 16th-century Spanish book

Capital: Sacramento

Area: 163,696 sq mi (3rd largest state)

Population: 36,962,000 (most populous state)

Date Entered Union: September 9, 1850 (31st state)

State Motto: *Eureka* (I have found it)

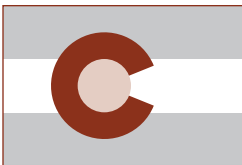
State Flag: A white field emblazoned with a brown California grizzly bear, a red lone star, the words “California Republic,” and a red stripe below

State Symbols—Colors: blue and gold **Flower:** California poppy **Tree:**

California redwood **Bird:** California quail **Animal:** California grizzly bear

Fish: Golden trout **Marine Fish:** Garibaldi **Insect:** California dogface butterfly **Marine Mammal:** California gray whale **Reptile:** Desert tortoise **Gemstone:** Benitoite (blue diamond) **Mineral:** Gold **Rock:** Serpentine **Fossil:** Saber-tooth cat **Grass:** Purple needlegrass **Prehistoric Artifact:** Chipped stone bear **Soil:** San Joaquin **Dance:** West Coast Swing **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Tall Ship:** *Californian* **Song:** “I Love You, California”

COLORADO



Nickname: Centennial State

Name Origin: from the Spanish word *colorado* (“colored red”), a name explorers gave to the Colorado River, which flows through canyons of red stone

Capital: Denver

Area: 104,094 sq mi (8th largest state)

Population: 5,025,000 (22nd most populous state)

Date Entered Union: August 1, 1876 (38th state)

State Motto: *Nil Sine Numine* (Nothing without Providence)

State Flag: three blue and white stripes, and a red C filled with a golden disk; blue symbolizes the sky; white symbolizes snow-capped mountains; gold symbolizes abundant sunshine; red symbolizes the state’s ruddy soil

State Symbols—Flower: White and lavender columbine **Tree:** Colorado blue spruce **Bird:** Lark bunting **Animal:** Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep **Fish:** Greenback cutthroat trout **Insect:** Colorado hairstreak butterfly **Reptile:** Western painted turtle **Gemstone:** Aquamarine **Mineral:** Rhodochrosite **Rock:** Yule marble **Fossil:** Stegosaurus **Grass:** Blue grama **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Song:** “Where the Columbines Grow”; “Rocky Mountain High”

CONNECTICUT



Nicknames: Constitution State, Nutmeg State

Name Origin: from the Indian word *quinnehtukqut*, meaning “long river place” or “beside the long tidal river”

Capital: Hartford

Area: 5,543 sq mi (48th largest state)

Population: 3,518,000 (29th most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: January 9, 1788 (5th state)

State Motto: *Qui Transtulit Sustinet* (He who transplanted sustains)

State Flag: a blue field with a white shield and the state motto; three grapevines on the shield represent Windsor, Wethersfield, and Hartford, the oldest settlements in Connecticut

State Symbols—Flower: Mountain laurel **Tree:** White oak **Bird:** Robin
Animal: Sperm whale **Shellfish:** Eastern oyster **Insect:** Praying mantis
Microinvertebrate: Stonefly **Mineral:** Garnet **Fossil:** *Eubrontes giganteus* dinosaur track **Folk Dance:** Square dance **State Ship:** USS *Nautilus* **State Hero:** Nathan Hale **State Heroine:** Prudence Crandall **Song:** “Yankee Doodle”

DELAWARE



Nicknames: First State, Diamond State, Blue Hen State

Name Origin: for Sir Thomas West, Lord De La Warr, the Virginia colony's first governor

Capital: Dover

Area: 2,489 sq mi (49th largest state)

Population: 885,000 (45th most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: December 7, 1787 (1st state)

State Motto: Liberty and independence

State Flag: a buff-colored diamond on a field of colonial blue containing the state coat of arms; symbols include a sheaf of wheat, ear of corn, and ox (all representing agriculture); a sailing ship; a farmer and soldier; the state motto; and the date December 7, 1787, commemorating the day Delaware became the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution

State Symbols—Colors: colonial blue and buff **Flower:** Peach blossom **Tree:** American holly **Bird:** Blue hen chicken **Fish:** Weakfish **Marine Animal:** Horseshoe crab **Insect:** Ladybug **Butterfly:** Tiger swallowtail
Microinvertebrate: Stonefly **Mineral:** Sillimanite **Fossil:** Belemnite **Soil:** Greenwich loam **Star:** Delaware Diamond (in the constellation Ursa Major) **Herb:** Sweet goldenrod **Beverage:** Milk **Song:** “Our Delaware”

FLORIDA



Nickname: Sunshine State

Name Origin: named by Spanish explorer Ponce de León, who discovered the peninsula around April 2, 1513, and called it *La Florida* in honor of Pascua Florida, the Spanish Feast of the Flowers at Easter time

Capital: Tallahassee

Area: 65,755 sq mi (22nd largest state)

Population: 18,538,000 (4th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: March 3, 1845 (27th state)

State Motto: In God we trust

State Flag: a red diagonal cross on a white field; the state seal at the center shows a Native American Seminole woman scattering flowers, a steamboat, a sabal palm, and brilliant sunshine

State Symbols—Flower: Orange blossom **Wildflower:** Coreopsis **Tree:** Sabal palm **Bird:** Mockingbird **Animal:** Florida panther **Saltwater Fish:** Sailfish **Freshwater Fish:** Largemouth bass **Butterfly:** Zebra longwing **Marine Mammal:** Manatee **Saltwater Mammal:** Bottlenose dolphin **Reptile:** Alligator **Gemstone:** Moonstone **Stone:** Agatized coral **Soil:** Myakka fine sand **Shell:** Horse conch **Beverage:** Orange juice **Play:** *Cross and Sword* **Song:** “The Swanee River (Old Folks at Home)”; “Florida, Where the Sawgrass Meets the Sky”

GEORGIA



Nicknames: Peach State, Empire State of the South

Name Origin: in honor of King George II of England

Capital: Atlanta

Area: 59,425 sq mi (24th largest state)

Population: 9,829,000 (10th most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: January 2, 1788 (4th state)

State Motto: Wisdom, justice and moderation

State Flag: Three red and white stripes with the state coat of arms on a blue field; symbols include a soldier with sword drawn in defense of the Constitution; the words “In God We Trust”; and the state motto

State Symbols—Flower: Cherokee rose **Wildflower:** Azalea **Tree:** Live oak **Bird:** Brown thrasher **Game Bird:** Bobwhite Quail **Fish:** Largemouth bass **Insect:** Honeybee **Butterfly:** Tiger swallowtail **Marine Mammal:** Right whale **Reptile:** Gopher tortoise **Amphibian:** Green tree frog **Gemstone:** Quartz **Mineral:** Staurolite **Fossil:** Shark tooth **Shell:** Knobbed whelk **Crop:** Peanut **Fruit:** Peach **Vegetable:** Vidalia sweet onion **Prepared Food:** Gritz **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Waltz:** “Our Georgia” **Song:** “Georgia On My Mind”

