

The Flag Detective Activity Pack

Name That Flag · Capital Match-Ups · Flags to Colour
Mystery Country Shapes · The Symbol Decoder



A free companion to the book

Flags of the World

by MindGrid Books

Print it once and use it again and again. Every answer is in the back - and every flag, capital, and country shape in this pack comes straight out of the book.

The Detective's Briefing

A flag is a puzzle a country made about itself. Once you know what to look for, you can often work out which part of the world a flag comes from before you know its name. That is what a flag detective does.

Three things to look at first

- **The pattern.** Three stripes standing up (like France) or lying down (like Germany) is the most common flag design on Earth. A cross pushed off to one side means northern Europe, almost every time.
- **The colours.** Colours travel in families. Red, black, white and green together usually means an Arab country. Red, gold and green together usually means an African one.
- **The extra bit in the corner.** A small flag inside the top-left corner is called a canton. If it is a Union Jack, the country was once part of the British Empire - that is your shortcut to Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji.

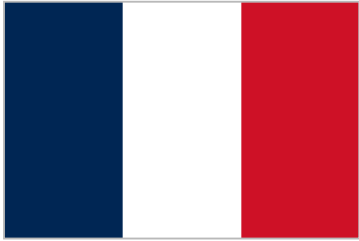
How to use this pack

- Print the pages you want. Everything is black-and-white friendly except the Name That Flag rounds, which need the colours.
- Work through it with the book open, or closed for a proper challenge. Both ways are correct.
- Each Name That Flag round has a word bank at the bottom of the page. For an easier game, use it. For a harder one, fold it under.
- The answer key starts on page 14. Grown-ups: that is the page to keep to yourself.
- Nothing here needs to be done in order, and nothing needs to be finished in one sitting.

One more thing worth knowing: there are 193 countries in the United Nations, and this pack only has room for about 60 of them. The book has all 193.

Round 1: Europe

Twelve European flags. Write the country under each one.



1. _____



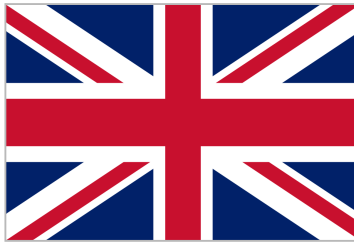
2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



8. _____



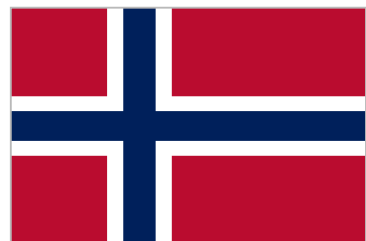
9. _____



10. _____



11. _____



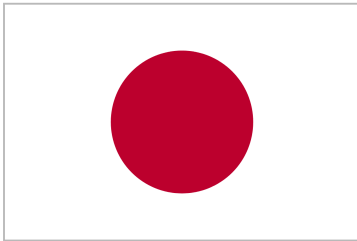
12. _____

WORD BANK

Spain · Sweden · France · Netherlands · Norway · Germany · Greece · Italy · United Kingdom · Portugal ·
Switzerland · Poland

Round 2: Asia

Some of these are famous. Some are trickier than they look.



13. _____



14. _____



15. _____



16. _____



17. _____



18. _____



19. _____



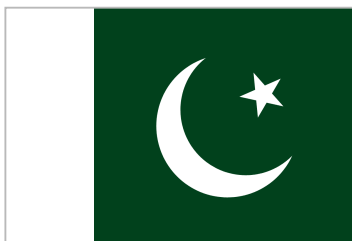
20. _____



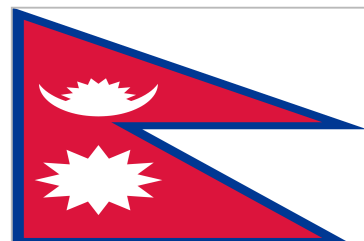
21. _____



22. _____



23. _____



24. _____

WORD BANK

China · Israel · Japan · India · Turkey · Pakistan · Thailand · Vietnam · Nepal · Saudi Arabia · Indonesia · South Korea

Round 3: Africa and the Middle East

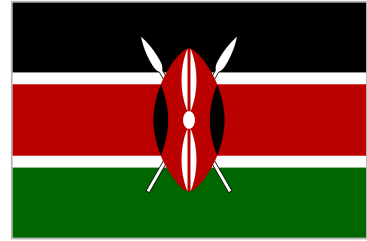
Look for the patterns: many share the same four colours.



