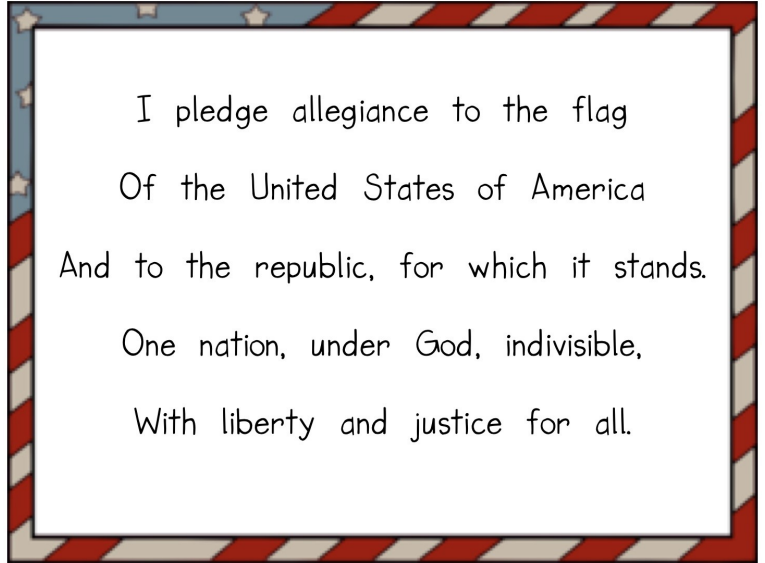


# Trail Life USA Joining Award

As part of the Joining Award (Branch Patch) for TLUSA, Trailman are asked to:

1. Memorize the Trailman Oath.
2. Learn the Trailman Sign and when to use it.
3. Learn the Trailman Salute and when to use it.
4. Learn the Trailman Handshake.
5. Memorize the Pledge of Allegiance.
6. (Mt. Lions) Understand how to properly fold the American flag.

*(Navigators/Adventurers: See handbooks for additional items.)*



## FLAG DAY

### How to fold an American flag

Follow these steps to properly fold the flag.

**STEP ONE:** With another person, hold the flag lengthwise at waist level. As an act of respect, the flag should never touch the ground.

**STEP TWO:** Fold the flag in half, with the stripes folding over the field of stars.

**STEP THREE:** Fold the flag in half again — this time the stars will be to the outside, stripes to the inside. The flag should look like the photo below.



**STEP FOUR:** Starting at the end away from the stars, fold the bottom part (folded section) to form a triangle.



**CONTINUE FOLDING:** Fold the triangular section toward the stars, forming another triangle. Then, fold it again, working your way up through the field of stars as the flag is folded into a triangle.

**FINALLY:** Tuck the edge of the flag (the white stripe where the flag attaches to the standard) inside the blue triangle. A perfectly folded flag will be a tightly wrapped triangle, totally wrapped in the blue field with no red or white stripe showing.



For a detailed demonstration, check out this video or scan the code:

<https://youtu.be/8BoXg1BCarI>



Did you know that each fold of the flag has a meaning? For example, here are the first three...

The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

The second fold is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life.

The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks who gave a portion of life for the defense of our country to attain a peace throughout the world.

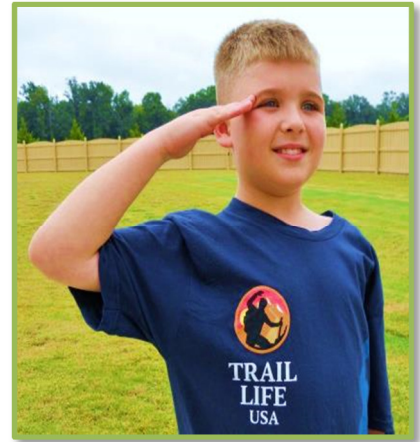
## Trailman Oath

**On my honor, I will do my best  
To serve God and my country;  
To respect authority;  
To be a good steward of creation;  
And to treat others as I want to be treated.**

## Trailman Salute

The Trailman salute is made by raising your right hand. The tip of your fingers should almost touch your right temple. If you wear glasses, the tip of your fingers should almost touch the frames of your glasses. If you are wearing a uniform hat, the tip of your fingers should touch the brim.

When you are in full Trailman uniform, you salute when the flag passes by you (including when posting the colors or retiring the flag), when the flag moves up a flagpole, and at appropriate times when directed to do so by adult volunteers.



## Trailman Sign

The Trailman sign is made with the right hand held open, palm forward, raising your right arm with your elbow at a right angle.

The sign is used during reciting of the Trailman Oath. It is also used by the Troopmaster, Ranger, Trail Guides, or other Adult Leader to gain the attention of the Trailmen as needed.

## Trailman Handshake

The Trailman Handshake is a wrist to wrist handshake.