HAWAII



Nickname: Aloha State

Name Origin: according to legend, named by Polynesian settlers in honor of their chief Hawaiiloa, who is said to have led them to the islands

Capital: Honolulu

Area: 10,931 sq mi (43rd largest state)

Population: 1,295,000 (42th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: August 21, 1959 (50th state)

State Motto: *Ua Mau ke Ea o ka Aina i ka Pono* (The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness)

State Flag: Eight stripes of white, red, and blue representing Hawaii's eight main islands, with the flag of Great Britain in the upper left corner to symbolize Hawaii's history as a former British protectorate

State Symbols—Flower: Hawaiian hibiscus **Tree:** Kukui (candlenut) **Bird:**

Hawaiian goose **Fish:** humuhumunukunukuapua'a (Rectangular Triggerfish)

Insect: Kamehameha butterfly **Mammal:** Hawaiian monk seal **Marine Mammal:**

Humpback whale **Gem:** Black coral **Individual Sport:** Surfing **Team Sport:**

Outrigger canoeing **Dance:** Hula **Song:** "Hawaii Pono" ("Hawaii's Own")

IDAHO



Nickname: Gem State

Name Origin: an invented word, once the name of a steamship that traveled the Columbia River

Capital: Boise

Area: 83,570 sq mi (14th largest state)

Population: 1,546,000 (39th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: July 3, 1890 (43rd state)

State Motto: *Esto Perpetua* (Let it be perpetual)

State Flag: the state seal and words "State of Idaho" on a blue field; the seal's symbols include a woman representing justice, liberty, and equality; a miner; a farmer with plow, sheaf of grain, and cornucopias, all representing agricultural resources; an elk head, representing protection of wildlife; and the state motto

State Symbols—Flower: Syringa **Tree:** Western white pine **Bird:** Mountain

bluebird **Raptor:** Peregrine falcon **Fish:** Cutthroat trout **Insect:** Monarch

butterfly **Horse:** Appaloosa **Gemstone:** Idaho star garnet **Fossil:** Hagerman

Horse **Fruit:** Huckleberry **Vegetable:** Potato **Folk Dance:** Square dance
Song: “Here We Have Idaho”

ILLINOIS



Nicknames: Prairie State, Land of Lincoln

Name Origin: from an Algonquin Indian word for
“tribe of superior men”

Capital: Springfield

Area: 57,914 sq mi (25th largest state)

Population: 12,910,000 (5th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: December 3, 1818 (21st state)

State Motto: State sovereignty, national union

State Flag: a white flag depicting the state seal and the word “Illinois”; symbols include a bald eagle with shield; the date 1818, representing the year Illinois became a state; the date 1868, representing the year the seal was adopted; and the state motto

State Symbols—Flower: Violet **Tree:** White oak **Bird:** Cardinal **Animal:**

White-tailed deer **Fish:** Bluegill **Insect:** Monarch butterfly **Reptile:** Eastern painted turtle **Amphibian:** Eastern tiger salamander **Mineral:** Fluorite **Fossil:** Tully Monster **Soil:** Drummer **Prairie Grass:** Big Bluestem **Snack Food:** Popcorn **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Song:** “Illinois”

INDIANA



Nickname: Hoosier State

Name Origin: coined by Congress in 1800 when it
created the Indiana Territory out of the Northwest
Territory; means “land of the Indians”

Capital: Indianapolis

Area: 36,418 sq mi (38th largest state)

Population: 6,423,000 (14th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: December 11, 1816 (19th state)

State Motto: Crossroads of America

State Flag: A torch, representing liberty and enlightenment, on a blue field;
the 13 outer stars represent the 13 original states; the five inner stars
represent the next five states to join the Union; the largest star represents
Indiana

State Symbols—**Flower:** Peony **Tree:** Tulip poplar **Bird:** Cardinal **Stone:** Limestone **River:** Wabash River **Soil:** Miami **Beverage:** Water **Pie:** Sugar cream pie **Poem:** “Indiana,” by Arthur Franklin Mapes **Song:** “On the Banks of the Wabash, Far Away”

IOWA



Nickname: Hawkeye State

Name Origin: for the Iowa River and Iowa Indians; the tribal name Iowa (*Ayuxwa*) means “one who puts to sleep”

Capital: Des Moines

Area: 56,272 sq mi (26th largest state)

Population: 3,008,000 (30th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: December 28, 1846 (29th state)

State Motto: Our liberties we prize, and our rights we will maintain

State Flag: three vertical stripes of blue, white, and red, commemorating Iowa’s heritage as part of the French Louisiana Territory; on the white center stripe, the word “IOWA” and a spreading eagle bearing the state motto

State Symbols—**Flower:** Wild rose **Tree:** Oak **Bird:** Eastern goldfinch **Rock:** Geode

Song: “The Song of Iowa”

KANSAS



Nicknames: Sunflower State, Jayhawk State

Name Origin: from an Indian word meaning “people of the south wind”

Capital: Topeka

Area: 82,277 sq mi (15th largest state)

Population: 2,819,000 (32nd most populous state)

Date Entered Union: January 29, 1861 (34th state)

State Motto: *Ad Astra per Aspera* (To the stars through difficulties)

State Flag: A blue field with a sunflower, the state seal, and the word “KANSAS”; symbols on the seal include a steamboat, covered wagons heading west, Indians hunting buffalo, and a farmer plowing a field

State Symbols—**Flower:** Native sunflower **Tree:** Cottonwood **Bird:** Western meadowlark **Animal:** American Buffalo (Bison) **Insect:** Honeybee **Reptile:** Ornate box turtle **Amphibian:** Barred tiger salamander **March:** “The Kansas March” **Song:** “Home on the Range”

KENTUCKY



Nickname: Bluegrass State

Name Origin: perhaps from an Indian word meaning “meadowland”

Capital: Frankfort

Area: 40,409 sq mi (37th largest state)

Population: 4,314,000 (26th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: June 1, 1792 (15th state)

State Motto: United we stand, divided we fall

State Flag: a blue field with the state seal; symbols include a pioneer and a statesman clasping hands in friendship; sprays of goldenrod; and the state motto

State Symbols—**Flower:** Goldenrod **Tree:** Tulip poplar **Bird:** Cardinal **Wild**

Animal: Grey squirrel **Fish:** Kentucky bass **Butterfly:** Viceroy **Horse:**

Thoroughbred **Gemstone:** Freshwater pearl **Mineral:** coal **Rock:** Kentucky

agate **Fossil:** Brachiopod **Soil:** Crider **Fruit:** Blackberry **Beverage:** Milk **Music:**

Bluegrass **Musical Instrument:** Appalachian dulcimer **Dance:** Clogging **Song:**

“My Old Kentucky Home” **Bluegrass Song:** “Blue Moon of Kentucky”

LOUISIANA



Nicknames: Pelican State, Bayou State

Name Origin: in honor of King Louis XIV of France

Capital: Baton Rouge

Area: 51,840 sq mi (31st largest state)

Population: 4,492,000 (24th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: April 30, 1812 (18th state)