25. _____



26. _____



27. _____



28. _____



29. _____



30. _____



31. _____



32. _____



33. _____



34. _____



35. _____



36. _____

WORD BANK

Kenya · Nigeria · South Africa · Senegal · Ethiopia · Ghana · Jordan · United Arab Emirates · Morocco · Egypt ·
Algeria · Tanzania

Round 4: The Americas and Oceania

Stars, maple leaves, and the Southern Cross.



37. _____



38. _____



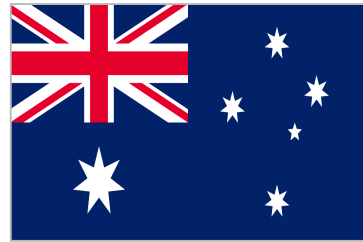
39. _____



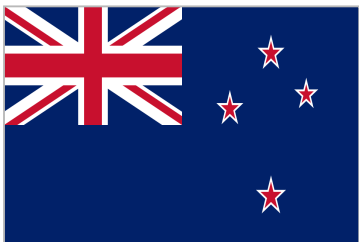
40. _____



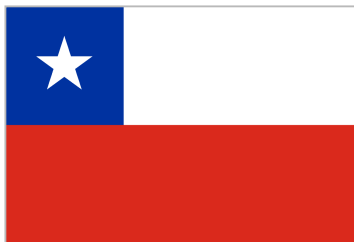
41. _____



42. _____



43. _____



44. _____



45. _____



46. _____



47. _____



48. _____

WORD BANK

Canada · Australia · Colombia · Argentina · Brazil · Chile · Cuba · United States · Mexico · Peru · New Zealand
· Jamaica

Capital City Match-Ups

Draw a line from each country to its capital city. Every set has exactly ten matches and no leftovers.

Set 1

Country	Capital city
1. France	A. New Delhi
2. Japan	B. Canberra
3. Brazil	C. Cairo
4. Egypt	D. Mexico City
5. Canada	E. Brasília
6. Australia	F. Paris
7. India	G. Ottawa
8. Mexico	H. Tokyo
9. Kenya	I. Oslo
10. Norway	J. Nairobi

Set 2

Country	Capital city
1. Germany	A. Lima
2. China	B. Pretoria
3. Argentina	C. Beijing
4. South Africa	D. Hanoi
5. Thailand	E. Rabat
6. Italy	F. Buenos Aires
7. Peru	G. Stockholm
8. Vietnam	H. Berlin
9. Morocco	I. Rome
10. Sweden	J. Bangkok

Capital City Match-Ups (continued)

Draw a line from each country to its capital city. Every set has exactly ten matches and no leftovers.

Set 3

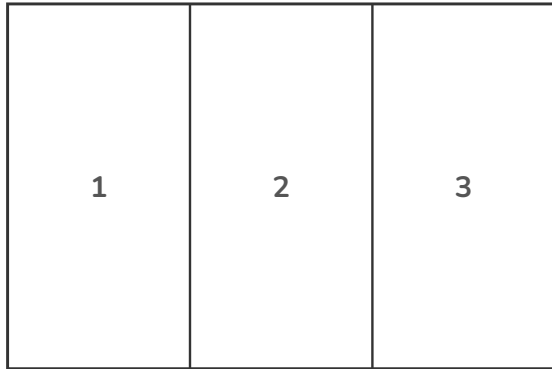
Country	Capital city
1. Spain	A. Havana
2. South Korea	B. Athens
3. Chile	C. Manila
4. Nigeria	D. Helsinki
5. Indonesia	E. Accra
6. Greece	F. Madrid
7. Cuba	G. Abuja
8. Philippines	H. Seoul
9. Ghana	I. Jakarta
10. Finland	J. Santiago

Set 4

Country	Capital city
1. Portugal	A. Bogotá
2. Turkey	B. Lisbon
3. Colombia	C. Warsaw
4. Ethiopia	D. Copenhagen
5. Malaysia	E. Ankara
6. Poland	F. Riyadh
7. New Zealand	G. Kuala Lumpur
8. Saudi Arabia	H. Dodoma
9. Tanzania	I. Wellington
10. Denmark	J. Addis Ababa

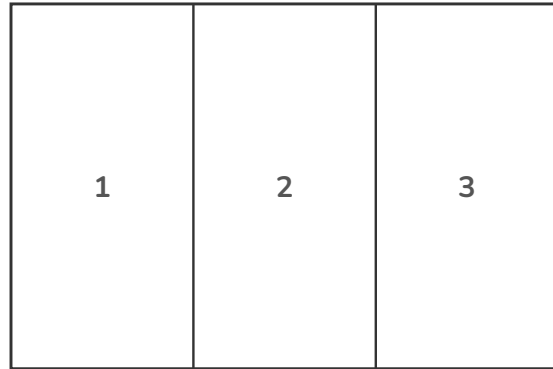
Colour These Flags

Each flag is drawn empty, with its regions numbered and the colour key underneath. Colour them in, then check them against the book.



