

Flag of Nigeria - A Brief History



Where In The World



Trivia

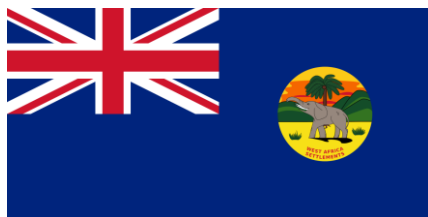
The Flag was designed by student Michael Taiwo Akinkunmi at Norwich Technical College in England.

Technical Specification

Adopted:	1 st October 1960									
Proportion:	1:2									
Design:	A green-white-green vertical bicolour.									
Colours:	CMYK	Green:	Cyan	100%	Magenta	0%	Yellow	39%	Black	47%

Brief History

In the early 1800 Britain took control over Nigeria, various parts of the country had British Blue Ensigns and British White Ensigns. In 1870 the flag of British West Africa adopted, it was a typical British Blue Ensign with a badge showing an elephant, palm tree, sand and green mountains. In 1884 Britain claimed sovereignty over the Niger Delta and the area was renamed Oil Rivers. The flag was a British blue Ensign with the badge of the protectorate at the centre right.



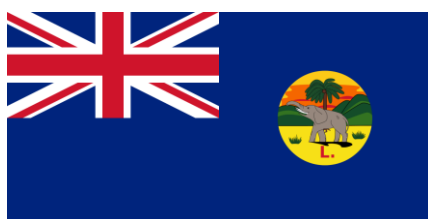
The Flag of the British West Africa
(1870 – 1888)



The Flag of the Oil Rivers Protectorate
(1884 – 1900)

When Britain took control of the port of Lagos they adopted the flag of British West Africa in the region, with a red L replacing the "West African Settlement" text.

In 1887 the Royal Niger Company adopted a White British Ensign with a red-bordered white circle with "ARS JUS PAX" in a black Y as their flag, the company was the group that gained control over the territories of Nigeria.

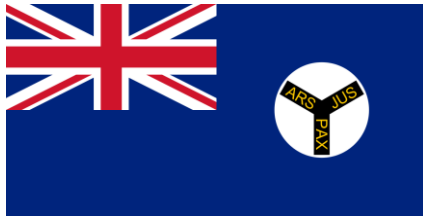


The Flag of the Lagos Colony
(1886 – 1906)

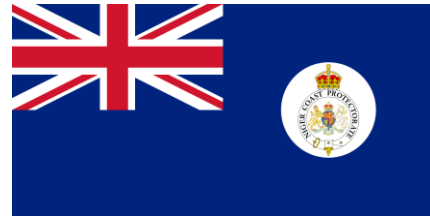


The Flag of Royal Niger Company
(1887 – 1888)

In 1888 the flag of the Royal Niger Company was changed to a British Blue Ensign with the same badge. The Oil Rivers Protectorate was renamed the Niger Coast Protectorate in 1893, the British blue Ensign remained the same.



The Flag of Royal Niger Company
(1888 – 1899)

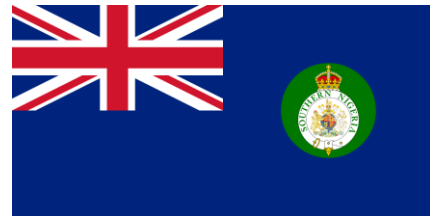


The Flag of the Niger Coast Protectorate
(1893 – 1900)

In 1900 Nigeria was split up into northern and southern parts. The flags were Blue British Ensigns with a red circle and "NORTHERN NIGERIA" for the north and a green circle with "SOUTHERN NIGERIA" for the south.



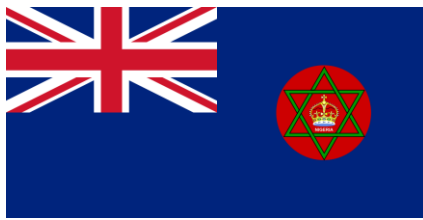
The Flag of the Northern Nigeria Protectorate
(1900 – 1914)



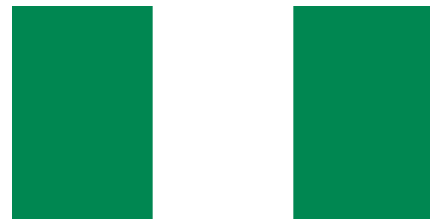
The Flag of the Southern Nigeria Protectorate
(1900 – 1914)

Both sides were joined in 1914 to become British Colonial Nigeria. The flag was changed to a British Blue Ensign with a red circle, green pentagram and crown centre right.

When Nigeria gained independence in 1960 a new green-white-green tricolour flag was adopted. Designed by Michael Taiwo Akinkunmi, the green stripes represent the wealth in the country and the white band represents peace.



The Flag of the British Colonial Nigeria
(1914 -1960)



The Flag of Nigeria
(1960 to Present Day)

The Coat of Arms of Nigeria

The Coat of Arms of Nigeria was adopted in 1960 and features a black shield with a white Y shape. At either side are white horses; on top is a white and green band and red eagle. Below the shield is the nations flower Costus Spectabilis and a banner that reads "UNITY AND FAITH AND PEACE AND PROGRESS." Prior to 1979 to banner read "UNITY AND FAITH."



The Historical Coat of Arms of Nigeria

Here are some examples of the Historical Coat of Arms of Nigeria.



The Badge of the British West African Settlements



The Badge of the Lagos Colony







The Badge of the Oil Rivers Protectorate

		
<p>The Badge of the Niger Coast Protectorate</p>	<p>The Badge of the Northern Nigeria Protectorate</p>	<p>The Badge of the Southern Nigeria Protectorate</p>


The Governmental Seals of Nigeria

Here are examples of the Governmental Seals of Nigeria. Each features bordered circle with the coat of arms at the centre.


	
<p>The Seal of the President of Nigeria</p>	<p>The Seal of the Vice president of Nigeria</p>
	
<p>The Seal of the House of Representatives of Nigeria</p>	<p>The Seal of the Senate of Nigeria</p>

The Presidential Flags of Nigeria

The Presidential Standard of Nigeria is the flag of the President and is the national flag with the coat of arms at the centre. The President is the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces; a specific four band red-black-white-green flag is flown.

	
<p>The Presidential Standard of Nigeria</p>	<p>The Flag of the Commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces</p>

The Flag of the Government of Nigeria

<p>The Flag of the Government of Nigeria is also the Variant Flag and features the tricolour of the national flag with the coat of arms in the centre.</p>	
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The Merchant Flag of Nigeria

The Merchant Flag of Nigeria is also the Civil Ensign and is a plain red field with the national flag in the top left hand corner.



The Flag of the Nigerian Navy

The Flag of the Nigerian Navy is a white ensign with the emblem of the Nigerian Navy at the centre right.



The Flag of the Nigerian Air Force

The Flag of the Nigerian Air Force is a sky blue Ensign with national flag at the top left hand corner and roundel made of the national flag in the centre right.



The Original Proposed Flag of Nigeria

Here is the original proposed flag of Nigeria that student Michael Taiwo Akinkunmi designed.

