

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



Army



Navy ships



Air Force



RSA



Government ships



Civil & merchant ships



Civil aviation



Yacht Squadron



Police Service



Fire & Emergency



Customs Service



NZ Olympic Committee



Tokelau



Niue



Cook Islands



Ross Dependency



Auckland



Wellington



Christchurch



United Nations



See this flag waving. See it in all wind conditions. See many more alternative New Zealand flag designs at 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/>.)

This design arguably improves on the features of “Abracadabra variant 29” in three ways. First, its canton of red-and-black triangles has been rendered with bold colour gradients, by no means the deal-breaker of flag manufacture that some would have you believe. Colours with thousands of gradients are no problem at all for digital flag printing, and even screen printing set-ups with as few as a dozen-or-so screens can produce flags with acceptable colour gradients. Second, the stars of the Pleiades Cluster in the design’s lower canton have been oriented as they actually appear on Matariki Day, during their first seasonal ascent above New Zealand’s predawn eastern horizon. Third, the field of the flag is no longer rendered in solid blue, but with sixteen blue-and-black stripes, to numerically symbolise all of New Zealand’s official regions. The canton’s abstract representation of the letters ‘NZ’, together with its unique mirror-image ambigram of ‘Aotearoa’, can be adapted for use in all of New Zealand’s remaining flags and ensigns, as illustrated above.