

Choosing the right flagpole for your home or business can be fun and exciting, but can be overwhelming. When determining the right flagpole for a house or a corporation we take a lot of things into consideration. At Airborne Flag & Flagpole, LLC our guide to selecting a flagpole will assist you in the process for the appropriate flagpole for your application. If you have specific questions about which flagpole is right for your location, please feel free to [contact us](#) directly and we will give you our expert advice.

Major Factors to Consider

- Purpose/Function of Flagpole
- Flying Flags
- Budget
- Desired Flagpole Location
- The Size of your Building & Lot
- The Wind in your Area
- The Material of a Flagpole
- Ease of Installation
- Personal Preferences
- Flagpole Accessories
- Displaying Flag 24 Hours
- Shipping
- Warranty

Purpose

What brings upon the purpose of buying a flagpole and what function does it serve? Flagpoles purchased for commercial companies, car dealerships, universities, sport complexes and some rural areas such as ranches all serve the function to grasp people's attention through marketing and advertising, making a statement. These flagpoles range from 50 to over 100 feet tall. A flagpole being installed at one of these locations should be a prominent feature that is tall and noticeable from a distance. Flagpoles purchased for a warehouse, private office building or homes will need to blend and compliment their environment more than a statement pole. These types of flagpoles will typically range from 20 to 50 feet depending on other factors. Other applications may call for larger flagpoles.

Flying One or Multiple Flags

Flagpoles have limits to the size of flag which can be safely flown. The largest flag for a 20ft flagpole to fly safely is a 4x6' flag. Unlike a 50ft flagpole, which recommends flying safely a 10x15' flag. The size of the flag along with the size of your flagpole will determine how well it will be seen from a distance away. You can fly multiple flags on one pole. Keep in mind the order of importance when displaying multiple flags. National flags are to be flown at the top or the flagpole on the left, State flags to follow either below the national flag or to the right of the National flagpole, Territory flags and finally Military flags. If you decide that you would like to have the option to fly one or multiple flags, make sure the flagpole you purchase will support two flags and is designed for that option. ([Link to Flag Etiquette](#))

Budget

When considering a budget for a flagpole, it depends on your requirements and personal preferences. Prices vary according to height, diameter of pole, wall thickness and material. Take into consideration how it will be shipped, applicable taxes and the cost for installation.

Location of Flagpole

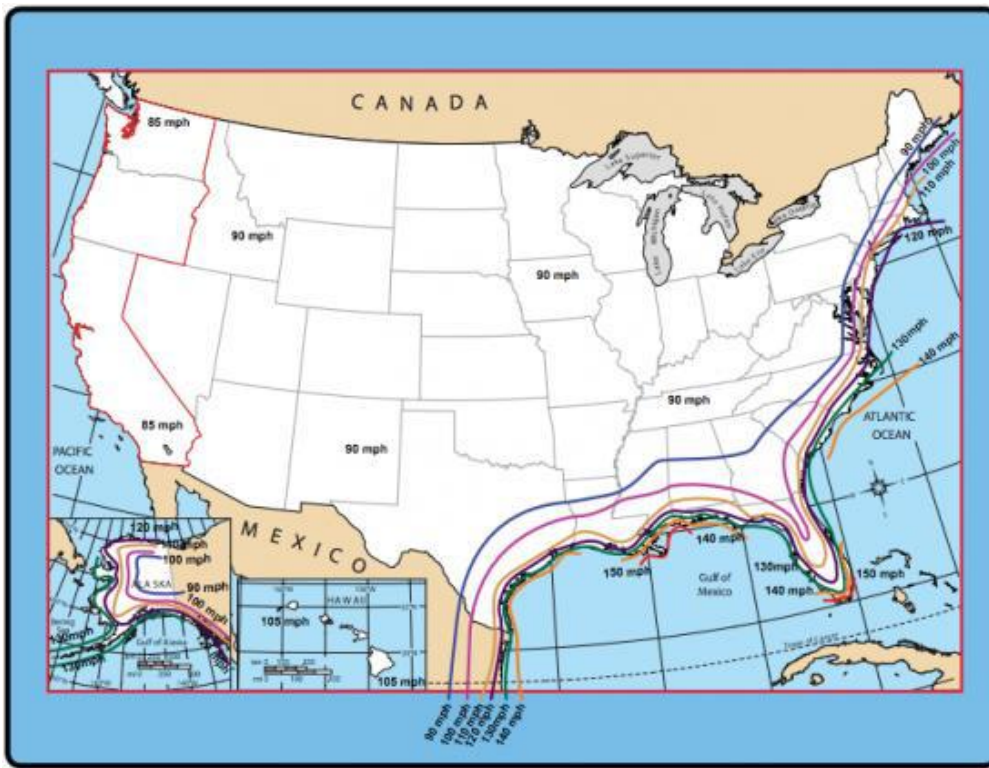
Your location within the United States will be a big determining factor when selecting a flagpole. There are all types of places that you could place your flagpole, but the wind is the deciding factor. With a little thought and planning, you can select the best location for your flagpole. It is important to choose a flagpole location that is away from other structures or other flagpoles. You want to have at least 2 feet of space between the largest size flag that will be flown and that other existing structure(s) or hazards. Flagpoles need to be kept away from existing trees and their expected growth, landscaping and utility lines. Flagpole foundations cannot be placed on top of underground lines, sprinklers or septic tanks. Calling for utility locations is a must prior to installing a foundation. Be sure to consider the location of the flag at all positions on the pole, i.e. while raising the flag to the top, while flag flies at half-staff or will the flags get tangled up in trees and the roof of a house or building. Line of sight is another consideration you want to include. A flag should be visible from where the majority of people will see it. If the mass majority of people who view the flagpole will be coming from a certain direction, then go to the direction they would be coming from to visualize how the flagpole will appear to motorists, residents and customers.

