

Part of the "History of National Flags" Series from Flagmakers

FLAG OF ALGERIA - A BRIEF HISTORY







Trivia

The green in the bicolour flag is said to represent Islam and the white for purity.

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Adopted:	3 rd July 1962	
Proportion:	2:3	
Design:	A green and white vertical bicolour with red five pointed star and crescent in the centre.	
Colours:	PMS - Green : 356 C, Red : 186 C	
	CMYK – Green: 100% Cyan, 90% Yellow, 25% Black; Red: 90% Magenta, 80% Yellow, 5% Black	

Brief History

Throughout early history Berber Dynasties ruled what was to become Algeria. In 1229 The Zayyanid Dynasty ruled the Kingdom of Tlemcen, which was an area of north-western Algeria, and their flag was a blue field with white crescent moon. While at the same time the Hafsid Dynasty had territories stretched from east of modern Algeria to Libya.

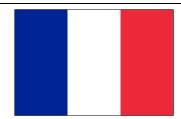


The Flag of the Zayyanid Dynasty

The Flag of the Hafsid Dynasty

Under the Ottoman Empire in 1525 Algeria began to unify. The flag of Ottoman Algeria was a simple plain red field with a golden crescent moon. The rule lasted till 1830 when the French invaded and took over and French Algeria took the French blue, white and red vertical tri-colour.





The Flag of the Ottoman Empire

The Flag of France

It wasn't until 1954 that the Algerian independence movement started a revolution for freedom. The exiled Algerian Government took its own flag in 1958, a version of the modern Algerian flag but with a non centred star and crescent in front of a green stripe. Eventually in 1962 there was a referendum that declared Algeria a free independent state with a landslide vote of 99.72% in favour.





The Flag of the Exiled Algerian Government (1958 - 1962)



The Flag of Algeria

The Emblem of Algeria

The current Emblem of Algeria was adopted in 1976. It features a sun rising behind the Atlas mountains, various buildings, plants, oak leaves, olive branches and a ballot box.

The Mountains are in the shape of the 'Hand of Fatima' being the symbol of protection, the plants are the symbol of agriculture and the buildings reflect Algeria's industry.

Below this is the red crescent moon and five-pointed star and surrounding the imagery is "The People's Republic of Algeria" in Arabic.

Below are examples of the previous emblems of Algeria under French rule and the first two emblems after Algeria's independence.



The Emblem of Algeria (1976 to Present Day)



The Coat of Arms of French Algeria (1830 – 1962)



The Coat of Arms of the Republic of Algeria (1962 -1971)



The Emblem of the Republic of Algeria (1971 – 1976)

Naval Ensign of Algeria

The Naval Ensign was adopted in 1963 and is the flag of Algeria with two white anchors crossed.



The Presidential Standard of Algeria

The flag of the President was adopted in 1963 and Is similar to the flag of Algeria with the name of Algeria written in Arabic in the left hand side.

