

THE CODE FOR THE CORRECT USE OF THE CONFEDERATE FLAGS

The First National Flag is the Official Flag of the United Daughters of the Confederacy®. The Second National Flag is the Official Flag of the Children of the Confederacy®. They are to be used in all ceremonies of the respective organizations. The four Confederate flags (First National or Stars and Bars, Second National or Stainless Banner, Third National, and Battle Flag) should be used whenever possible by the UDC and the CofC so the flags will become familiar to everyone and inspire devotion for their use on all days commemorating the heroes and events of the Confederacy.

HOW TO DISPLAY THE FLAG

When the Confederate Flag is displayed, the Flag of the United States of America must always be displayed with it; this includes use on platforms and in parades. The U.S. Flag must be to its own right (the observer's left). The Confederate Flag must be to the U.S. Flag's left (the observer's right).

When the flag is displayed at Annual General or Division Conventions, Chapter meetings, or other observances, or when displayed from a staff in a church or auditorium, the U.S. Flag must be placed to the right of the speaker (that is, to the left of the audience). The U.S. Flag holds the position of superior prominence, in advance of the audience, and in the position of honor at the speaker's right as he or she faces the audience. The Confederate Flag and all other flags (e.g., Christian and State Flags) must be placed to the left of the speaker (that is, to the right of the audience). If a Christian Flag is used, it should never be in the procession, and it should stand alone (that is, separated from other flags by a few feet).

The U.S. and Confederate Flags must be on separate staffs with the staff of the U.S. Flag higher than the staff of the Confederate Flag. An eagle should be used as the standard on the staff of the U.S. Flag. A spear should be used as the standard on the staff of the Confederate and State Flags.

When used on a table, the U.S. Flag should be in the center and at the highest point in the group, the Confederate Flag on the left, and the State Flag on the right. When used with floral arrangements or other decoration, the flag must not be obscured at any time.

For use on a car or float, the flag must be on a staff and firmly affixed only to the front of the vehicle, with the U.S. Flag on the right front and the Confederate Flag on the left front. The flag should never be draped over the hood, top, or sides of a vehicle and should not be flown from the back of a car, parade float or other vehicle. The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.

When the U.S. and Confederate Flags are displayed against a wall from crossed staffs, the U.S. Flag should be on its own right (that is, the observer's left), and staff of the Confederate Flag should be behind the staff of the U.S. Flag.

When the U.S. or Confederate Flag is displayed flat on a wall or in a window, the union (canton) should be at the top and to the observer's left. The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling or as a drapery. It should not be festooned, drawn back nor up in folds, but should always be allowed to fall free. When the flag is displayed other than from a staff, it should be displayed flat or suspended so that its folds fall free. The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used, or stored in such a manner as to permit it to be easily torn, soiled or damaged in any way. It should never be draped over the front of the platform, the speaker's desk, or a lectern. It should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water, or merchandise.

The Confederate Flag should be used at the dedication or unveiling for a Confederate marker or monument. It should never be used as the covering for the marker or monument.

RETIREMENT

When the flag is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified manner, preferably by burning.

FOLDING

To fold the flag, two persons face each other and hold the flag waist high and horizontally between them. They fold the lower half of the flag lengthwise over the upper half; then fold it again in the same manner. The person holding the fly end folds the lower right corner to the upper edge to form a triangle, folds the outer point inward to form a second triangle, and continues to fold the flag in triangles until the entire length of the flag is folded, ending with the hoist end to the outside.

WHEN TO DISPLAY THE FLAG

Like the U.S. Flag, the Confederate Flag may be displayed every day, except in inclement weather. It should be displayed especially on days of special Confederate commemoration and observance. The flag may be displayed at night if properly illuminated.

It is customary to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaffs in the open. It should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously. On Memorial Day, the flag should be at half staff until noon and at the peak of the staff from noon until sunset.

SALUTING THE CONFEDERATE FLAG

The Salute to the Confederate Flag

“I salute the Confederate Flag with affection, reverence and undying remembrance.”

The Salute to the Confederate Flag, as adopted by the United Daughters of the Confederacy®, should be rendered by standing at attention, facing the flag, with the ungloved right hand over the heart.

The order for Pledges and Salutes: Salute to the Christian Flag (if used), Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, Salute to the State Flag, and Salute to the Confederate Flag.

As each Pledge and Salute is recited, the ungloved right hand is placed over the heart when reciting it and dropped to the person's side as each is concluded. The right hand is then raised and again placed over the heart for the next Salute.

The original brochure, *Traditions and Code for the Correct Use of the Confederate Flags*, was compiled in 1961 by Mrs. J.W. Rouselle of Mobile, Alabama