

How Long Will My Flag Last?

Our flags meet or exceed the federal standard of 90 days of use (sunrise to sunset, with protection during inclement weather).

For the best results, do not expose your flag to rain, snow, or abnormally high winds, as these elements can shorten your flag's life considerably.

Avoid flying your flag when it is wet. Flying a heavy, wet flag in the wind puts excessive strain on the fabric and stitching, and will greatly reduce the life of your flag. Should the flag become wet, spread it out and allow it to dry completely. Regardless of how well it is constructed, a flag is not indestructible. Since they are made from fabric and subjected to the elements, all flags will wear out sooner or later. Reasonably good care of your flag can contribute greatly to give it a longer life.

Double Sided Flags are not intended for long term outdoor use. They are constructed of two printed flags attached back to back with a block out liner in the middle. They are heavy and will need more wind to fly. They will also retain more water putting more stress on the flag which will deteriorate faster than single reverse printed flags.

Flag Printing Terms

“SS” = Single Sided - On 1 ply fabric - Front is printed and image may be seen on other side but generally less than 100% - depending on fabric used.

“SR” = Single Reverse - On 1 ply fabric - Front and back are printed - back in “reverse” / mirror.

“DS” or “DS3P” = Double Sided – Visual is visible correctly on both sides. Generally, 2 fabric prints mounted back to back with a light blocking liner (DS3P). DS is a new sandwich material where the 3 layers only make one smooth flat light blocking fabric printable on both sides.

Flag Materials & Construction

Choose the fabric that suits your particular location and weather conditions.

Nylon Flags

- Our most popular flag for outdoor home use.
- Retains brilliant color but not always 100% print through.
- Lightweight, and flies with the slightest breeze.
- Durable and resists stretching.
- Digital on Nylon does not penetrate all the way through.
- First U.S. Commercial Nylon Fiber Production - 1939, DuPont Company
- Worldwide production is around 3.9 million metric tons, 11% of synthetic fiber production

Polyester Flags

- Our toughest, strongest, longest-lasting flag and More wrinkle resistant.
- Quick-drying and Higher UV resistance.
- Best material for retaining brilliant color.
- Lightweight, and flies with the slightest breeze.
- Engineered for industrial, commercial, or institutional use.
- Ideal where high winds or stressful conditions exist.
- Ink penetration all the way through for brighter more vibrant colors.
- First U.S. Commercial Nylon Fiber Production – 1953, DuPont Company
- Worldwide production is around 21 million metric tons, 58% of synthetic fiber production

Cotton Flags

- Traditional, best-looking material.
- The material of choice for ceremonies or military honors.
- Best for short-term outdoor display, or indoor use.
- Perfect for special events.

Construction

Stars

- **Embroidered Stars** (standard on most flags) are densely filled with high-gloss polished white thread for a rich finish.
- **Printed Stars** (on select styles) do not block the light shining through the fabric, meaning the stars appear bright no matter what angle of the sun.

Stripes

- **Sewn Stripes** (standard on most flags) are constructed with double-stitched seams for added quality. The red & white stripes are sewn together for a traditional look.
- **Printed Stripes** (on select styles) use a dyed fabric for an economical choice.

Edges

- Outside edges (fly-end) are reinforced with 2 to 10 rows of lock stitching to resist tearing, insuring a longer-lasting flag.

Headings

- Heavy white polyester canvas headings for stability
- Full-sized brass or metal antirust and stain grommets for durability.

Nylon Vs Polyester

Nylon and **polyester** are both synthetic fabrics, but nylon production is more expensive, which results in a higher price for the consumer. Both fabrics are flame retardant.

They are both lightweight and durable synthetic fabrics that share many of the same properties, such as easy care, wrinkle resistance, stretch resistance and shrink resistance. Neither is a better fabric, though each has uniquely superior attributes that lend themselves to certain uses.

Colors: When it comes to fast-drying fabrics, polyester has the edge, easier to dye and abrasion resistant. Polyester absorbs more color faster than nylon due to the same properties that made it better at wicking water. Dyed polyester expels the water in the dye but not the dye itself, which bonds with the fibers. Nylon absorbs water, resulting in less dye bonding to the fibers.

Denier is a unit of measurement used to quantify the thickness of yarn. Denier can also be used to describe the overall thickness of a fabric, as this is an extension of the thickness of the yarn used in the fabric. It is abbreviated as the letter "D" after the number. The higher the number, the thicker the fabric will be. Three hundred denier polyester or nylon is a thinner fabric than 600D. Fibers with lower denier numbers are finer than those with high numbers, and fibers with higher numbers are stronger. However, it is not possible to measure denier across fabrics.