State Motto: Union, justice, confidence

State Flag: a blue field with a white pelican tearing her own flesh to feed her young, a symbol of charity; the state motto is emblazoned below

State Symbols—**Colors:** blue, white, and gold **Flower:** Magnolia **Wildflower:**

Louisiana iris **Tree:** Bald cypress **Bird:** Eastern brown pelican **Mammal:**

Louisiana black bear **Dog:** Catahoula Leopard Dog **Insect:** Honeybee **Fish:**

White crappie **Crustacean:** Crawfish **Reptile:** Alligator **Amphibian:** Green

tree frog **Gemstone:** Agate **Fossil:** Fossilized palmwood **Beverage:** Milk

Musical Instrument: Cajun accordion **Songs:** “Give Me Louisiana”; “You Are My Sunshine”

MAINE



Nickname: Pine Tree State

Name Origin: unknown; perhaps after the French province of Mayne, or perhaps from the word *main*, a term used by sailors to refer to a mainland

Capital: Augusta

Area: 35,385 sq mi (39th largest state)

Population: 1,318,000 (40th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: March 15, 1820 (23rd state)

State Motto: *Dirigo* (I lead)

State Flag: a blue field with the Maine coat of arms, which depicts a pine tree, moose, farmer, and seaman; the North Star symbolizes the state motto, *Dirigo* ("I lead")

State Symbols—Flower: White pine cone and tassel **Tree:** Eastern white pine

Bird: Chickadee **Fish:** Landlocked salmon **Insect:** Honeybee **Mammal:**

Moose **Cat:** Maine Coon Cat **Gemstone:** Tourmaline **Fossil:** *Pertica quadrifaria*

Soil: Chesuncook **Berry:** Wild blueberry **Herb:** Wintergreen **Vessel:** the

Arctic exploration schooner *Bowdoin* **Song:** "State of Maine Song"

MARYLAND



Nicknames: Free State, Old Line State

Name Origin: in honor of English King Charles I's wife, Queen Henrietta Maria

Capital: Annapolis

Area: 12,407 sq mi (42nd largest state)

Population: 5,699,000 (18th most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: April 28, 1788 (7th state)

State Motto: *Fatti Maschii Parole Femine* (Manly deeds, womanly words)

State Flag: a black, gold, red, and white banner containing heraldic symbols of the family of Cecil Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore, founder of the Maryland colony

State Symbols—Flower: Black-eyed Susan **Tree:** White oak **Bird:** Baltimore oriole **Fish:** Rockfish **Crustacean:** Blue crab **Insect:** Baltimore Checkerspot butterfly **Cat:** Calico **Dog:** Chesapeake Bay Retriever **Horse:** Thoroughbred **Reptile:** Diamondback terrapin **Gemstone:** Patuxent River stone **Fossil Shell:** *Ecphora gardnerae gardnerae* (Wilson) **Dinosaur:** *Astrodon johnstoni* **Beverage:** Milk **Dessert:** Smith Island cake **Boat:** Skipjack **Sport:** Jousting **Team Sport:** Lacrosse **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Song:** "Maryland, My Maryland"

MASSACHUSETTS



Nicknames: Bay State, Old Colony State

Name Origin: from Algonquian Indian words meaning “near the great hill”

Capital: Boston

Area: 10,555 sq mi (44th largest state)

Population: 6,594,000 (13th most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: February 6, 1788 (6th state)

State Motto: *Ense Petit Placidam Sub Libertate Quietem* (By the sword we seek peace, but peace only under liberty)

State Flag: the state coat of arms on a white field; a Native American holds a bow and arrow pointed down, signifying peace; the white star represents Massachusetts; the bent arm grasping a broadsword represents “by the sword we seek peace,” the first part of the state motto

State Symbols—Colors: Blue, green, and cranberry **Flower:** Mayflower **Tree:** American elm **Bird:** Black-capped chickadee **Game Bird:** Wild turkey **Fish:** Cod **Insect:** Ladybug **Cat:** Tabby cat **Dog:** Boston terrier **Horse:** Morgan Horse **Marine Mammal:** Right whale **Reptile:** Garter snake **Gemstone:** Rhodonite **Mineral:** Babingtonite **Rock:** Roxbury puddingstone **Historical Rock:** Plymouth Rock **Monument Stone:** Granite **Fossil:** Theropod dinosaur tracks **Soil:** Paxton **Shell:** New England neptune **Berry:** Cranberry **Beverage:** Cranberry juice **Bean:** Navy bean **Muffin:** Corn muffin **Dessert:** Boston cream pie **Cookie:** Chocolate chip cookie **Heroine:** Deborah Samson **Folk Hero:** Johnny Appleseed **Vessel:** Schooner *Ernestina* **Sport:** Basketball **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Poem:** “Blue Hills of Massachusetts” **Song:** “All Hail to Massachusetts” **Folk Song:** “Massachusetts”

MICHIGAN



Nicknames: Great Lakes State, Wolverine State

Name Origin: from the Chippewa Indian word *michigama*, meaning “large lake”

Capital: Lansing

Area: 96,716 sq mi (11th largest state)

Population: 9,970,000 (8th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: January 26, 1837 (26th state)

State Motto: *Si Quaeris Peninsulam Amoenam, Circumspice* (If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you)

State Flag: the state coat of arms on a blue field; symbols include an elk and moose, representing Michigan; an eagle, representing the United States; a man standing on a peninsula with raised hand and gun, representing peace and readiness in defense; the state motto; and inscriptions reading *E Pluribus Unum* (“out of many, one”) and *Tuebor* (“I will defend”)

State Symbols—Flower: Apple blossom **Wildflower:** Dwarf lake iris **Tree:** White pine **Bird:** Robin **Fish:** Brook trout **Game Mammal:** White-tailed deer **Reptile:** Painted turtle **Gemstone:** Chlorastrolite (green star stone) **Stone:** Petoskey stone **Fossil:** Mastodon **Soil:** Kalkaska sand **Song:** “Michigan, My Michigan” (unofficial)

MINNESOTA



Nicknames: North Star State, Gopher State, Land of Ten Thousand Lakes

Name Origin: the Dakota words *minne sota*, meaning “sky-tinted water,” referring to the Minnesota River or the region’s many lakes

Capital: St. Paul

Area: 86,939 sq mi (12th largest state)

Population: 5,266,000 (21st most populous state)

Date Entered Union: May 11, 1858 (32nd state)

State Motto: *L'Etoile du Nord* (The star of the north)

State Flag: a blue flag with the state seal, showing a farmer with plow and Indian on horseback at St. Anthony Falls on the Mississippi River, surrounded by pink and white lady slipper flowers; 19 gold stars represent Minnesota as the 19th state after the original 13 states to join the Union; the date 1819 is the year Fort Snelling was established; 1893 is the year the flag was adopted; 1858 is the year Minnesota was admitted to the Union

State Symbols—Flower: Pink and white lady slipper **Tree:** Norway pine (also called red pine) **Bird:** Common loon **Fish:** Walleye **Butterfly:** Monarch **Gemstone:** Lake Superior agate **Fruit:** Honeycrisp apple **Beverage:** Milk **Grain:** Wild rice **Muffin:** Blueberry muffin **Mushroom:** Morel **Song:** “Hail! Minnesota”

