STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STATE FLAG SPECIFICATIONS

INTRODUCTION

In 1953, the Legislature of California passed a bill standardizing the design of the California State Flag. Governor Earl Warren signed the bill into law on June 14, 1953, the 107th Anniversary of the likely original creation date of the Bear Flag. The language of that statute has been in effect since that time to the present.

The next year, and bearing April 1954 as its date, the State Purchasing Division established detailed specifications for cotton Bear Flags to be purchased by the State and all of its divisions. Those specifications incorporated some federal specifications as well as other third party standards and ran to twelve(12) pages in length. The specifications are identified as “54-J-03” and accompany this introduction. The Purchasing Division played a specific role in the efforts to establish the standardization of the State Flag, which resulted in the 1953 statute.

Subsequently, there appear to have been at least two amendments to the specifications. The BFM has not seen the AMENDMENT No. 1; however, attached to the Specifications at the end is AMENDMENT No. 2, dated July 27, 1959. The copy provided to the BFM of this amendment is very difficult to read based on the poor quality of the copy. As a result, the BFM has re-typed the Amendment. Both the poor quality copy and the re-typed version are attached.

The BFM is aware that cotton flags are still routinely used within the State of California, and these specifications may still be utilized for such flags. However, whether such specifications are used is unclear. Nylon flags are also commonly used and the applicability of the specifications to such flags is questionable.

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I. CLASSIFICATION:

A. This flag specification shall be for the official State Flag of all State, County, City and Town agencies; as stated in Sections 420 and 425 of the Government Code and Chapter 820 of the Statutes, effective 8-21-53, and shall be of but one grade.

B. The flag in this specification is the official State Flag as stated in Sections 420 and 425 of the Government Code which outlines flag size, design, proportions and colors.

II. APPLICABLE SPECIFICATIONS:

A. The following specifications, with latest revisions, and when not conflicting with statements elsewhere of this specification, shall form a part of specification 54-J-03.

1. Bunting; Federal specification CCC-B-791.

2. Colorfastness to laundering or light; Textile Test Methods, Federal specification CCC-T-191b.

3. Colors; Standard Color Card of America (see V).

4. Flag; Federal specification DDD-F-416.

5. Rope; Federal specification T-R-601.


8. Type; American Type Founders book of American Types, No. 521.

B. All other flag details not specifically mentioned in Specification 54-J-03 shall be equal to Federal U. S. Flag specification DDD-F-416.
III. MATERIALS:

A. Materials used in the manufacture of this flag shall be of first quality, and shall conform to the following requirements:

1. Bunting shall be of mercerized cotton, conforming to Federal specification CCC-B-791, with the warp threads in fly or longitudinal direction only.

2. Duck in heading shall be unbleached, of minimum 8 ounces per square yard grey weight.

3. Rope in heading (class 6 flag only) shall be of Manila, 1 inch in circumference, conforming to Federal specification T-R-601.

4. Dyes used in coloring of the finished flag must be of a quality and type or class that will show no appreciable change in colorfastness to laundering when tested in accordance with Federal specification CCC-T-191b or standard test method No. 1 of AATCC (American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists).

5. Dyes used in coloring of the finished flag must be of a quality and type or class that will show no appreciable change in colorfastness to light after 60 hours when tested by Fade-Ometer as specified in method 5660 of Federal specification CCC-T-191b or after 60 hours as in method 5662 of the same specification.

6. All thread shall conform to Federal specification V-T-278.

   a. Thread for stitching of hems, seams and reinforcing patches shall be white, of cotton, 50/3 cord.

   b. Thread for stitching of heading to bunting shall be white, of cotton, right twist, 16/4 cord.
IV. DESIGN

A. As viewed with the hoist end of the flag to the left of the observer, there appears in the upper left hand corner of a white field, a five pointed red star with one point vertically upward, and in the middle of the white field a brown grizzly bear walking toward the left with all four paws on a green grass plot, with head and eyes turned slightly toward the observer; a red stripe forms the length of the flag at the bottom, and between the grass plot and the red stripe appear the words CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC.

B. The general design and the details of the Bear Flag, excluding colors, and as stated in Sections 420 and 425 of the Government Code, shall correspond substantially with the representation as shown in the Government Code and including the original drawing of the California State Bear Flag, in custody of the Secretary of State and used in Senate Bill No. 1014. (See specification Figures 1, 2 and 3.)