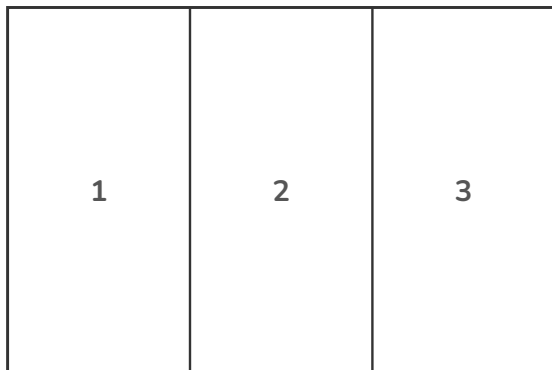
France

1 = blue 2 = white 3 = red



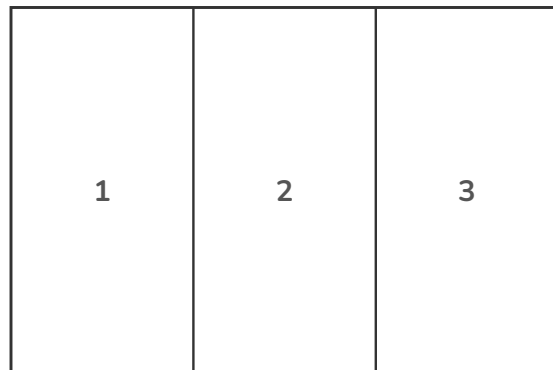
Ireland

1 = green 2 = white 3 = orange



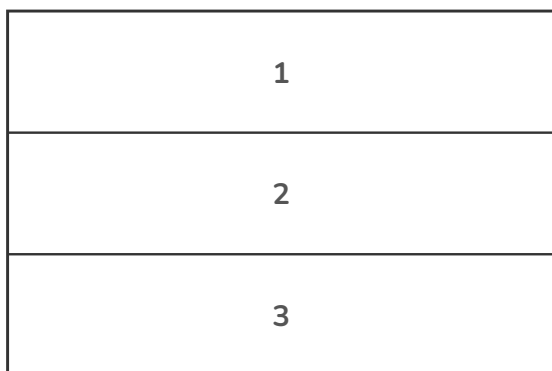
Italy

1 = green 2 = white 3 = red



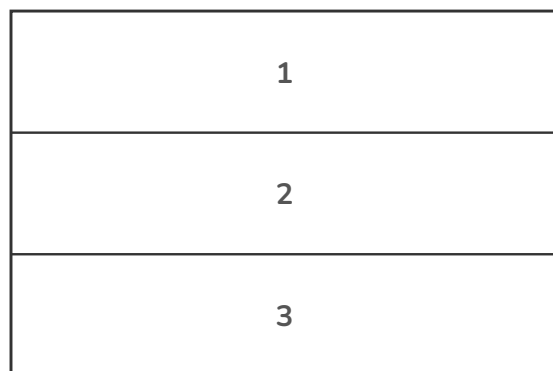
Belgium

1 = black 2 = yellow 3 = red



Germany

1 = black 2 = red 3 = gold

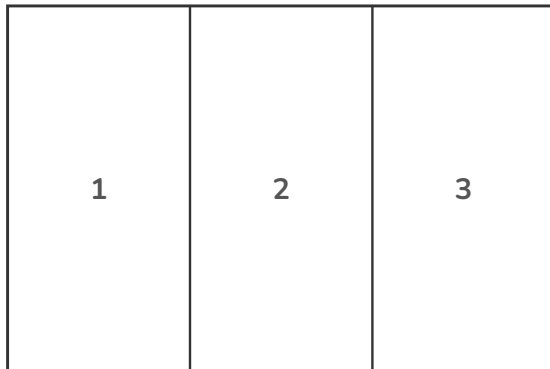


Netherlands

1 = red 2 = white 3 = blue

Colour These Flags (continued)

Each flag is drawn empty, with its regions numbered and the colour key underneath. Colour them in, then check them against the book.



