

Don't know much about the American flag?

Try this Fourth of July quiz by Kenneth C. Davis,
author of *The New York Times* bestseller AMERICA'S HIDDEN HISTORY

True or False?

1. The original design, with 13 stars in a circle, was the handiwork of seamstress Betsy Ross.
2. The American flag is never lowered to honor visiting heads of state.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, composed in 1776, always included the words "one nation under God."
4. It is legal to burn the flag as a form of protest.

Answers:

1. False, probably. The Betsy Ross legend has been discredited. The likely father of the flag was Francis Hopkinson, a member of the Continental Navy Board.
2. True. In a long-standing tradition, the flag is never dipped to any other nation's, including during the Olympics.
3. Double False. The Pledge was composed in 1892 and the words "under God" were added in 1953.
4. True. The Supreme Court has ruled that burning the flag in protest is speech protected under the Fifth Amendment.