C. The color representation of the State animal used on the flag shall be in accordance with Sections 420 and 425 of the Government Code, and shall correspond substantially with the representation as shown in the Government Code. (See Figures 1 and 3.)

1. Attention is called to the paws of the bear only, of Senate Bill No. 1014 (see Figures 1 and 3), that when magnified, there appears:

a. 4 claws on the left front paw, and the 4 claws are emphasized with white coloring. (See Figure 3.)

b. 3 claws on the right front paw, and no claw is emphasized with white coloring. (See Figure 3.)

c. 5 claws on the left rear paw, and 4 only claws are emphasized with white coloring. (See Figure 3.)

d. 3 claws on the right rear paw, and the 3 claws are emphasized with white coloring. (See Figure 3.)

e. All claws extending beyond all paws. (See Figure 3.)
IV. DESIGN: (cont'd.)

D. The flag star shall be dyed and printed; sewn stars are not acceptable.

E. The Irish Green of the grass plot shall have no border or emphasis by color.

F. Complete sharpness of design, color and detail shall be visible on both sides of finished flag.

V. COLORS:

A. The following color references by cable number, are those colors in the Standard Color Card of America, Ninth Edition (second issue) of the Textile Color Card Association of the United States, Inc., New York, N. Y.; the flag colors are to be substantially the same as these color references by cable number.

1. Brown, medium, of the flag, shall be; Maple Sugar, cable number 70129.

2. Brown, dark, of the flag, shall be; Seal, cable number 70108.

3. Green, of the flag, shall be; Irish Green, cable number 10168.

4. Red, of the flag, shall be; Old Glory Red, cable number 70180.

5. White, of the flag, shall be; White, cable number 70001.

VI. DIMENSIONS:

A. The State official flag hoist widths are two, three, four, five, six and eight feet and the hoist width is always two-thirds (2/3) of the fly or flag length.

B. Dimensions stated are flat measurements of finished flag and do not include allowances for heading, seams, hemming or unfinished flag end.
VI. DIMENSIONS: (cont'd.)

C. All measurements and reference to detail shall be made on right side of flag only.
   1. The right side of flag shall be considered as the side nearest the observer when flag heading appears on the left of the observer and the star is in the upper left corner.

D. Maximum dimension tolerance of plus or minus 3% is allowable.

E. Finished flag dimensions, in inches:
   1. See page 6.
### Flag Dimension Table

In inches of specification, Figure 2

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<th>Code</th>
<th>A or O</th>
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<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
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VII. CODE LETTER EXPLANATION:

A. Explanation of code used in Figure 2.

1. A is hoist or flag width, and is always two-thirds \((2/3)\) of the fly or flag length.

2. B is fly or flag length.

3. C is red stripe width, and is one-sixth \((1/6)\) of the hoist width.

4. D is diameter of an imaginary circle passing through the outer points of the star, and is one-tenth \((1/10)\) of the fly length.

5. E is distance of the star center from the hoist end, and is one-sixth \((1/6)\) of the fly length.

6. F is distance from the star center to the top of the flag, and is four-fifths \((4/5)\) of the star-center distance from the hoist end.

7. G is length of bear diagonally from the nose tip to the rear of right hind paw, and is two-thirds \((2/3)\) of the hoist width.

8. H is height of bear from shoulder tip vertically to an imaginary line touching the bottoms of the front paws, and is one-half \((1/2)\) of the diagonal length of the bear.

9. I or center of eye shall be midway between the top and bottom of the white field.

10. J or midpoint of bear's diagonal length shall be midway between the fly ends.

11. K is grass plot length, and is eleven-twelfths \((11/12)\) of the hoist width, and the plot ends are equidistant from the fly ends.

12. L is distance from each plot end to each fly end.

13. M is average width of the plot between the rear of the left front paw and the front of the right rear paw, and is one-tenth \((1/10)\) of the grass plot length.

