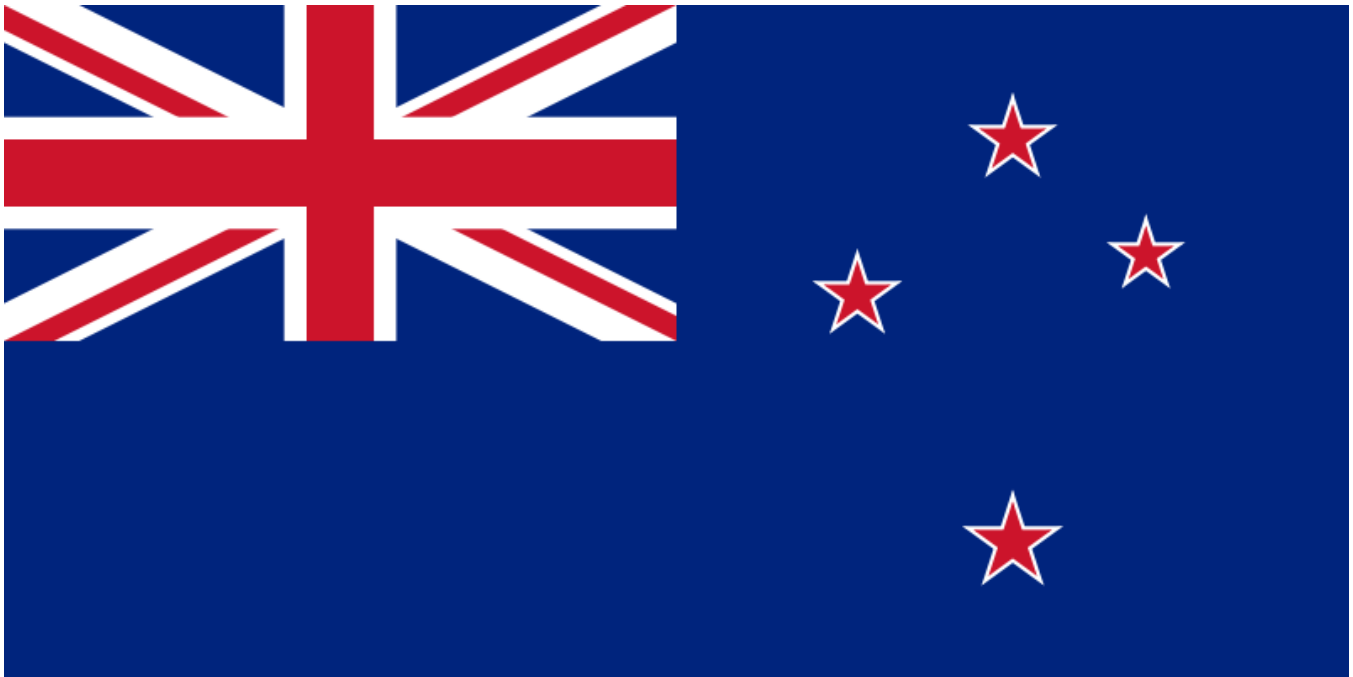


# The Flag of New Zealand

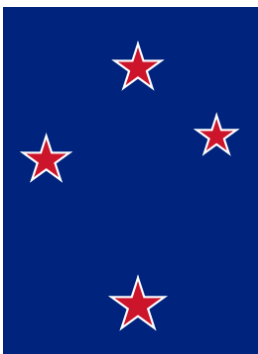


The flag of New Zealand is very similar to the flag of Australia and includes two key features ~ the flag of Great Britain and the Southern Cross on a blue background. The blue background represents the blue Pacific Ocean that surrounds New Zealand. The flag was designed in 1869 and officially adopted in 1902.



The Union Jack is featured in the top left corner of the flag and represents New Zealand's colonial ties to Great Britain.

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The four stars representing the Southern Cross each have five points. Each star is colored red and has a white border. The stars are located on the right side of the flag of New Zealand and emphasize the country's location in the South Pacific Ocean.