

FLAG ETIQUETTE

Starboard spreader is the signal station

- Courtesy flag(s) – Country (followed by regional flag, if desired)
e.g., French flag followed by Normandy flag.
- Signal flags: e.g., Q flag, etc.

Note: The yellow Q flag should be flown instead of the courtesy ensign until the yacht is properly cleared by customs and immigration, after which the Q flag is replaced by the courtesy flag.

Port spreader is for house flags

- E.G.: Australian boxing kangaroo, owner's flag, kiddies pirate flag, etc.

General

Display the flag only between sunrise and sunset (unless entering or leaving port).

It is not good practice to fly two flags on a single flagpole. This signifies that the top flag has captured the lower flag.

Flag Precedence

The national flag should not be displayed in a position inferior to any other flag. It must be flown on the senior flagpole.

Where two or more flagpoles are present the senior flagpole is either the highest or, as the observer you are viewing the flagpoles with the building behind them, the flagpole on the left hand side.

Recommended weather conditions for flying flags

- Normal sized flags (as guideline table in Flagpole and Flagsizes section) are suitable for flying in up to and including force 6 winds.
- In Force 7 winds all normal sized flags should be removed and replaced with storm flags, which are one third of the size of the normal recommended flag.
- Wind speeds of Force 9 and greater, all flags should be removed from flagpoles.

Sources:

- <http://www.flagpolecompany.co.uk/index.html>
- <http://www.sailingissues.com/flags-etiquette.html>