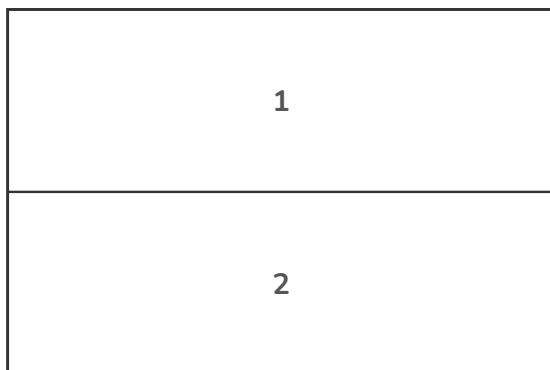
Nigeria

1 = green 2 = white 3 = green



Poland

1 = white 2 = red



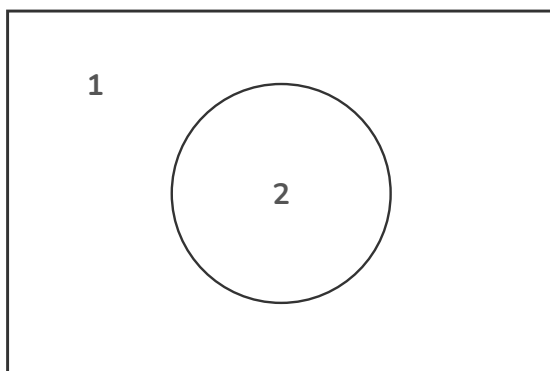
Ukraine

1 = blue 2 = yellow



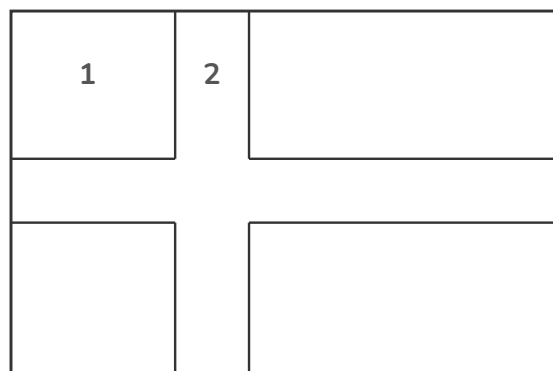
Indonesia

1 = red 2 = white



Japan

1 = white 2 = red



Sweden

1 = blue 2 = yellow

Mystery Country Shapes

Every country has a shape as recognisable as its flag. Name each one from its outline alone. The hint tells you the continent.

A



Hint: Europe - people say it looks like a boot.

Country: _____

B



Hint: South America - long and thin, on the Pacific coast.

Country: _____

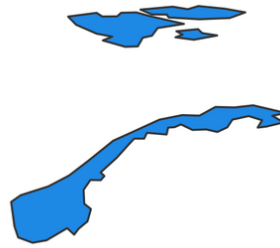
C



Hint: Asia - a huge triangle pointing south.

Country: _____

D



Hint: Europe - a long coastline full of fjords.

Country: _____

Mystery Country Shapes (continued)

Every country has a shape as recognisable as its flag. Name each one from its outline alone. The hint tells you the continent.

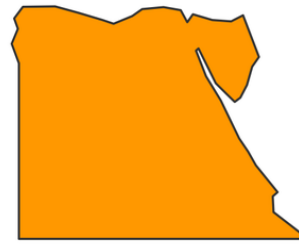
E



Hint: Asia - a chain of islands, not one landmass.

Country: _____

F



Hint: Africa - almost a square, in the north-east.

Country: _____

G



Hint: Oceania - two main islands, far to the south-east.

Country: _____

H



Hint: South America - the biggest country on its continent.

Country: _____

The Flag Symbol Decoder

Flags reuse the same handful of symbols over and over. Learn these eight and you can make a very good guess at a flag you have never seen before.

A star

Often stands for a state, a province, or hope for the future. The United States has one star for every state - all 50 of them.

A crescent moon and star

A symbol used across many countries with large Muslim populations, including Turkey, Pakistan, and Tunisia.

A cross

Usually a Christian symbol. The off-centre 'Nordic cross' is shared by Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Iceland.

A sun

Stands for a new beginning or a new nation. Argentina, Japan, and Uruguay all put a sun on their flag.

A plant or a tree

Something the country is known for: Canada's maple leaf, Lebanon's cedar tree, Cyprus's olive branches.

An animal

Almost always a national symbol of strength: the eagle of Mexico, the dragon of Bhutan, the bird of paradise of Papua New Guinea.

Red, black, white and green together

The Pan-Arab colours, used by Egypt, Jordan, Sudan, and others.

Red, gold and green together

The Pan-African colours, taken from Ethiopia's flag - the only African country never colonised for long.

Detective challenge

- Find three flags in the book with a crescent moon on them.
- Find a flag with a building on it. (There is one. It is in Asia.)
- Find two countries whose flags are the same colours in a different order. There are several pairs - Poland and Indonesia are one.
- Find the only country whose flag is not a rectangle.