MISSISSIPPI



Nickname: Magnolia State

Name Origin: after the river, whose Chippewa Indian name means “large river” or “father of waters”

Capital: Jackson

Area: 48,430 sq mi (32nd largest state)

Population: 2,952,000 (31st most populous state)

Date Entered Union: December 10, 1817 (20th state)

State Motto: *Virtute et Armis* (By valor and arms)

State Flag: three stripes of blue, white, and red with the Confederate battle flag in the upper left corner

State Symbols—Flower: Magnolia **Wildflower:** Coreopsis (tickseed) **Tree:**

Magnolia **Bird:** Mockingbird **Waterfowl:** Wood duck **Fish:** Largemouth bass

Insect: Honeybee **Butterfly:** Spicebush swallowtail **Land Mammal:** White-

tailed deer **Water Mammal:** Bottle-nosed dolphin **Stone:** Petrified wood

Fossil: Prehistoric whale **Shell:** Oyster **Beverage:** Milk **Dance:** Square dance

Song: “Go, Mississippi!”

MISSOURI



Nickname: Show Me State

Name Origin: after the Missouri River; the word *Missouri* may have come from an Indian word meaning “town of the large canoes”

Capital: Jefferson City

Area: 69,704 sq mi (21st largest state)

Population: 5,988,000 (17th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: August 10, 1821 (24th state)

State Motto: *Salus Populi Suprema Lex Esto* (The welfare of the people shall be the supreme law)

State Flag: three stripes of red, white, and blue with the state seal in the center; symbols on the seal include grizzly bears, symbolizing strength and bravery; a circular band with 24 stars symbolizing Missouri’s admission as the 24th state; the Roman numeral for 1820 to commemorate the year Missouri’s state government began functioning (though it was not officially admitted to the Union until 1821); the state motto; and the slogan “United we stand, divided we fall”

State Symbols—Flower: White hawthorn blossom **Tree:** Dogwood **Bird:** Bluebird

Animal: Missouri mule **Fish:** Channel catfish **Aquatic Animal:** Paddlefish **Insect:** Honeybee **Horse:** Missouri fox trotter **Amphibian:** American bullfrog **Mineral:** Galena **Rock:** Mozarkite **Fossil:** Crinoid (*Delocrinus missouriensis*) **Dinosaur:** *Hypsibema missouriense* **Grape:** Norton/Cynthiana grape **Tree Nut:** Eastern black walnut **Musical Instrument:** Fiddle **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Song:** “Missouri Waltz”

MONTANA



Nicknames: Treasure State, Big Sky Country

Name Origin: from a Latin term for a mountainous region; in Spanish, *montaña* means “mountain”

Capital: Helena

Area: 147,042 sq mi (4th largest state)

Population: 975,000 (44th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: November 8, 1889 (41st state)

State Motto: *Oro y Plata* (Gold and silver)

State Flag: a blue field with the word “Montana” and the state seal showing mountains, forests, and the Great Falls of the Missouri River; a plow symbolizing agriculture; a pick and shovel symbolizing mining; and the state motto

State Symbols—Flower: Bitterroot **Tree:** Ponderosa pine **Bird:** Western meadowlark **Animal:** Grizzly bear **Fish:** Blackspotted cutthroat trout **Butterfly:** Mourning cloak **Gemstones:** Sapphire and agate **Fossil:** Duck-billed dinosaur **Grass:** Bluebunch wheatgrass **Song:** “Montana” **Ballad:** “Montana Melody”

NEBRASKA



Nickname: Cornhusker State

Name Origin: from the Oto Indian word *nebrathka*, meaning “flat water” and referring to the Platte River

Capital: Lincoln

Area: 77,354 sq mi (16th largest state)

Population: 1,797,000 (38th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: March 1, 1867 (37th state)

State Motto: Equality before the law

State Flag: a blue field with the state seal depicting a blacksmith working at his anvil; mountains; a train; a steamboat on the Missouri River; a cabin; sheaves of harvested wheat; the state motto; and March 1, 1867, the date Nebraska entered the Union

State Symbols—**Flower:** Goldenrod **Tree:** Cottonwood **Bird:** Western meadowlark **Mammal:** White-tailed deer **Fish:** Channel catfish **Insect:** Honeybee **Gemstone:** Blue agate **Rock:** Prairie agate **Soil:** Holdredge **Fossil:** Mammoth **Grass:** Little bluestem **River:** Platte **Beverage:** Milk **Soft Drink:** Kool-Aid **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Song:** “Beautiful Nebraska”

NEVADA



Nicknames: Sliver State, Sagebrush State, Battle-born State
Name Origin: from a Spanish word meaning “snow-clad”
Capital: Carson City
Area: 110,561 sq mi (7th largest state)
Population: 2,643,000 (35th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: October 31, 1864 (36th state)

State Motto: All for our country

State Flag: a blue field with a star in the upper left corner; the word “Nevada”; a golden scroll containing the slogan “Battle Born” (because Nevada became a state during the Civil War); and two sprigs of green sagebrush, the state flower

State Symbols—**Colors:** silver and blue **Flower:** Sagebrush **Trees:** Single-leaf piñon and bristlecone pine **Bird:** Mountain bluebird **Animal:** Desert bighorn sheep **Fish:** Lahontan cutthroat trout **Reptile:** Desert tortoise **Precious Gemstone:** Black fire opal **Semiprecious Gemstone:** Turquoise **Rock:** Sandstone **Metal:** Silver **Fossil:** Ichthyosaur **Soil:** Orovada **Grass:** Indian rice grass **Artifact:** Tule duck decoy **Song:** “Home Means Nevada”

NEW HAMPSHIRE



Nicknames: Granite State, White Mountain State
Name Origin: for Hampshire, England
Capital: Concord
Area: 9,350 sq mi (46th largest state)
Population: 1,325,000 (41st most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: June 21, 1788 (9th state)

State Motto: Live free or die

State Flag: a blue field with the state seal surrounded by a laurel wreath and nine stars, signifying that New Hampshire was the ninth state; the seal depicts the frigate USS *Raleigh*, one of the first ships of the U.S. Navy, built in 1776

State Symbols—**Flower:** Purple lilac **Wildflower:** Pink ladyslipper **Tree:** White birch **Bird:** Purple finch **Animal:** White-tailed deer **Dog:** Chinook **Saltwater Game Fish:** Striped bass **Freshwater Fish:** Brook trout **Insect:** Ladybug **Butterfly:** Karner blue **Amphibian:** Red-spotted newt **Gemstone:** Smoky quartz **Mineral:** Beryl **Rock:** Granite **Fruit:** Pumpkin **Sport:** Skiing **Song:** “Old New Hampshire”

NEW JERSEY



Nickname: Garden State

Name Origin: for Jersey, an island in the English Channel

Capital: Trenton

Area: 8,721 sq mi (47th largest state)

Population: 8,708,000 (9th most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: December 18, 1787 (3rd state)