14. N is height of condensed gothic letters, and is one-half \((1/2)\) of the red stripe width.

15. O is lineal space occupied by the letters, and is two-thirds \((2/3)\) of the fly length.
VII. CODE LETTER EXPLANATION: (Cont'd)

A. Explanation of code used in Figure 2.

16. P is distance from beginning or ending word letters to either fly end, and shall be equi-
distant from fly ends.

17. Q is width of white field and is equal to hoist width less red stripe width.

18. R is distance from midpoint of bear's diagonal length to either fly end.

19. S is distance from mid-point of bear's eye to either top or bottom of white field.

VIII. CONSTRUCTION:

A. Heading.

1. Class 1 and 2 flags shall have a finished heading minimum width of 1 inch on each side of heading.

2. Class 3 and 4 flags shall have a finished heading minimum width of 1-1/2 inches on each side of heading.

3. Class 5 and 6 flags shall have a finished heading minimum width of 2 inches on each side of heading.

4. Class 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 flags shall be without rope in heading.

5. Class 6 flags shall have a manila rope 1 inch in circumference, running through the entire length of heading, with not less than 1-1/2 inch eyes or loops at each end. The loops shall have the return ends of the rope extend within the heading a distance of not less than 8 inches, and shall extend 2" beyond inner edge of reinforcing patch, and both parts of the rope laid together shall be stitched through the heading for this distance with 10/4 cord cotton thread, the two rows of stitching across the end of the heading shall pass through the rope.

6. Bunting, including reinforcing patches when required, shall extend full width of heading in all flags.
VIII. CONSTRUCTION: (cont'd)

B. Heading reinforcement.

1. Class 4 and 5 flag headings shall be reinforced at each end by extending unfinished heading a minimum of 3 inches beyond both flat selvedges, turning each end under and sewing each end on all 4 sides to the body of heading on back of flag.

2. Class 6 flag shall have heading as outlined in VIII - A - 5, and including 2 reinforcing patches.
   a. Each patch at reinforcing point shall be of the same color as bunting. The reinforcing patch shall be sewed to each corner of flag hoist end and shall extend within heading. Exposed parts shall be approximately square, 7-1/2 inches in width, and located in back of flag, and securely stitched with thread matching in color to bunting, around all 4 sides.

3. Class 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 flags shall have one No. 2 spur brass grommet in each heading end, located on the body centers, and the grommet outer circumference shall be 1 inch from finished flag selvedged edges.

C. Edges.

1. Each finished flag shall have selvedged edges at top and bottom. When it is not commercially practical to furnish two selvedged edges, one edge shall be selvedged and the other edge shall have 1/4" hem conforming to Federal specification DDD-S-751, type EFb-1.

2. Flag end opposite of heading shall be hemmed by turning in 2 thicknesses, 3/4 inch wide, and stitched with 3 or 4 equidistant rows of stitches of not less than 12 stitches per inch.

3. Finished flag shall have no raw edges.

D. Seams.

1. Joining seams and stripes shall conform to seam type Lsc-2 of Federal specification DDD-F-416.

2. Gage of all seams shall be not less than 3/16 inch.
VIII. CONSTRUCTION: (Cont'd)

D. Seams (cont'd)

3. All yardage joining seams, when commercially necessary in white field of flags of all classes, shall be sewn prior to screening, shall be parallel to fly edge, and no joining seam shall intersect star, grass plot or letters.

4. No yardage joining seam shall appear in white field of Class 1, 2 and 3 finished flags.

5. No yardage joining seam shall appear in bear of Class 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 finished flags.

6. When necessary to join 2 widths of yardage for white field of Class 4 flag only, the joining seam shall appear as above the letters and below the grass plot of the finished flag.

7. When necessary to join 2 widths of yardage for white field of Class 5 flag only, the seam shall appear as above the letters and below the grass plot, and/or, above the bear and below the lowest points of the star, of the finished flag.

8. When necessary to join 2 or more widths of yardage for white field of Class 6 flag only, the seam shall appear as above the letters and below the grass plot, and/or, below the lowest points of the star yet no lower than 4" from top of bear at highest point.

E. Stitching:

1. All stitching shall be of lock type stitch except the seam joining red bunting to the white bunting; which shall be of chain or lock chain stitch type.