The Answer Key

Grown-ups only! Every answer below is also in the book, so a child who wants to check their own work can go and find it there instead.

Name That Flag

1. France	2. Germany	3. Italy	4. Spain
5. United Kingdom	6. Greece	7. Portugal	8. Sweden
9. Switzerland	10. Netherlands	11. Poland	12. Norway
13. Japan	14. China	15. India	16. South Korea
17. Thailand	18. Vietnam	19. Israel	20. Turkey
21. Indonesia	22. Saudi Arabia	23. Pakistan	24. Nepal
25. Egypt	26. South Africa	27. Kenya	28. Nigeria
29. Morocco	30. Ethiopia	31. Ghana	32. Tanzania
33. Algeria	34. Senegal	35. United Arab Emirates	36. Jordan
37. United States	38. Canada	39. Brazil	40. Mexico
41. Argentina	42. Australia	43. New Zealand	44. Chile
45. Peru	46. Cuba	47. Jamaica	48. Colombia

Capital City Match-Ups

Set 1: 1-F, 2-H, 3-E, 4-C, 5-G, 6-B, 7-A, 8-D, 9-J, 10-I

France = Paris; Japan = Tokyo; Brazil = Brasília; Egypt = Cairo; Canada = Ottawa; Australia = Canberra; India = New Delhi; Mexico = Mexico City; Kenya = Nairobi; Norway = Oslo

Set 2: 1-H, 2-C, 3-F, 4-B, 5-J, 6-I, 7-A, 8-D, 9-E, 10-G

Germany = Berlin; China = Beijing; Argentina = Buenos Aires; South Africa = Pretoria; Thailand = Bangkok; Italy = Rome; Peru = Lima; Vietnam = Hanoi; Morocco = Rabat; Sweden = Stockholm

Set 3: 1-F, 2-H, 3-J, 4-G, 5-I, 6-B, 7-A, 8-C, 9-E, 10-D

Spain = Madrid; South Korea = Seoul; Chile = Santiago; Nigeria = Abuja; Indonesia = Jakarta; Greece = Athens; Cuba = Havana; Philippines = Manila; Ghana = Accra; Finland = Helsinki

Set 4: 1-B, 2-E, 3-A, 4-J, 5-G, 6-C, 7-I, 8-F, 9-H, 10-D

Portugal = Lisbon; Turkey = Ankara; Colombia = Bogotá; Ethiopia = Addis Ababa; Malaysia = Kuala Lumpur; Poland = Warsaw; New Zealand = Wellington; Saudi Arabia = Riyadh; Tanzania = Dodoma; Denmark = Copenhagen

The Answer Key (continued)

Colour These Flags

France: 1 = blue, 2 = white, 3 = red

Ireland: 1 = green, 2 = white, 3 = orange

Italy: 1 = green, 2 = white, 3 = red

Belgium: 1 = black, 2 = yellow, 3 = red

Germany: 1 = black, 2 = red, 3 = gold

Netherlands: 1 = red, 2 = white, 3 = blue

Nigeria: 1 = green, 2 = white, 3 = green

Poland: 1 = white, 2 = red

Ukraine: 1 = blue, 2 = yellow

Indonesia: 1 = red, 2 = white

Japan: 1 = white, 2 = red

Sweden: 1 = blue, 2 = yellow

Mystery Country Shapes

- A. Italy — capital Rome.
- B. Chile — capital Santiago.
- C. India — capital New Delhi.
- D. Norway — capital Oslo.
- E. Japan — capital Tokyo.
- F. Egypt — capital Cairo.
- G. New Zealand — capital Wellington.
- H. Brazil — capital Brasília.

Detective challenge

- Crescent moons: Turkey, Pakistan, Tunisia, Algeria, Malaysia, Mauritania, and several more - any three count.
- The building is on the flag of Cambodia: the temple of Angkor Wat.
- Same colours, different order: Poland and Indonesia; Netherlands and Luxembourg (nearly); Chad and Romania; Ireland and Ivory Coast.
- Nepal - it is two stacked triangles, the only non-rectangular national flag in the world.

Where All 193 Countries Live

This pack is the activity companion to **Flags of the World: Explore Every Nation — Flags, Capitals, Maps & Fun Facts**. The book gives every one of the 193 countries its own full-colour page: the national flag, the capital city, a world map showing exactly where the country sits, the country's outline shape, quick stats for population, area, language and currency, its major cities, and hand-picked fun facts. Pages are colour-coded by continent, so a child always knows which part of the world they are in.

If your young explorer enjoyed this, the book is the version they will carry around the house.



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