

PRIDE FLAG MEANINGS



The **rainbow flag**, commonly known as the **gay pride flag** or **LGBTQIA+ pride flag**, is a symbol of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) pride and LGBTQIA+ social movements. Other older uses of rainbow flags include a symbol of peace and the colors reflect the diversity of the LGBTQIA+ community, as the flag is often used as a symbol of gay pride during LGBTQIA+ rights marches. While this use of the rainbow flag originated in Northern California's San Francisco Bay Area, the flag is now used worldwide.

Sexual Orientation is the culturally defined set of meanings through which people describe their sexual attractions, typically based on how another's sex or gender relates to one's own. Sexual orientation has to do with feelings, not behaviors.

Some flags representing various sexual orientations include:



The **Asexual Pride Flag** is comprised of four black horizontal bars: black, gray, white, and purple. Asexual is a self-identifying term used to describe a person who experiences a lack of sexual attraction or very little sexual attraction.

The black bar represents a lack of sexual attraction (asexuality). The gray bar represents gray-asexuality (seldom sexual attraction) and demisexuality (the feeling of sexual attraction only when there is emotional connection), the white bar represents non-asexual partners and allies, and the purple bar represents community.



The **Bisexual Pride Flag** consists of three horizontal bars of varying heights: pink (40%), purple (20%), and blue (40%). Bisexual is the self-identifying term used to refer to people who are attracted to people whose gender identity is the same as theirs, and to people of another gender identity.

The pink represents sexual attraction to people of the same gender, the blue represents sexual attraction to people of another gender, and the overlapping purple represents sexual attraction to two genders.



The **Pansexual Pride Flag** consists of three colored horizontal bars: pink, yellow, and blue. Pansexual is a self-identifying term used to describe a person who is attracted to people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

The blue portion of the flag represents an attraction to those who identify with the male spectrum, the pink represents an attraction to those who identify within the female spectrum, and the yellow portion, found in between the blue and pink portions, represents attraction to non-binary identified people.

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Gender Identity refers to an individual's sense of self as a man, woman, transgender, other gender category, or no gender category. Gender identity may not conform with dichotomous gender categories or (necessarily) with one's sexual identity or gender expression.

Some flags representing various gender identities include:



The **transgender/trans pride flag** consists of five horizontal stripes: two light blue, two pink, and one white in the center. Transgender/trans is a term referring to people whose gender identity is different than the sex they were assigned at birth.

The flag was created by American trans woman Monica Helms in 1999, and was first shown at a Pride parade in Phoenix, Arizona in 2000. The blue stripes at the top and bottom represent the traditional associated with maleness, the pink stripes, with femaleness, and the white, for those who are intersex, transitioning or who self-identify with a neutral or undefined gender.



The **non-binary pride flag** consists of four stripes: yellow, white, purple, and black. Non-binary is a self-identifying term used to describe a person who feels they do not fit within the traditional male/female binaries of gender identity.

The flag was created by 17 year old Kye Rowan in February of 2014. The yellow represents those whose gender exists outside of and without reference to the binary as yellow is often used to distinguish something as its own. White represents those who have many or all genders as white is the photological presence of color and/or light. Purple represents those who feel their gender is between or a mix of female and male as purple is the mix of traditional boy and girl colors. Purple also could be seen as representing the fluidity and uniqueness of nonbinary people. Black represents those who feel they are without gender, as black is the photological absence of color and/or light.