

The background of the page is a stylized American flag with a blue field of white stars on the left and red and white stripes on the right. The text is overlaid on this background.

Slim's Flag Hanging Dos and Don'ts

Honor Old Glory by following the Flag Code's proper display guidelines

There's more to consider when hanging this patriotic symbol than the hardware you choose. In 1942, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed into law the Flag Code, which states the proper guidelines for displaying the American flag. Treat Old Glory with respect by following these rules.

Orient it correctly

Whether hung vertically or horizontally, the flag should be positioned with the field of stars at the top left. If it's displayed in a window, always remember that the viewer is considered to be outside.

Leave a light on

Traditionally, the flag is to be displayed outdoors only from sunrise to sunset, but it can stay there 24 hours a day if it's properly illuminated. To meet this requirement, try solar lights that charge throughout the day and shine bright at night, or a garden spotlight set on a timer.

Consider the weather

The flag shouldn't be subjected to harsh wind or to rain or snow unless it's made of an all-weather material. Choose one made from synthetic fibers, like nylon or polyester, that will stand up to the elements.

Retire it when it's worn

If your flag is showing signs of wear and tear, it should be disposed of in a dignified way. You can contact your local VFW, American Legion or New Haven Boy Scout Troop 4288; these groups offer to retire your flag in a respectful ceremony.