

Celebrate Juneteenth

The Juneteenth Flag

The Juneteenth flag was originally created by Ben Haith, the founder of the National Juneteenth Celebration Foundation, in 1997.



What is the Juneteenth flag?

The Symbols

The Juneteenth flag includes two symbols:

- **A star.** The star symbolizes the state of Texas (the Lone Star State) and its significance as the original location of Juneteenth. The star also resembles the stars on the American flag, on which each star represents a state. On the Juneteenth flag, the star symbolizes that on Juneteenth, all formerly enslaved people became American citizens and were free in all states in the union.
- **A nova,** also known as a burst or a new star. In science, a nova is a beginning stage of a star. On the Juneteenth flag, the nova is meant to represent a new beginning for Black people in the United States.

The Colors

The Juneteenth flag includes three colors arranged in a particular manner:

- **Red, white, and blue colors.** These are the colors on the American flag, and their use on the Juneteenth flag represents that all formerly enslaved people in the United States were and are Americans.
- **An arced line between the blue and red background colors.** This arc represents a new horizon, which symbolizes the new opportunities and promise available to Black Americans.



The Date

- In 2006, the Juneteenth flag was modified to include the date June 19, 1865. This is the date on which U.S. forces arrived in Texas to share the message of and enforce the end of slavery in the United States.
- The date is significant in part because it came two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation ended slavery in the U.S.—two and a half years in which White people continued to enslave Black people and force them to work in the American South.

Color the Juneteenth Flag

What colors and symbols represent freedom to you?

