

JUNE 2022

## FLAGS

CONTINUE THE STORY



### WHAT DO WE REPRESENT?

Consider the evolution of flags in America. In 1812 the Stars and Stripes represents Americas growth to now 15 States, while in 1860 the Old South (Confederacy) is now identified with the Confederate flag (Stars and Bars). However, it is the Confederate Battle Flag which brings on the most passionate of discussions. Each brings history, each represents the passions and desires of a people. In talking with an archivist, the question is asked, when should we wipe out representations of our history. The answer is never. History should never be forgotten, so that we can learn from our mistakes and take pride in what we hope to accomplish.

### WHAT DO THE STARS, STRIPES & COLORS REPRESENT?

The 13 stripes represent the 13 original colonies with the 50 stars representing the 50 states. So yes, if we were to add a new state, we would need to add a new star, or completely redesign, either way the flag industry wins. Maybe it is best to add States in pairs, balancing any new dynamics between Conservative and Liberal biases, typical to how states were added during the time of the debate on Slavery. Who might be the 51st and 52nd States?

### WHAT DO WE REPRESENT

Consider the design of the flag for Ukraine, with **Yellow** representing the land and **Blue** the sky. Original designs date back to 1848 and continued till today, excepting for the time during Soviet Union rule wherein it was outlawed. Upon gaining independence in 1991, the flag was restored as a symbol of the State. So, in many ways, their flag represents both the history and future desires of their society, which appears to include the freedom to self-determine what they can do as a society. The history of Ukraine's symbol seems to carry a respect for the land, nature and what they have experienced.

*Are the flags for the United States of America any different, as they have evolved over time?*

### HOW MANY FLAGS HAVE MADE IT TO THE MOON?

The US has placed 6 cloth flags affixed to poles on the moon, of which it is believed 5 have survived. Other nations have landed on the moon with unmanned craft, however for a flag on a pole, only the USA can claim this achievement. Weather conditions have probably bleached the flags by now so that they may be unrecognizable.