

UNITED STATES FLAG FOLDING CEREMONY

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I have your attention please.

I am () of the (), Commander of the Honor Guard.
(rank) (name) (department)

The ceremony you are about to see, is the Folding (and Presentation) of our National Colors. In keeping with the dignity of the ceremony, it is requested that everyone remain standing, and silent.

Our National Colors, when folded contain thirteen ceremonial triangular folds.

The first fold, of our flag is made from right to left and represents a symbol of life.

The second, fold is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life.

The third fold, is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing the ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

The fourth fold, represents our weaker nature; for peace as American Citizens trusting in God, it is to him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war for his divine guidance.

The fifth fold, is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Steven Decatur.... "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country right or wrong."

The sixth fold, is where our hearts lie. It is with our hearts that we pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The seventh fold, is a tribute to our armed forces. It is through our armed forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found without or within the boundaries of our republic.

The eight fold, is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

The ninth fold, is a tribute to womanhood. For it has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great have been molded.

The tenth fold, is a tribute to the father, for, he too has given of his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since she was first born.

The eleventh fold, in the eyes of the Hebrew Citizen, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The twelfth fold, in the eyes of the Christian Citizen, represents eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

The thirteenth and final fold, signifies the original 13 colonies upon which this great nation was founded.

We fold from the stripes to the stars, for whereas the stripes represent the thirteen original colonies that founded our republic, they are now embodied in the fifty sovereign states represented by the stars, which now cover the stripes.

When the 13 ceremonial folds are completed, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "In God we trust".

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones and all who follow them as comrades and shipmates in the armed forces of the United States. Preserving the rights, privileges and freedoms we enjoy today.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the United States Flag Folding Ceremony.