













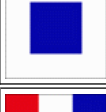
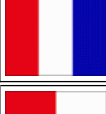

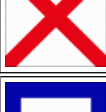
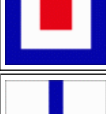






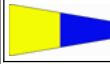





U.S. Navy Signal Flags

Even in these days of radio and satellite communications, the U.S. Navy uses the international alphabet flags, numeral pennants, numeral flags, and special flags and pennants for visual signaling. These signal flags are used to communicate while maintaining radio silence. Navy Signalmen transmit messages by hoisting a flag or a series of flags on a halyard. Each side of the ship has halyards and a "flag bag", containing a full set of signal flags. Signals unique to the Navy are used when communicating with other U.S. Navy or allied forces. When communicating with all other vessels, the *International Code of Signals* is used. The code/answer pennant precedes all signals in international code.

Flag	Name	Phonetic Pronunciation	Navy Meaning	International Meaning
	Alfa	AL-fah	I have a diver down; keep well clear at slow speed.	
	Bravo	BRAH-voh	I am taking in, discharging, or carrying dangerous cargo.	
	Charlie	CHAR-lee	"Yes" or "affirmative".	
	Delta	DELL-tah	I am maneuvering with difficulty; keep clear.	
	Echo	ECK-oh	I am directing my course to starboard.	
	Foxtrot	FOKS-trot	I am disabled; communicate with me. On aircraft carriers: Flight Operations underway	
	Golf	GOLF	I require a pilot.	
	Hotel	hoh-TELL	I have a pilot on board.	
	India	IN-dee-ah	Coming alongside.	I am directing my course to port.
	Juliet	JEW-lee-ett	I am on fire and have dangerous cargo; keep clear.	
	Kilo	KEY-loh	I wish to communicate with you.	

	Lima	LEE-mah	You should stop your vessel immediately.	
	Mike	MIKE	My vessel is stopped; making no way.	
	November	no-VEM-bur	No or negative.	
	Oscar	OSS-kur	Man overboard.	
	Papa	pah-PAH	All personnel return to ship; proceeding to sea (Inport).	
	Quebec	kay-BECK	Boat recall; all boats return to ship.	Ship meets health regs; request clearance into port.
	Romeo	ROH-me-oh	Preparing to replenish (At sea). Ready duty ship (Inport).	None.
	Sierra	see-AIR-ah	Conducting flag hoist drill.	Moving astern.
	Tango	TANG-go	Do not pass ahead of me.	Keep clear; engaged in trawling.
	Uniform	YOU-nee-form	You are running into danger.	
	Victor	VIK-tah	I require assistance.	
	Whiskey	WISS-kee	I require medical assistance.	
	Xray	ECKS-ray	Stop carrying out your intentions and watch for my signals.	
	Yankee	YANG-kee	Ship has visual communications duty.	I am dragging anchor.
	Zulu	ZOO-loo	I require a tug.	
			Flag that follows is from	Message is understood. Also,

	Code/Answer	Code or Answer	the International Code of Signals.	numeric decimal point.
	First substitute	First sub	Absence of flag officer or unit commander (Inport).	Substitute for the first flag in this hoist.
	Second substitute	Second sub	Absence of chief of staff (Inport).	Substitute for the second flag in this hoist.
	Third substitute	Third sub	Absence of commanding officer (Inport).	Substitute for the third flag in this hoist.
	Fourth substitute	Fourth sub	Absence of civil or military official whose flag is flying on this ship.	Substitute for the fourth flag in this hoist.
	One	WUN	Numeral one.	None.
	Two	TOO	Numeral two.	None.
	Three	TREE	Numeral three.	None.
	Four	FOW-er	Numeral four.	None.
	Five	FIFE	Numeral five.	None.
	Six	SICKS	Numeral six.	None.
	Seven	SEV-en	Numeral seven.	None.
	Eight	AIT	Numeral eight.	None.
	Nine	NIN-er	Numeral nine.	None.
	Zero	ZEE-roh	Numeral zero.	None.
	Pennant one	PEN-ant WUN	Pennant one.	Numeral one.
	Pennant two	PEN-ant TOO	Pennant two.	Numeral two.
	Pennant three	PEN-ant TREE	Pennant three.	Numeral three.

	Pennant four	PEN-ant FOW-er	Pennant four.	Numeral four.
	Pennant five	PEN-ant FIFE	Pennant five.	Numeral five.
	Pennant six	PEN-ant SICKS	Pennant six.	Numeral six.
	Pennant seven	PEN-ant SEV-en	Pennant seven.	Numeral seven.
	Pennant eight	PEN-ant AIT	Pennant eight.	Numeral eight
	Pennant Nine	PEN-ant NIN-er	Pennant nine.	Numeral nine
	Pennant zero	PEN-ant ZEE- roh	Pennant zero.	Numeral zero

Reviewed: 17 August 2009