Height of Building vs. Size of Flagpole

When selecting a flagpole, the height of your building or the size of your property needs to be considered to ensure it is not too short or too tall for your building will look disproportionate. Residents of inner-city communities may prefer to keep their flagpole heights to a minimum. Taller flagpoles within a city may obstruct residents' view of the city or may interfere with utility wires. Check with your city or county municipality requirements to see if they have a limit on the heights of its buildings/signage. This restriction will also apply to flagpoles, the flags you can fly, how many and size of flag. It is also important to check your historical district restrictions and neighborhood regulations restricting the erection of a flagpole. If you belong to a neighborhood association, that information should be in your agreement. If you discover that an in ground flagpole is not an option, you may still be able to consider a wall-mounted flag set. ([Link to wall-mounted flag sets](#))

Wind and Weather Conditions

Each flagpole has a maximum windspeed allowance calculated by the manufacturer in MPH/KPH, that determines the proper sized flag that can be flown safely. These allowances give additional guarantees in two ways: If your flagpole has a flag (flagged) or if it does not have a flag (unflagged). You want to focus on the flagged maximum because you will be flying a flag from your flagpole. Other things to consider would be the frequency of storms in the area. Not all flagpoles are designed to withstand heavy wind conditions. It is very important that you select a flagpole specifically meant for your wind area. Other weather conditions such as rain, humidity and extreme temperatures also needs to be considered. Some areas of the country that have strong wind gusts are: Mountains, Desert Plains and Coastal areas. Parts of the country that have higher winds which may require a stronger flagpole are: Rural areas, highways, Great Lakes region, tornado prone areas, islands and peninsulas. Regions that are generally low wind areas: Residential and large objects that reduce or block the wind i.e. trees, walls, bridges, other houses/buildings. Factoring in the potential wind in your region will help you determine which flagpole to select. Using the windspeed chart in conjunction with the product chart, can be an extremely valuable tool when selecting the desired aluminum flagpole and size combination.