State Motto: Liberty and prosperity

State Flag: a buff-colored field with the state seal; symbols on the seal include two women representing liberty and agriculture; three plows; a knight's helmet; a horse's head; the state motto; and the year of independence, 1776

State Symbols—**Colors:** Buff and Jersey blue **Flower:** Common violet **Tree:** Red oak **Memorial Tree:** Dogwood **Bird:** Eastern goldfinch **Animal:** Horse **Fish:** Brook trout **Insect:** Honeybee **Dinosaur:** *Hadrosaurus foulkii* **Shell:** Knobbed whelk **Fruit:** Blueberry **Ship:** The *A. J. Meerwald*, a Delaware Bay oyster schooner **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Song:** “I’m from New Jersey” (unofficial)

NEW MEXICO



Nickname: Land of Enchantment

Name Origin: perhaps from an Aztec word meaning “place of Mexitli,” an Aztec god; the Spanish called the area *Nuevo Mexico* (“New Mexico”)

Capital: Santa Fe

Area: 121,589 sq mi (5th largest state)

Population: 2,010,000 (36th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: January 6, 1912 (47th state)

State Motto: *Crescit Eundo* (It grows as it goes)

State Flag: a yellow field with a red Zia, an ancient Native American symbol of

the sun; the four groups of four rays symbolize the four directions (north, south, east, west), four seasons (spring, summer, autumn, winter), four times of day (morning, noon, evening, night), and four stages of life (childhood, youth, middle age, old age); yellow and red were the colors of Spanish conquistadors who explored the region

State Symbols—**Flower:** Yucca **Tree:** Piñon pine **Bird:** Roadrunner **Fish:** New Mexico cutthroat trout **Insect:** Tarantula hawk wasp **Butterfly:** Sandia hairstreak **Mammal:** Black bear **Reptile:** New Mexico whiptail **Amphibian:** New Mexico spadefoot toad **Gemstone:** Turquoise **Fossil:** *Coelophysis* **Vegetables:** Chile and frijoles **Grass:** Blue grama **Cookie:** Biscochito **Aircraft:** Hot air balloon **Tie:** Bolo tie **Question:** “Red or green?” (referring to chile when ordering New Mexican cuisine) **Poem:** “A *Nuevo Mexico*” **Songs:** “O, Fair New Mexico”; “*Así Es Nuevo Méjico*” **Cowboy Song:** “Under the New Mexico Skies”

NEW YORK



Nickname: Empire State

Name Origin: in honor of the Duke of York, brother of England’s King Charles II

Capital: Albany

Area: 54,556 sq mi (27th largest state)

Population: 19,541,000 (3rd most populous state)

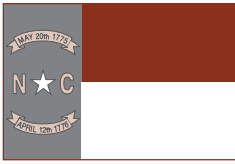
Date Ratified Constitution: July 26, 1788 (11th state)

State Motto: *Excelsior* (Ever upward)

State Flag: a dark blue field with the state coat of arms; symbols include two women representing liberty and justice, ships sailing the Hudson River, a bald eagle perched on a globe, and the state motto

State Symbols—**Flower:** Rose **Tree:** Sugar maple **Bush:** Lilac **Bird:** Bluebird **Freshwater Fish:** Brook trout **Saltwater Fish:** Striped bass **Insect:** Ladybug **Mammal:** Beaver **Reptile:** Snapping turtle **Gemstone:** Garnet **Fossil:** Sea scorpion (*Eurypterus remipes*) **Shell:** Bay scallop **Fruit:** Apple **Beverage:** Milk **Muffin:** Apple muffin **Song:** “I Love New York”

NORTH CAROLINA



Nicknames: Tar Heel State, Old North State

Name Origin: for King Charles I of England (*Carolina* is a Latin form of Charles)

Capital: Raleigh

Area: 53,819 sq mi (28th largest state)

Population: 9,381,000 (11th most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: November 21, 1789 (12th state)

State Motto: *Esse Quam Videri* (To be rather than to seem)

State Flag: two red and white horizontal bars and a blue union with the letters NC (for North Carolina), a white star, and the dates of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence (May 20, 1775) and Halifax Resolves (April 12, 1776), two events that helped pave the way for American independence

State Symbols—Colors: red and blue **Flower:** Dogwood **Wildflower:** Carolina lily **Tree:** Pine **Christmas Tree:** Frazer fir **Carnivorous Plant:** Venus flytrap **Bird:** Cardinal **Freshwater Fish:** Southern Appalachian brook trout **Saltwater Fish:** Channel bass (red drum) **Insect:** Honeybee **Mammal:** Eastern gray squirrel **Dog:** Plott hound **Reptile:** Eastern box turtle **Gemstone:** Emerald **Rock:** Granite **Shell:** Scotch bonnet **Fruit:** Scuppernong grape **Vegetable:** Sweet potato **Berries:** Strawberry and blueberry **Beverage:** Milk **Boat:** Shad boat **Dances:** Clogging and the Shag **Song:** “The Old North State”

NORTH DAKOTA



Nicknames: Peace Garden State, Flickertail State, Roughrider State

Name Origin: for the Dakota tribe, *dakota* being a Sioux word meaning “friend” or “ally”

Capital: Bismarck

Area: 70,700 sq mi (19th largest state)

Population: 647,000 (48th most populous state)

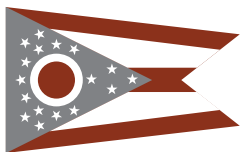
Date Entered Union: November 2, 1889 (39th state)

State Motto: Liberty and union, now and forever, one and inseparable

State Flag: a dark blue field displaying a coat of arms that closely resembles the eagle on the Great Seal of the United States and a fan-shaped design above the eagle containing 13 stars for the 13 original states

State Symbols—**Flower:** Wild prairie rose **Tree:** American elm **Bird:** Western meadowlark **Fish:** Northern pike **Honorary Equine:** Nokota horse **Fossil:** Teredo petrified wood **Grass:** Western wheatgrass **Fruit:** Chokeberry **Beverage:** Milk **Folk Dance:** Square dance **March:** “Flickertail March” **Song:** “North Dakota Hymn”

OHIO



Nickname: Buckeye State

Name Origin: from the Ohio River, *Ohio* being an Iroquoian word meaning “great river”

Capital: Columbus

Area: 44,825 sq mi (34th largest state)

Population: 11,543,000 (7th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: March 1, 1803 (17th state)

State Motto: With God, all things are possible

State Flag: a swallowtail pennant with five red and white stripes and a large blue triangle; the triangle represents Ohio’s hills and valleys; the five stripes represent roads and waterways, and commemorate Ohio as one of the five states of the old Northwest Territory; 17 stars indicate that Ohio was the 17th state admitted to the Union; the white circle with red center symbolizes the “O” in Ohio and suggests the state’s nickname, the Buckeye State

State Symbols—**Flower:** Red carnation **Wildflower:** White trillium **Tree:** Buckeye **Bird:** Cardinal **Mammal:** White-tailed deer **Groundhog:** Buckeye Chuck **Insect:** Ladybug **Reptile:** Black racer snake **Gemstone:** Flint **Fossil:** *Isotelus* (trilobite) **Beverage:** Tomato juice **Song:** “Beautiful Ohio” **Rock song:** “Hang On Sloopy”

