



LGBT+ FLAGS

A Timeline



Campaigning for voice
Inclusion with pride

ORIGINAL RAINBOW 1978



THE RAINBOW FLAG known also as the Rainbow Pride flag was designed in 1978 by Gilbert Baker for the San Francisco Gay Freedom Celebration.

The original flag had eight colours, pink which symbolised sexuality, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for the sun, green for nature, turquoise for art, Indigo for harmony and violet for the spirit. The next version of the flag removed the pink due to a shortage of fabric.

LGBT+ RAINBOW 1979



LGBT RAINBOW FLAG – The version of the LGBT flag which has been used since 1979 is a six-stripe version where the turquoise and indigo were changed into a single stripe of royal blue. So, from the top, the flag stripes are as follows: red, orange, yellow, green, royal blue and violet.

BISEXUAL 1998



BISEXUALITY is attraction to both traditionally recognised genders, man and woman. More recent articulations of bisexuality have also included that it can be about attraction to people of any gender. Therefore, some contemporary understandings of bisexuality are closely related to pansexuality.

The bisexual pride flag was introduced in 1998 by Michael Page to give bisexual people their own rallying symbol. The pink represents attraction to same sex, related to the pink triangle. The blue triangle represents opposite sex attraction and the purple gained from mixing the two represents attraction to both same and opposite sex people.

Bi Day of Visibility is 23 September

TRANS 1999



TRANS PEOPLE identify their gender differently to that associated with the sex they were assigned at birth.

The Trans Pride flag was created by Monica Helms, a trans woman, in 1999. The two-coloured stripes represent the traditional colours for boys and girls, and the white is for those who are gender neutral, or other genders. The flag is intentionally symmetrical so that however you hang it, it is in the correct orientation. Helms says this was to represent trans people finding 'correctness' in their lives.

Internal Trans Day of Visibility is 31 March

**Trans Awareness Week (2nd week of November) precedes
Trans Day of Remembrance on 20 November**

ASEXUAL 2010



ASEXUALITY is a lack of sexual attraction or a low interest in sexual activity.

The asexual flag was created in 2010 through a process spear-headed by the Asexuality Visibility and Education Network (AVEN) and voted for online by the AVEN asexual community.

Asexual Awareness Week is 22 –28 October

For more information about asexuality check:
<https://www.asexuality.org>

PANSEXUAL 2010



PANSEXUALITY is defined as being attracted to people irrespective of their gender or sex. Unlike the longest used definitions of 'bi' sexual this includes people who are outside the traditional gender binary of man/woman.

The pink represents being attracted to women, the blue being attracted to men, and the yellow for being attracted to everyone else. The flag emerged in 2010.

Pan Day of Visibility is 24 May

GENDERQUEER 2011



GENDERQUEER is an inclusive term for anyone who does not identify within the traditional, man/woman binary. This can include non-binary gender but also may be critical of the binary framework. Rather than identify in some relation to binary genders, genderqueer can be an identity for people who understand/experience their gender identity as a challenge to current understandings of gender.

This flag was created by Marilyn Roxie in 2011. The lavender is a mix of the traditional blue and pink gender colours and represents the 'queer' in 'gender queer'. The green is the inverse of lavender for those outside the binary, and the white represents gender neutrality and agender identity, congruent with the gender neutral white on the trans pride flag.

GENDERFLUID 2012



GENDERFLUID is a term which represents non-fixed gender identity which may shift over time or in different situations. Genderfluid may for some be more of a description of experience whilst identifying their gender as non-binary, trans, agender, genderqueer or cisgender.

The genderfluid flag was developed in a blog by JJ Poole from New York State in 2012; it found popularity and has since been used.

Pink – femininity

White – lack of gender

Purple – androgyny

Black – non-binary spectrum of identities

Blue – masculinity

POLYSEXUAL 2012



POLYSEXUALITY is the attraction to multiple genders, but not all. Polysexual attraction is centred more around attractions to femininity and masculinity rather than gender itself.

The flag was first published online in 2012. The pink represents attraction to females; the blue to males. The green is for an attraction to those who don't conform to either gender.

INTERSEX 2013



INTERSEX is a term for people who are born with mixed primary or secondary sex characteristics, making them both female and male. This is experienced by approximately 1% of the population, though many recognised forms of it are subtle enough to go undetected for an entire lifetime.

This flag was debuted by Intersex International Australia in July of 2013 as a rallying point for Intersex people, The colours yellow and purple were chosen because they're seen as fairly gender neutral. The circle symbolizes wholeness or completeness.

AGENDER 2014



AGENDER is used to mean having no gender identity (genderless) or having a neutral gender identity, neither man nor woman.

The flag was created in 2014.

The black and white stripes represent an absence of gender; grey represents being semi-genderless, while the green stripe represents non-binary genders.