2. Heading stitching and construction shall be the same as section E-5e and Figure 2 of Federal specification DDD-F-416.

3. All finished flag headings shall have 3 rows of stitches the full length of hoist; 1 row shall be a maximum of 1/2" from staff side; 1 row shall be approximately 1/8" from bunting side; 1 row shall be approximately 5/16" from bunting side; and all stitches shall be sewn through the bunting and heading.
VIII. CONSTRUCTION: (Cont'd) 54-J-03

E. Stitching:

4. Heading shall not have less than 8 stitches per inch.

5. Hems, seams or reinforcing patches shall not have less than 12 stitches per inch.

IX. COLOR APPLICATION:

A. Colors stated in group V shall be applied as:

1. Maple Sugar (medium brown) - of the bear.

2. Seal (dark brown) - of the bear outline, paws, shading, fur undulations, iris of the eye, the 12 grass tufts in the grass plot, and the letters.

3. Irish Green - of the grass plot.

4. Old Glory Red - of the red stripe, the star, and the bear's tongue.

5. White - of the white field, front of bear's eye, and on the bear's claws.

X. FLAG SPECIFICATIONS IN GENERAL:

A. Finished flag shall be of first quality in all respects.

B. Finished flag must be washed, dried and pressed, for the reasons of setting dye colors, removing excess dye, and to present a neat appearance.

C. All finished flags shall comply with Federal Flammable Fabric Act, with latest revisions, where applicable.

D. Manufacturer's and/or Seller's invoice or sales slip for sales of Bear flags to the State of California shall contain a statement on each invoice or sales slip that the Bear flags thereon, were made in accordance with Sections 420 and 425 of the Government Code.

The State reserves the right to specify bunting of other than cotton; with pole hem; without or with cords, tassels and fringe in matching color; and all constructional flag details shall be of good quality and in accordance with good commercial practice.

-11-
XI. MARKING AND PACKAGING:

A. Each flag shall have the word "Bear" and size of flag stenciled on the heading and on back of the flag only.
   1. Letters or numerals shall not exceed three fourths (3/4) inch in height.

B. No other markings on flag of letters, numerals or emblems are allowable.

C. Each flag shall be individually packaged by wrapping in heavy paper or any other suitable material, and sealed so as to prevent dust or soil from entering the package.

D. Each package shall be clearly marked on outside.

Spec. 54-J-03
State of California
Flag; Bear, Size
Manufacturer's or Seller's Name, P.O.No.____

XII. SPECIFICATION RESPONSIBILITY AND OBLIGATION:

When State drawings, specifications, or any other data, are used for any purpose other than in connection with a definitely related State procurement operation, the State thereby incurs no responsibility nor any obligation whatsoever; and the fact that the State may have formulated, furnished, or in any way supplied said drawings, specifications, or any other data, is not to be regarded by implication or otherwise as in any manner licensing the holder or any other person or corporation, or conveying any rights or permission to manufacture, use, or sell any patented invention that may in any way be related thereto.

April 1954
STATE PURCHASING DIVISION
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Specification

Flag, Bear, Cotton, Unmounted

AMENDMENT: No. 2 - July 27, 1959

Page 6
Flag Dimension Table Delete Column “M” and insert the following:

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Page 8
VIII. Construction:

Section A. Heading
Delete subparagraph 1 and 2 and insert the following:

Class 1 through 4 - Flags shall have a finished heading, minimum width of 1-1/2 inches on each side of heading.

Page 10
VIII. Construction:

Section D. Delete sub-paragraph 4 and insert the following:

No yardage joining seam shall appear in white field pf Class q and 2 finished flags.

Page 11
X - Flag Specifications in General

Section B - Delete Section B and in its place insert the following:

Finished flag shall be treated in such a manner as to set the colors.

Section C - Delete Section C.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
Purchasing Division
July 27, 1959

Re-typing by BFM of original specification amendment sheet of 1959
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Specification

Flag, Bear, Cotton, Unmounted.

AMENDMENT No. 2 - July 27, 1959

Page 6

Flag Dimension Table: Delete Column "M" and insert the following:

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</tbody>
</table>

Page 8

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Section A. Heading:
Delete subparagraph 1 and 2 and insert the following:

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Page 10

VIII. Construction:

Section D. Delete subparagraph 4 and insert the following:

No yardage joining seam shall appear in white field of Class 1 and 2 finished flags.

Flag Specifications in General:

Section B. - Delete Section B and in its place insert the following:

Finished flag shall be treated in such a manner as to set the colors.

Section C. - Delete Section C.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
Purchasing Division
July 27, 1959