OKLAHOMA



Nickname: Sooner State

Name Origin: from the Choctaw words *okla* (people), and *humma* (red), meaning “red people”

Capital: Oklahoma City

Area: 69,898 sq mi (20th largest state)

Population: 3,687,000 (28th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: November 16, 1907 (46th state)

State Motto: *Labor Omnia Vincit* (Labor conquers all things)

State Flag: a banner depicting symbols that honor the state’s Native American heritage, including an Osage warrior’s buffalo hide shield with seven eagle

feathers; six crosses (Native American signs for stars) representing high ideals; and a calumet (peace pipe) and olive branch, both symbols of peace; all set on a blue field commemorating a flag carried by Choctaw soldiers during the Civil War

State Symbols—Colors: green and white **Flower:** Oklahoma Rose **Floral Emblem:** Mistletoe **Wildflower:** Indian blanket **Tree:** Redbud **Bird:** Scissor-tailed flycatcher **Game Bird:** Wild turkey **Game Animal:** White-tailed deer **Animal:** American buffalo (bison) **Furbearer:** Raccoon **Fish:** White or sand bass **Insect:** Honeybee **Butterfly:** Black swallowtail **Flying Mammal:** Mexican free-tailed bat **Reptile:** Collared lizard (Mountain Boomer) **Amphibian:** Bullfrog **Rock:** Rose rock (*Barite rose*) **Fossil:** *Sauropogonax maximus* **Dinosaur:** *Acrocanthosaurus atokensis* **Soil:** Port silt loam **Grass:** Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) **Fruit:** Strawberry **Vegetable:** Watermelon **Meal:** fried okra, squash, cornbread, barbecue pork, biscuits, sausage and gravy, grits, corn, strawberries, chicken fried steak, pecan pie, and black-eyed peas **Beverage:** Milk **Musical Instrument:** Fiddle **Percussion Instrument:** Drum **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Waltz:** “Oklahoma Wind” **Poem:** “Howdy Folks” **Song:** “Oklahoma!” **Folk Song:** “Oklahoma Hills” **Country and Western Song:** “Faded Love”

OREGON



Nickname: Beaver State

Name Origin: uncertain; perhaps from the Algonquian word *wauregan*, meaning “beautiful”

Capital: Salem

Area: 98,381 sq mi (9th largest state)

Population: 3,826,000 (27th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: February 14, 1859 (33rd state)

State Motto: *Alis volat propriis* (She flies with her own wings)

State Flag: a navy blue and gold flag with the words “State of Oregon” and 1859, the date of admission to the Union; symbols on flag’s front include a sun setting over the Pacific Ocean; a departing British warship and arriving American merchant vessel; a covered wagon; a plow, wheat, and pickax; an American eagle; 33 stars commemorating Oregon as the 33rd state; and the words “The Union”; the reverse side of the flag depicts a beaver

State Symbols—Colors: navy blue and gold **Flower:** Oregon grape **Tree:** Douglas fir **Bird:** Western meadowlark **Animal:** Beaver **Fish:** Chinook

salmon **Insect:** Oregon swallowtail butterfly **Gemstone:** Oregon sunstone
Rock: Thunderegg (geode) **Fossil:** *Metasequoia* (dawn redwood) **Shell:** Oregon
hairy triton **Fruit:** Pear **Mushroom:** Pacific golden chanterelle **Beverage:** Milk
Nut: Hazelnut **Mother of Oregon:** Tabitha Moffatt Brown **Folk Dance:**
Square dance **Song:** “Oregon, My Oregon”

PENNSYLVANIA



Nickname: Keystone State

Name Origin: in honor of Admiral William Penn,
father of William Penn, founder of the colony
(*Pennsylvania* means “Penn’s woods”)

Capital: Harrisburg

Area: 46,055 sq mi (33rd largest state)

Population: 12,605,000 (6th most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: December 12, 1787 (2nd state)

State Motto: Virtue, liberty, and independence

State Flag: a blue field with the state coat of arms; symbols include a ship under
sail, a plow, three sheaves of wheat, a stalk of Indian corn, an olive branch,
two draft horses, an American eagle, and the state’s motto

State Symbols –Flower: Mountain laurel **Tree:** Eastern hemlock **Beautification**

Plant: Penngift Crownvetch **Bird:** Ruffed grouse **Animal:** White-tailed deer

Fish: Brook trout **Insect:** Firefly **Dog:** Great Dane **Fossil:** *Phacops rana* (trilobite)

Beverage: Milk **Steam Locomotive:** K4s Steam **Electric Locomotive:** GCI

4849 Electric **Ship:** United States Brig *Niagara* **Song:** “Pennsylvania”

RHODE ISLAND



Nicknames: Ocean State, Little Rhody

Name Origin: perhaps from the Dutch words *roodt eylandt*
(red island), referring to red earth along the coast

Capital: Providence

Area: 1,545 sq mi (smallest state)

Population: 1,053,000 (43rd most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: May 29, 1790 (13th state)

State Motto: Hope

State Flag: a white field with a gold anchor (ancient symbol for hope)
surrounded by 13 gold stars indicating that Rhode Island was the 13th state to
ratify the Constitution; a blue ribbon bears the state’s motto, “Hope”

State Symbols—**Flower:** Violet **Tree:** Red maple **Bird:** Rhode Island Red **Fish:** Striped bass **Mineral:** Bowenite **Rock:** Cumberlandite **Shell:** Quahaug **Fruit:** Rhode Island Greening apple **Beverage:** Coffee milk **Ship:** Replica of the Continental sloop *Providence* **Yacht:** *Courageous* **Folk Art:** Crescent Park Carousel **March:** “Rhode Island” **Song:** “Rhode Island’s It for Me”

SOUTH CAROLINA



Nickname: Palmetto State

Name Origin: for King Charles I of England (*Carolina* is a Latin form of Charles)

Capital: Columbia

Area: 32,020 sq mi (40th largest state)

Population: 4,561,000 (25th most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: May 23, 1788 (8th state)

State Mottoes: *Dum Spiro Spero* (While I breathe, I hope) and *Animis Opibusque Parati* (Prepared in Mind and Resources)

State Flag: a dark blue field with crescent moon and palmetto tree to commemorate the Patriots’ defense of Fort Moultrie on Sullivan’s Island from British attack in 1776; the fort was constructed of palmetto logs, and the soldiers wore crescent moon emblems on their caps

State Symbols—**Flower:** Yellow jessamine **Wildflower:** Goldenrod **Tree:** Palmetto **Bird:** Carolina wren **Duck:** Wood duck **Game Bird:** Wild turkey **Fish:** Striped bass **Insect:** Carolina mantid **Butterfly:** Eastern tiger swallowtail **Marine Mammal:** Bottlenose dolphin **Migrating Marine Mammal:** Northern right whale **Animal:** White-tailed deer **Dog:** Boykin spaniel **Reptile:** Loggerhead sea turtle **Amphibian:** Spotted salamander **Spider:** Carolina wolf spider **Gemstone:** Amethyst **Stone:** Blue granite **Shell:** Lettered olive **Fruit:** Peach **Grass:** Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) **Beverage:** Milk **Hospitality Beverage:** Tea **Snack:** Boiled peanut **Music:** Spiritual **Popular Music:** Beach music **Opera:** *Porgy and Bess* **Dance:** the Shag **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Waltz:** “Richardson Waltz” **Songs:** “Carolina”; “South Carolina On My Mind”

