

4th of July



When you think of the Fourth of July, you undoubtedly think of the red, white and blue of the American flag.



What do these colors mean to you?

The three colors did not have official meaning when the flag was adopted in 1777. However, in regards to the Great Seal of the United States, as the book “Our Flag” states, “The colors of the pales (the vertical stripes) are those used in the flag of the United States of America; **White** signifies purity and innocence, **Red** represents hardiness and valor, and **Blue** symbolizes vigilance, perseverance & justice.”



Vocabulary:

- Purity - freedom from anything that debases, contaminates, pollutes, etc.
- Innocence - freedom from moral or any other kind of wrong.
- Hardiness - the ability to endure difficult conditions.
- Valor - great courage in the face of danger.



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- Vigilance - a condition or quality of being alert and attentive; watchfulness.
- Perseverance - persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success.
- Justice - the upholding of what is fair, just, and right.

Another way of commemorating the July 4th celebration are fireworks.

The first 4th of July fireworks were set off in 1777, one year after the Declaration of Independence was signed. Because it happened in the middle of the Revolutionary War, some historians believe that fireworks were supposed to be a “morale booster,” to encourage community and raise spirits.

While fireworks may seem like a very American tradition, their origins go back centuries before the first Independence Day fireworks display. The earliest forms of such pyrotechnics can be traced to around 2,000 years ago in China. As the ingredients for gunpowder spread to the West after the Silk Road opened up trade, so did fireworks. They became a part of official celebrations in many countries.

Make your Fourth of July celebration colorful with these fun decorating ideas we have prepared for you!

- ★ [Paper fireworks](#)
- ★ [Star-spangled string](#)
- ★ [American flag](#)

