

Silver fern fronds grow in parallel arrangements to either side of long stems that radiate from central stalks. The stalks begin at ground level and grow to several metres tall, as older stems and fronds wither beneath newer umbrella-like canopies. Much truer to the glory of the silver tree-fern than any single, stylised frond, this flag design affords a near-realistic view from beneath the edge of a canopy of fronds against a dark sky, an effect further enhanced by the high-contrast white stars of the Southern Cross. When this flag waves it will be reminiscent of a rustling canopy of fronds in a night-time breeze, and when draped it will present a natural grace. In the bold national colours of black and white, it will unmistakably epitomise New Zealand.