SOUTH DAKOTA



Nicknames: Coyote State, Mount Rushmore State

Name Origin: for the Dakota tribe, *dakota* being a Sioux word meaning “friend” or “ally”

Capital: Pierre

Area: 77,116 sq mi (17th largest state)

Population: 812,000 (46th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: November 2, 1889 (40th state)

State Motto: Under God, the people rule

State Flag: a sky blue field with the state seal surrounded by gold triangles representing the sun’s rays and the words “South Dakota” and “The Mount Rushmore State”; symbols include a farmer plowing; cattle; a cornfield; a steamship on a river; a smelting furnace; the state motto; and 1889, the year South Dakota became a state

State Symbols—Flower: Pasque (May Day flower) **Tree:** Black Hills spruce

Bird: Chinese ring-necked pheasant **Animal:** Coyote **Fish:** Walleye **Insect:**

Honeybee **Gemstone:** Fairburn agate **Jewelry:** Black Hills gold **Mineral:**

Rose quartz **Fossil:** Triceratops **Soil:** Houdek **Grass:** Western wheatgrass

Beverage: Milk **Dessert:** Kuchen **Sport:** Rodeo **Musical Instrument:** Fiddle

Greeting: Hau Kola! (Hello, Friend) **Song:** “Hail, South Dakota”

TENNESSEE



Nickname: Volunteer State

Name Origin: from *Tanase*, the name of a Cherokee village in the region

Capital: Nashville

Area: 42,143 sq mi (36th largest state)

Population: 6,296,000 (16th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: June 1, 1796 (16th state)

State Motto: Agriculture and commerce

State Flag: a red field with a vertical blue bar and three white stars on a blue circle; the stars represent the three main geographical regions of the state, East Tennessee, Middle Tennessee, and West Tennessee

State Symbols—Flower: Iris **Wildflower:** Passion flower **Tree:** Tulip poplar **Bird:**

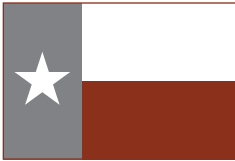
Mockingbird **Game Bird:** Bobwhite quail **Wild Animal:** Raccoon **Commercial**

Fish: Channel catfish **Game Fish:** Largemouth bass **Insects:** Firefly and ladybug

Agricultural Insect: Honeybee **Butterfly:** Zebra swallowtail **Horse:** Tennessee

Walking Horse **Reptile:** Box turtle **Amphibian:** Tennessee cave salamander
Gem: Tennessee river pearl **Rocks:** Limestone and agate **Fossil:** *Pterotrigonia*
(Scabrotrigonia) thoracica **Fruit:** Tomato **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Poem:** “Oh
Tennessee, My Tennessee” **Songs:** “My Homeland, Tennessee”; “When It’s Iris
Time in Tennessee”; “My Tennessee”; “Tennessee Waltz”; “Rocky Top”;
“Tennessee”; “The Pride of Tennessee”

TEXAS



Nickname: Lone Star State

Name Origin: from the Indian word *tejas*, meaning
“friends”

Capital: Austin

Area: 268,581 sq mi (2nd largest state)

Population: 24,782,000 (2nd most populous state)

Date Entered Union: December 29, 1845 (28th state)

State Motto: Friendship

State Flag: two horizontal bars of white and red, and a vertical blue bar with a
lone white star symbolizing Texas; the blue represents loyalty, the white
represents purity, and the red represents bravery

State Symbols—Flower: Bluebonnet **Tree:** Pecan **Plant:** Prickly pear cactus
Shrub: Crepe myrtle **Bird:** Mockingbird **Fish:** Guadalupe bass **Insect:**
Monarch butterfly **Large Mammal:** Longhorn **Small Mammal:** Armadillo
Flying Mammal: Mexican free-tailed bat **Dog:** Blue Lacy **Horse:** American
Quarter Horse **Reptile:** Horned lizard **Amphibian:** Texas toad **Gemstone:**
Texas blue topaz **Gemstone Cut:** Lone Star cut **Precious Metal:** Silver **Stone:**
Petrified palmwood **Dinosaur:** *Paluxysaurus jonesi* **Shell:** Lightning whelk
Fruit: Texas red grapefruit **Vegetable:** Sweet onion **Peppers:** jalapeno and
chiletepin **Grass:** Sideoats grama **Dish:** Chile **Snack:** Tortilla chips and salsa
Bread: Pan de campo (Cowboy bread) **Footwear:** Cowboy boot **Tie:** Bolo tie
Vehicle: Chuck wagon **Ship:** USS *Texas* **Tall Ship:** *Elissa* **Musical Instrument:**
Guitar **Sport:** Rodeo **Fiber and Fabric:** Cotton **Folk Dance:** Square dance
Song: “Texas, Our Texas”

UTAH



Nickname: Beehive State

Name Origin: for the Ute tribe, whose name means “people of the mountains”

Capital: Salt Lake City

Area: 84,899 sq mi (13th largest state)

Population: 2,785,000 (34th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: January 4, 1896 (45th state)

State Motto: Industry

State Flag: a blue field with the state seal; symbols include a beehive, representing the state motto, “Industry”; the sego lily, representing peace; a bald eagle; American flags; 1847, the year Brigham Young led the first Mormons into the state; and 1896, the year Utah entered the Union

State Symbols—Emblem: Beehive **Flower:** Sego lily **Tree:** Blue spruce **Bird:** California seagull **Animal:** Rocky Mountain elk **Fish:** Bonneville cutthroat trout **Insect:** Honeybee **Gemstone:** Topaz **Mineral:** Copper **Rock:** Coal **Fossil:** Allosaurus **Grass:** Indian rice grass **Fruit:** Cherry **Vegetables:** Spanish sweet onion and sugar beet **Cooking Pot:** Dutch oven **Star:** Dubhe (one of the seven bright stars the Big Dipper) **Astronomical Symbol:** Beehive Cluster (M44) **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Song:** “Utah, This Is the Place” **Hymn:** “Utah, We Love Thee”

VERMONT



Nickname: Green Mountain State

Name Origin: from the French *vert mont*, meaning “green mountain”

Capital: Montpelier

Area: 9,614 sq mi (45th largest state)

Population: 622,000 (49th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: March 4, 1791 (14th state)

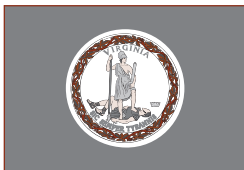
State Motto: Freedom and unity

State Flag: a blue field with the state’s coat of arms; symbols include a pine tree, representing Vermont forests; two pine branches representing New England; mountains, a cow and three sheaves of grain; a buck’s head; and the state motto