Agender Pride Day is 19 May

NON-BINARY 2014



NON-BINARY is an umbrella term for gender identity that is beyond the traditional binary genders of man/woman.

The flag was created by Kye Rowan in 2014 when a call was made by members of their community for a flag that could represent non-binary people. This flag was intended to go alongside the genderqueer flag rather than replace it.

Yellow represents those whose gender exists outside of the binary; white, those who have many or all genders; purple is the mix of traditional boy/girl colours while also representing the fluidity of non-binary people. The black stripe represents those who feel they are without gender as black is the absence of colour/ light.

International Non-Binary People's Day is 14 July

QUEER 2015



THE TERM QUEER dates back to Scotland in the 1500s indicating strange or odd. By the late 1700s it generally meant appearing, feeling or behaving other than is usual. It was used for sexual deviance by the end of the 1800s. It was often used as a slur. In the 21st century the terms queer has been reclaimed by queer people though not accepted universally. The most common definition is now non cis/hetero or someone with variant experiences with orientation, gender and/or sex.

This multi-coloured flag was designed in 2015 with pinks and blues next to each other representing same-gender attraction. Orange and green represent non-binary genders. Black and white stripes represent asexual and agender.

INTERSECTIONAL 2017



In 2017, the city of Philadelphia updated the flag to include a black and brown stripe at the top. This was done to represent the LGBT+ communities of colour.

INTERSECTIONALITY is a concept that identifies people who have more than one protected characteristic and that this influences the way in which they experience discrimination. In the case of this flag, the black and brown identify the unique experiences of LGBT+ people of colour.

LGBT+ PROGRESS 2018



In 2018, Daniel Quasar, a graphic designer, dramatically redesigned the flag. In addition to the black and brown stripes, he also added stripes of pink, light blue and white from the Transgender (trans) flag. This new flag – **THE PROGRESS PRIDE FLAG** was designed to also represent the LGBT+ communities of colour; people living with AIDS; people no longer living, and the trans community. The main section is left as the six-stripe flag, and the chevron on the left with the new colours was designed to represent the ongoing march towards progress.

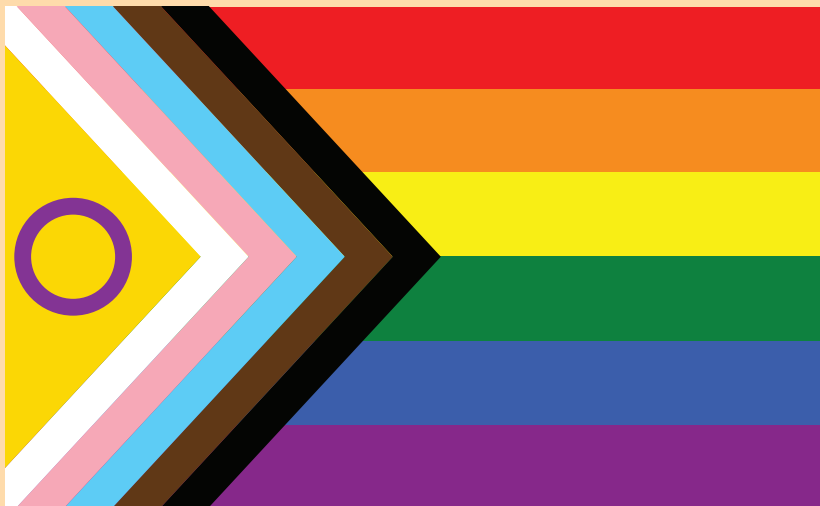
LESBIAN 2019



THE 5 STRIPE LESBIAN FLAG has been used as the inclusive Lesbian flag since 2019. In 2010 the weblog This Lesbian Life introduced a flag which had 7 stripes and a lipstick kiss. The kiss was removed to make the flag more inclusive and in 2018 Emily Gwen developed a variation that included the orange colours to represent community and gender non-conformity. The 7 stripes were reduced to 5 stripes through online Lesbian community engagement. The colours represent:

- Dark orange – Gender non-conformity
- Pale Orange - Community
- White – Unique relationships to womanhood
- Pinkish-purple – Peace
- Deep magenta - Femininity

PROGRESS 2021 2021



Based on the 2018 Progress flag by Daniel Quasar, the **PROGRESS 2021 FLAG** has been inclusive of intersex since 2021. It was in 2021 that Intersex Equality Rights UK unveiled a new design including the intersex logo by Valentino Vecchietti, an intersex columnist. The Progress flag keeps the six-stripe flag in the main section whilst the chevron on the left has the pink, light blue and white stripes from the Transgender (trans) flag, black and brown showing the intersectionality of the LGBT+ community and the intersex yellow with a purple ring.

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