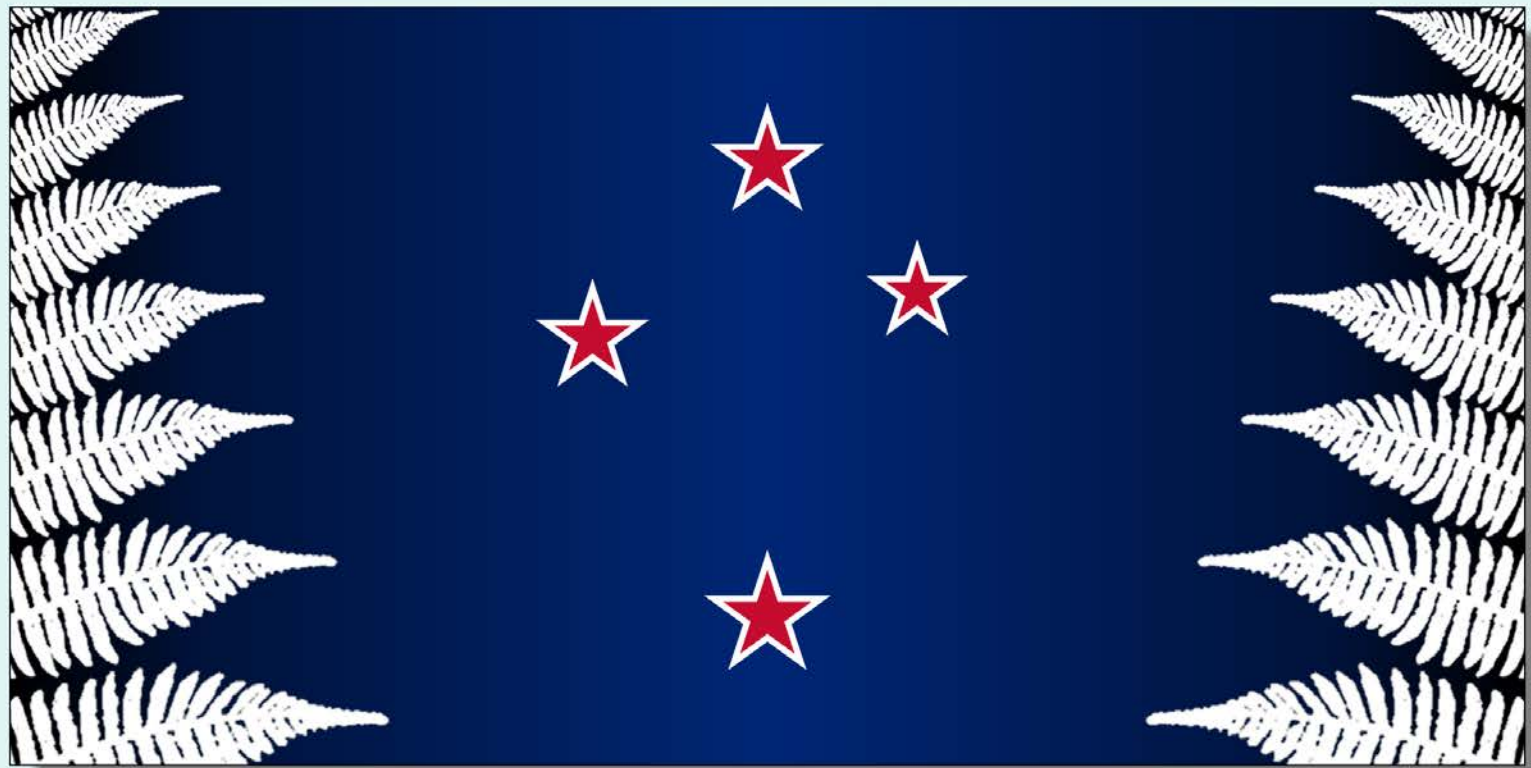


“Alsophila Empire variant 20”, an alternative New Zealand national flag design  
(with suggested adaptations of the design to the other major flags and ensigns of the nation)



**Army**



**Navy ships**



**Air Force**



**RSA**



**Government ships**



**Civil & merchant ships**



**Civil aviation**



**Yacht Squadron**



**Police Service**



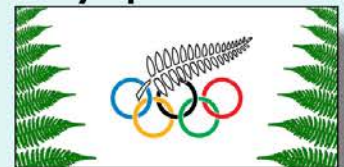
**Fire & Emergency**



**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](http://newzealand.flagoptions.com)

Kiwis who have been overseas may realise that the 'Alsophila Empire variant 20' flag design has used the identical, near-realistic silver fern frond pattern that is imprinted on New Zealand passport covers. Those who carefully count the 'frondlets' will find that they number sixteen, symbolising all of the official regions of New Zealand proper. Beyond its distinctive use of silver fern fronds, this variant illustrates the striking and beautiful potentials of graduated field colour, not only for the national flag but for most of the remaining flags and ensigns of the nation as well, as illustrated above. Graduated field colour is not really the impediment to flag manufacture that flag design pedants have led us to believe. Digital flag printers, for example, can easily handle colour gradients numbering in the thousands, but even screen printing set-ups with as few as a dozen-or-so screens can produce acceptable gradients for most of the sizes of manufactured flags.