State Symbols—Flower: Red clover **Tree:** Sugar maple **Bird:** Hermit thrush **Animal:** Morgan Horse **Fish:** Brook trout and walleye pike **Insect:** Honeybee

Butterfly: Monarch **Amphibian:** Northern leopard frog **Gemstone:** Grossular garnet **Mineral:** Talc **Rocks:** Granite, marble and slate **Fossil:** White whale (*Delphinapterus leucas*) **Soil:** Tunbridge **Fruit:** Apple **Pie:** Apple **Beverage:** Milk **Song:** “These Green Mountains”

VIRGINIA



Nicknames: Old Dominion, Mother of Presidents

Name Origin: in honor of Queen Elizabeth I of England, who was known as the “Virgin Queen”

Capital: Richmond

Area: 42,774 sq mi (35th largest state)

Population: 7,883,000 (12th most populous state)

Date Ratified Constitution: June 25, 1788 (10th state)

State Motto: *Sic Semper Tyrannis* (Thus always to tyrants)

State Flag: a blue field with the state seal; symbols include a woman, representing Virginia, with her foot on a prostrate man, representing tyranny; his fallen crown lies nearby; beneath the fallen tyrant is inscribed the state motto

State Symbols—Flower: Dogwood **Wildflower:** Dogwood **Bird:** Cardinal **Fish:** Brook trout **Insect:** Tiger swallowtail butterfly **Dog:** American fox hound **Bat:** Virginia big-eared bat **Fossil:** *Chesapecten jeffersonius* (a scallop) **Shell:** Oyster **Beverage:** Milk **Boat:** Chesapeake Bay deadrise **Folk Dance:** Square dance **Song Emeritus:** “Carry Me Back to Old Virginia”

WASHINGTON



Nickname: Evergreen State

Name Origin: in honor of George Washington (the only state named for a president)

Capital: Olympia

Area: 71,300 sq mi (18th largest state)

Population: 6,664,000 (15th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: November 11, 1889 (42nd state)

State Motto: *Alki* (By and by)

State Flag: a dark green field bearing the state seal with an image of George Washington and the date 1889, the year the state was admitted to the Union

State Symbols—Flower: Coast rhododendron **Tree:** Western hemlock **Bird:** American goldfinch **Fish:** Steelhead trout **Insect:** Green darner dragonfly

Marine Mammal: Orca **Endemic Mammal:** Olympic marmot **Amphibian:** Pacific chorus frog **Gem:** petrified wood **Fossil:** Columbian mammoth **Fruit:** Apple **Vegetable:** Walla Walla sweet onion **Grass:** Bluebunch wheatgrass **Ship:** *Lady Washington* **Dance:** Square dance **Song:** “Washington, My Home” **Folk Song:** “Roll On, Columbia, Roll On”

WEST VIRGINIA



Nickname: Mountain State

Name Origin: separated from Virginia during the Civil War

Capital: Charleston

Area: 24,230 sq mi (41st largest state)

Population: 1,820,000 (37th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: June 20, 1863 (35th state)

State Motto: *Montani Semper Liberi* (Mountaineers are always free)

State Flag: a white field with a dark blue border carrying the state's coat of arms; symbols include a farmer; a miner; a rock bearing the date June 20, 1863, the day West Virginia was admitted to the Union; a red liberty cap resting on two rifles; a wreath of rhododendron, the state flower; and the state motto

State Symbols—Colors: Old gold and blue **Flower:** Big laurel (rhododendron)

Tree: Sugar maple **Bird:** Cardinal **Animal:** Black bear **Fish:** Brook trout

Insect: Honeybee **Butterfly:** Monarch **Reptile:** Timber rattlesnake **Gem:**

West Virginia fossil coral **Fossil:** *Megalonyx jeffersonii* **Soil:** Monongahela silt

loam **Fruit:** Golden Delicious apple **Songs:** “The West Virginia Hills”;

“This Is My West Virginia”; “West Virginia, My Home Sweet Home”

WISCONSIN



Nicknames: Badger State; America's Dairyland

Name Origin: after the Wisconsin River, whose Indian name may have meant “gathering of the waters” or “river of red stone”

Capital: Madison

Area: 65,498 sq mi (23rd largest state)

Population: 5,655,000 (20th most populous state)

Date Entered Union: May 29, 1848 (30th state)

State Motto: Forward

State Flag: a blue field with the state coat of arms, the word “Wisconsin,” and 1848, the year Wisconsin became a state; symbols include a sailor and miner; a plow (agriculture); a pick and shovel (mining); an anchor (navigation); an arm and hammer (manufacturing); a cornucopia (prosperity and abundance); 13 lead ingots (mineral wealth and the 13 original colonies); a badger (the state animal); and the state motto, “Forward”

State Symbols—Flower: Wood violet **Tree:** Sugar maple **Bird:** Robin **Animal:** Badger **Wildlife Animal:** White-tailed deer **Domesticated Animal:** Dairy cow **Dog:** American water spaniel **Fish:** Muskellunge **Insect:** Honeybee **Mineral:** Galena **Rock:** Red granite **Fossil:** Trilobite (*Calymene celebra*) **Soil:** Antigo silt loam **Fruit:** Cranberry **Grain:** Corn **Beverage:** Milk **Dance:** Polka **Symbol of Peace:** Mourning dove **Waltz:** “The Wisconsin Waltz” **Song:** “On, Wisconsin!” **Ballad:** “Oh Wisconsin, Land of My Dreams”

WYOMING



Nicknames: Equality State, Cowboy State

Name Origin: from the Delaware Indian words *meheweamí-ing*, meaning “at the big plains”

Capital: Cheyenne

Area: 97,814 sq mi (10th largest state)

Population: 544,000 (least populous state)

Date Entered Union: July 10, 1890 (44th state)

State Motto: Equal Rights

State Flag: a blue field bordered in white and red with the white silhouette of a bison and the state seal; symbols include a woman representing the motto “Equal Rights”; a rancher; a miner; and the words “Oil,” “Mines,” “Livestock,” and “Grain”

State Symbols—Flower: Indian paintbrush **Tree:** Plains Cottonwood **Bird:** Meadowlark **Fish:** Cutthroat trout **Butterfly:** Sheridan’s green hairstreak **Mammal:** Bison **Reptile:** Horned toad **Gemstone:** Jade **Fossil:** *Knightsia* **Dinosaur:** Triceratops **Grass:** Western wheatgrass **Sport:** Rodeo **Coin:** Sacajawea dollar **Song:** “Wyoming”

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (WASHINGTON, D.C.)



Nickname: D.C.

Name Origin: “District of Columbia” in honor of Christopher Columbus; “Washington” in honor of George Washington

Area: 68 sq mi

Population: 600,000

Date Established: site chosen in 1790; became capital in 1800

District Motto: *Justitia omnibus* (Justice for all)

District Flag: three stars and two red bars on a white background, a design based on the coat of arms of George Washington’s family

District Symbols—Flower: American beauty rose **Tree:** Scarlet oak **Bird:** Wood thrush