

“The Antipodes variant 7”, an alternative New Zealand national flag design
(with suggested adaptations of the design to the other major flags and ensigns of the nation)



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The word 'antipode' means 'opposite', and one cannot be more opposite than black and white, the official national colours of New Zealand. As in the original 'The Antipodes' flag design, this variant plays on the linguistic concept of opposites, in this case using an arrangement of sixteen black-and-white triangles in the hoist area to numerically symbolise the official regions of New Zealand proper. Fans of the abstract may also be able to see heaps of capitalised 'Ns' and 'Zs' in the hoist area, depending on whether it is viewed vertically, horizontally, or from the obverse or reverse sides of the flag. The arrangement of triangles occupies one-quarter of the total length and area of the flag, leaving a large fly area with three-quarters of both. For the national flag, the fly area has a blue field and the traditional red-and-white New Zealand-style Southern Cross, whilst for the rest of the flags and ensigns of the nation, it accommodates other field colours and symbols as shown above, in some cases with the black-and-white triangles of the hoist area reversed in colour for better contrast. Sporting both black-and-white and red-white-and-blue, this bold design is very neuseeländisch.