EXPOSED HEIGHT feet	SHAFT DIAMETER inches	WALL THICKNESS inches	UNFLAGGED WINDSPEED	MAXIMUM FLAG SIZE	FLAGGED WINDSPEED	CONTINENTAL	ESTATE	INDEPENDENCE SOVEREIGNTY	SENTRY SENTRY II	
						External Halyard	External Halyard	Cable Based Internal Halyard	Rope Based Internal Halyard	
15	3	2	.125	170	3 x 5	120		E15030125		
20	3	2	.125	123	5 x 8	85		E20030125		
20	4	2	.125	147	5 x 8	100	C20040125	E20040125		
20	5	3	.125	230	5 x 8	120+	C20050125	E20050125	S20050125	
20	5	3	.156	280	5 x 8	120+	C20050156	E20050156	I20050156*	S20050156
20	5	3	.188	288	5 x 8	120+	C20050188	E20050188	I20050188*	S20050188
20	6	3.5	.156	327	5 x 8	120+	C20060156		I20060156*	S20060156*
20	6	3.5	.188	356	5 x 8	120+	C20060188		I20060188*	S20060188*
25	3	2	.125	94	5 x 8	50		E25030125		
25	4	2	.125	120	5 x 8	85	C25040125	E25040125		
25	5	3	.125	136	5 x 8	95	C25050125	E25050125		S25050125
25	5	3	.156	175	5 x 8	110	C25050156	E25050156	I25050156*	S25050156*
25	5.5	3.5	.188	237	5 x 8	120+	C25055188			
25	6	3.5	.156	233	5 x 8	120+	C25060156		I25060156*	S25060156*
25	6	3.5	.188	255	5 x 8	120+	C25060188		I25060188*	S25060188*
30	4	2	.125	97	6 x 10	50		E30040125		
30	5	3	.125	100	6 x 10	85	C30050125	E30050125		
30	5	3	.156	114	6 x 10	85	C30050156	E30050156	I30050156*	S30050156
30	6	3.5	.156	175	6 x 10	105	C30060156		I30060156*	S30060156*
30	6	3.5	.188	200	6 x 10	120	C30060188		I30060188*	S30060188*
35	5	3	.125	90	6 x 10	75		E35050125		
35	5	3	.156	91	6 x 10	80	C35050156	E35050156	I35050156*	S35050156
35	6	3.5	.156	116	6 x 10	85	C35060156		I35060156*	S35060156*
35	7	3.5	.156	166	6 x 10	110	C35070156		I35070156*	S35070156*
35	7	3.5	.188	189	6 x 10	120	C35070188		I35070188*	S35070188*
40	7	3.5	.156	122	8 x 12	85	C40070156		I40070156*	S40070156*
40	8	3.5	.156	172	8 x 12	105	C40080156		I40080156	S40080156*
40	8	3.5	.188	178	8 x 12	120	C40080188		I40080188	S40080188*
45	8	3.5	.188	149	8 x 12	100	C45080188		I45080188	
50	8	3.5	.188	115	10 x 15	85	C50080188		I50080188	
50	10	4	.188	185	10 x 15	115	C50100188		I50100188	
60	10	4	.188	121	12 x 18	85	C60100188		I60100188	
60	10	4	.250	150	12 x 18	105	C60100250		I60100250	
60	12	4.4	.250	179	12 x 18	120	C60120250		I60120250	
70	10	4	.312	135	15 x 25	90	C70100312		I70100312	

Flagpole Options

Our aluminum flagpoles are manufactured in the United States from new, seamless 6063-T6 aluminum with tensile strength not less than 30,000psi. When selecting a flagpole, there are many options. Some options are based on a personal preference, whereas others are based on necessity. Depending on the height of the flagpole, it comes in either a one-piece or sectional aluminum that are manufactured in the cone tapered design. There are several different models to choose from when looking for a one-piece flagpole: 20ft, 25ft, 30ft, 35ft exposed height. Flagpoles with an overall height greater than 38ft are manufactured in sections. Sectional flagpoles can be easily field assembled using the patented, self-aligning internal sleeve without any loss of structural integrity. Only a relatively small area at the joint will indicate that it is not a single piece flagpole. The wall thickness and diameter of the flagpole is the major factor in determining how strong a flagpole is, and how susceptible it is to the wind.

Installation

One-piece and sectional flagpoles are inserted into a ground sleeve that is set in concrete which extends about 10% of the overall shaft length into the ground. For example, a flagpole with an exposed length of 30 feet – not counting the truck and the finial – the overall length is 33 feet with 3 feet going into the concreted sleeve. This is considered to be the strongest mounting method for flagpoles. The most critical part of the flagpole installation process is making sure the ground sleeve is set perfectly level in the concrete. One slight error here will result in a leaning flagpole. Each flagpole comes with assembly instructions on how to erect a flagpole. Or you may opt for less hassle and we will install the flagpole within our region.

Personal Preferences

Deciding what features your flagpole will come down to a personal preference of what suits you or the application best. Flagpoles are manufactured with two types of halyard systems, or rope to fly your flag: Internal and External Halyard Flagpoles.

