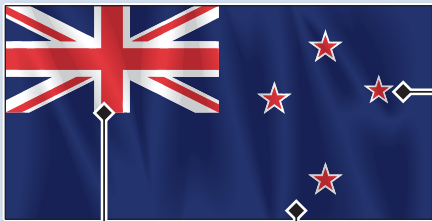


Final vote on New Zealand flag

New Zealanders have begun voting in the second stage of a referendum on whether to change their national flag

■ CURRENT FLAG

Adopted in 1902. Seen by many people as outdated and too similar to flag of Australia



Southern Cross

Distinctive constellation in Milky Way galaxy, visible from Southern Hemisphere

Union Jack: Symbol of colonial past that some New Zealanders want to leave behind

Background: Derived from British Blue Ensign flag

■ ALTERNATIVE FLAG: *Silver Fern (Black, White and Blue)*

Designed by Kyle Lockwood. Chosen from five designs in 2015 referendum

Fern

Internationally recognised symbol of New Zealand. Fern fronds "represent diverse communities coming together"



Black: Widely regarded as national colour

Blue
Represents sea and sky. Echoes colour of current flag

Southern Cross

Postal ballot

Voting closes on Mar 24, with preliminary result due later that day. Final result on Mar 30, after all votes received in time have been processed

Voting Paper for the 2nd Referendum on the New Zealand Flag



QUESTION:
What is your choice for the New Zealand flag?

