

“Abracadabra variant 29”, an alternative New Zealand national flag design  
(with suggested adaptations of the design to the other major flags and ensigns of the nation)



See [this flag waving](#). See it in [all wind conditions](#). See many more alternative New Zealand flag designs at [newzealand.flagoptions.com](http://newzealand.flagoptions.com)  
(Mirror-image ambigram of 'Aotearoa' copyright John Langdon 2024, all rights reserved. Used in this flag design by permission. See more of Mr. Langdon's ambigrams, along with his other artful creations, on his website at <https://www.johnlangdon.net/>.)

Many Kiwis want the Union Jack canton of their current national flag to be replaced with a canton that symbolises New Zealand rather than the United Kingdom. Here that challenge has been met by a canton of red-and-black triangles that have been arranged to form an abstract representation of the letters 'NZ', upon which a white-lettered, mirror-image ambigram of 'Aotearoa' has been superimposed. Although lettering of any kind is often eschewed by so-called 'flag design experts', written language is the most powerful form of symbolism that has ever been devised, and in this case it includes the added virtue of being equally legible from both sides of the flag. In the current national flag the lower canton is wasted, but in this design it has been graced with Matariki, the Pleiades constellation, which carries special meaning for New Zealanders. As shown above, both cantons can be adapted to suit all of the other flags of Enzed.