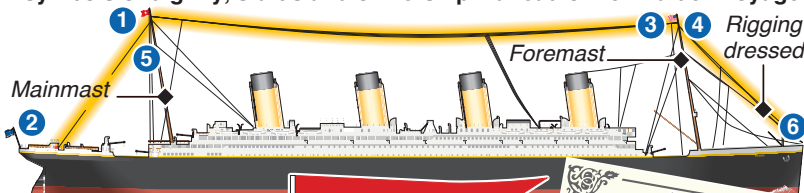


# Flag etiquette on Titanic's maiden voyage

After arriving at Southampton from Belfast in April 1912, RMS Titanic was "dressed" from stem to stern with a rainbow of signal flags and pennants – symbols of dignity, status and ownership – ahead of her maiden voyage



## 1 White Star pennant:

Flown from halyard at top of mainmast from 8am to sunset. White Star Line pennant branding appeared on all documentation, tableware, cap badges and tunic buttons



## 2 Blue Ensign:

Flown from ensign staff during daylight hours to identify ship's nationality.

Blue Ensign denotes

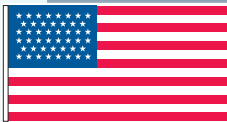
that Captain **Edward John Smith** and several crew were members of **Royal Naval Reserve**

**3 French ensign:** Courtesy flag flown entering Cherbourg until sunset on April 10, 1912. Titanic departed after dark – no flags were flown



## 4 U.S. ensign:

Flown while departing Southampton on April 10 and on entering and leaving Queenstown on April 11. Flag showed just 46 stars. Those depicting Arizona and New Mexico, which gained statehood earlier in 1912, were displayed only after July 4



## 5 Royal Mail pennant:

Flown to signal **Royal Mail Ship (RMS)** status



## 6 Pilot Jack:

Flown from jackstaff at bow when Titanic was dressed in Southampton