Halyards

External halyard model flagpoles are the traditional style with the rope outside of the pole, where you take the flag up and down, tying to the cast aluminum cleat, which is approximately 5 feet from the base of the flagpole. An external halyard model flagpole is susceptible to vandalism due to the fact that anyone who can reach the cleat, can cut the halyard or just lower your flag and take it. Additional

security accessories such as lock boxes can be purchased for these poles. An external halyard is a rope looped up over a pulley system, called a truck. To fly a flag, you simply attach the flag to the halyard and pull the end of the rope down from the pulley, which in turn, raises the flag. Once the flag has reached the top you simply tie the halyard to a cleat, which holds it in place so your flag will remain at the top of your flagpole. The biggest drawbacks to an external halyard system is the noise from the snaphooks caused by hitting the flagpole, rope wear, weather and vandalism. Depending on the model, these flagpoles compliment homes and confined areas.

Internal halyard flagpoles hide the rope inside of the flagpole making it a safer and ‘more’ weather resistant alternative. If you are concerned with your flag possibly being stolen, an internal halyard model flagpole would be the best choice because of the additional tools needed to lower the flag down. This rope/cable is looped over the pulley and then falls on the outside of the pole to hold the flag. Depending on the flagpole model when lowering your flag on a rope based internal flagpole, you access the rope behind a patented access door then releasing the rope from the cam cleat. Another flagpole model option has a stainless steel aircraft cable that comes with a custom stainless steel gearless winch. A crank is located inside a lockable box approximately 4 feet from the base of the flagpole. As the cable is raised, the flag is lowered on the outside of the pole. To raise/lower to flag, simply insert crank into winch system and turn the crank to allow the stainless steel aircraft cable wire to raise/lower to the truck. This flagpole model provides the best solution to the problem of vandalism. The Commercial model is recommended when large flags will be flown, as the crank allows for easier raising of the flag. This system is more complex when changing the halyard if it breaks, which would require a professional to perform this type of service.

Finishes

Our aluminum flagpoles come standard with a Deep Luster Finish, also referred to as a **Satin Finish** which is the most popular. This is the finish that the pole receives from its polish. Because the metal is left as a bare finish, the brightness will soften over time due to the natural process of oxidation. We offer other finishes to protect/slow the oxidation process in addition to enhancing the beauty of the flagpole. A process is used to coat the flagpoles, before undergoing a chemical treatment using an electrostatic process in a chemical bath. The chemical coating adheres to the metal at the molecular level rather than just adhering to the surface. This chemical coating creates a layer on top of the aluminum metal, which protects the aluminum from any corrosion because there is no aluminum exposed on the surface of the pole.

The **Natural Anodized Finish** also referred to as Clear is slightly duller than the polished satin finish. In all but extreme cases, this finish can keep a flagpole looking “like new” for a much longer period of time. We also offer a **Bronze and Black Finish** that offers the same protective qualities as the Natural Anodized process, now with the addition of color. Our Bronze and Black duranodic finishes we have available are architectural colors: 311 Light Bronze, 312 Medium Bronze, or 313 Dark Bronze and 335 Black. These are rated as a Class I Architectural Finish. The only way this color can be removed is by chemically stripping the coating off the metal or by physically removing a thin layer of metal.



We also offer a **Powdercoat Paint Finish** which is also applied by an electrostatic process. Powdercoat paint finishes are available in a variety of colors and wear better than duranodic finish.

Flagpole Accessories

The flagpole accessories are the finishing touches you can add to personalize your flagpole. Below is a list of accessories you can choose from as well as links to get more information.

- Brackets and Fasteners
- Flagpole Cleats
- Flagpole Flash Collars
- Flagpole Rope (Halyard)
- Flagpole Ornaments (Toppers)
- Flagpole Trucks (Pulleys)

Displaying Flag

The United States Code of Federal Regulations states in Title4, Chapter 1, Part 6.1,

"It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaffs in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed twenty-four hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness."

If you plan on displaying your flag at all times, you will need to plan on installing some kind of lighting fixture. Below is a list of solar lights available.

- Solar Powered Down Light 100 Lux/1.2 W
- Miniature Solar Powered Light for small outdoor flagpoles

Shipping

Flagpoles up to a total length of 38.5 feet are manufactured in a one-piece. Flagpoles exceeding the total length of 38.6 feet are split into two or more sections. They are fitted with a self-aligning sleeve which requires no welding and upon proper assembly will only have a hair line joint. We can ship 40' and above sectional flagpoles via Ground freight or other traditional shipping methods and one-piece flagpoles shipped via freight.

Warranty

Good quality flagpoles are an investment and if you want to get your money's worth, buy a flagpole with a warranty, it ensures you are buying a quality product!