

What Is a Banner?



There is significant overlap in the definitions of the words banner, flag and standard. These three words are used to describe a piece of fabric attached to a pole. Here are some dictionary definitions for these words.

Banner noun

Oxford Paperback Dictionary

1. Large portable cloth sign bearing slogan or design.
2. Flag.

The Webster Dictionary

1. A kind of flag attached to a spear or pike by a crosspiece, and used by a chief as his standard in battle.
2. A large piece of silk or other cloth, with a device or motto, extended on a crosspiece, and borne in a procession, or suspended in some conspicuous place.
3. Any flag or standard; as, the star-spangled banner.

Merriam-Webster Dictionary

1. A piece of cloth attached by one edge to a staff and used by a leader (as a monarch or feudal lord) as his standard.
2. Flag.
3. An ensign displaying a distinctive or symbolic device or legend; especially: one presented as an award of honour or distinction.

What Wielding Banners

Wordsmyth

1. A piece of cloth, usually with a motto or emblem and mounted on a staff representing a person.
2. A flag, as of a nation or state.
3. A sign printed on a piece of cloth.

Dictionary.com

1. A piece of cloth attached to a staff and used as a standard by a monarch, military commander, or knight.
2. The flag of a nation, state, or army.
3. A piece of cloth bearing a motto or legend, as of a club.

Flag noun

Oxford Paperback Dictionary

Piece of cloth attached by one edge to a pole or rope as country's emblem, standard, or signal.

The Webster Dictionary

1. A piece of cloth, usually rectangular in shape, with a distinctive design, flown from a pole to represent a country, political party, etc. or used for signalling.
2. A cloth usually bearing a device or devices and used to indicate nationality, party, etc., or to give or ask information; — commonly attached to a staff to be waved by the wind; a standard; a banner; an ensign; the colours; as, the national flag; a military or a naval flag.

Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Usually a rectangular piece of fabric of distinctive design that is used as a symbol (as of a nation), as a signaling device, or as a decoration.

Wordsmyth

A piece of cloth, usually rectangular or triangular, bearing any of various colours and designs and used for signalling or as the symbol or emblem of a country, organization, or the like; banner; pennant.

Dictionary.com

1. A piece of cloth, usually rectangular, of distinctive color and design, used as a symbol, standard, signal, or emblem.
2. National or other allegiance, as symbolised by a flag; ships of the same flag.

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