



GENERAL FLAG CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Olympus Group is proud of its fine craftsmanship and recommends nylon and polyester flags for outdoor use. Our nylon U.S. flag is made of Solarmax nylon fabric, the most durable and superior nylon flag material available. Its quick-drying capability and lightweight construction make it an all-weather flag. Printed poly cotton flags, although an economical option, are vibrant prints and designed for holiday or promotional use. With reasonable care, you can extend the life of a flag. Here are a few tips for all flags:

Preventive Maintenance:

The U.S. Government's testing standards on the deluxe quality, heavy duty nylon flags reveal that flags are expected to last approximately 90 days based on daily usage from sunrise to sunset, but not during inclement weather. Tests have shown that in some cases a flag flown 24 hours a day will last one quarter as long as one flown only during the day.

- For longest use, do not fly your flag in periods of rain, snow or abnormally high winds as these conditions will shorten its life considerably.
- Choose a location away from trees, cables, etc. to install your flagpole to avoid having the flag brush against rough areas.
- Periodically examine your flags for wear and loose stitching, especially on the fly end. Have the flag repaired early to extend the life of your flag.

Regardless of the quality craftsmanship and the material used for construction, the flag is a textile product and will age with the various climates and weather conditions. Olympus suggests that preventive maintenance be completed regularly to prolong the life of a flag. Larger flags (6'x10 and up) are a significant investment and should be given extra care. Consider having three flags and periodically rotating them for cleaning or repair.

Cleaning

Flags waving in the breeze from a porch flagpole or in the yard eventually become soiled. Whether you are flying the Stars and Stripes or a decorative garden banner, most outdoor flags are made of sturdy and weather-resistant nylon. This synthetic polymer fabric doesn't fade easily in the sun and it survives moisture well, but direct heat can cause it to melt. Nylon flags are usually machine washable, but care must be taken to prevent the colors from bleeding and to avoid heat damage. **Tip:** Many professional drycleaners will clean American flags for you free of charge, and also complete fly end repairs at a nominal charge.

- To keep the flag looking its best, clean your flag on a regular basis. Heavy duty outdoor nylon or polyester flags can be hand-washed with cold water and mild soap. **Tip:** Wash nylon flags alone. Even though your flags have been pretreated for color fastness, eventually the colors may bleed or fade.
- Allow the flag to air dry completely. Do not fold or roll-up a wet or damp flag.
- Indoor parade flags with fringe should be professionally dry cleaned. *Promotional quality polyester flags* are designed to be flown outside only for holiday use and will not last as long as the heavy duty nylon or polyester flags.

Best Regards,
The Olympus Team