

## **MASSACHUSETTS CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES**

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Made in Massachusetts

The MassCor flag you have purchased is made with time tested materials and craftsmanship. With reasonable care it will provide maximum service and satisfaction.

## HERE ARE A FEW SUGGESTIONS TO HELP YOU OPTIMIZE THE USE OF YOUR NEW FLAG

Only flags that are made for outdoor use should be displayed in exterior settings.

If possible you should not subject your flag to rain, snow or abnormally high winds which can shorten flag life. If your flag becomes wet, spread it out and let it dry completely. DO NOT FOLD OR ROLL UP A DAMP OR WET FLAG.

To retain your flag's vibrant colors and maintain its brightness, CLEAN IT REGULARLY, before dirt, smoke, dust or other airborne contaminants permanently set in the fabric, soiling and discoloring it. Flags suitable for exterior use are hand-washable in warm water using a mild soap followed by a thorough rinse and spread to dry. You should not allow the flag to sit in the wash water, some color bleed into the white fabric could occur. Dry cleaning by a professional cleaner is recommended for indoor flags. Some cleaners as a promotion may offer to clean your flag at no charge just prior to the prime flag flying holidays of Flag Day, Fourth of July and Veteran's Day.

Try not to fly your flag where the wind can whip it across rough surfaces, tree branches, wires, cables, or other sharp surfaces. Small tears will quickly lengthen and result in a flag that is tattered and torn. Mind the condition of your flagpole to keep it free of dirt, rust, scale and corrosion.

LOOK YOUR FLAG OVER ON A REGULAR BASIS. Inspect it for signs of wear such as fraying or thread breakage which may occur on the whipped end away from the flagpole or staff. It is possible to trim the frayed end off and to re-hem it. This will extend the life of your flag.

## HOW LONG CAN I EXPECT MY FLAG TO LAST?

This is a difficult question to answer since a flag must sooner or later deteriorate through normal wear and tear and the subjection to the elements. Tests have shown that flags flown continuously will last only a quarter of the time than one flown only during daylight hours.

The federal government expects nylon or cotton bunting flags to give ninety days service when flown from sunrise to sunset if taken down during inclement weather. Air pollution from automotive exhaust is suspected of reducing flag life considerably. It is well known, however, that good care and timely attention can add significantly to the life of your flag.

## NOTE TO LARGE FLAG OWNERS

Your large flag cost you a lot of money and should therefore deserve all the care you can give to this investment. It is helpful to rotate two flags regularly, using the downtime to maintain the idle flag's good repair mentioned in paragraphs above. Flag fibers can benefit from periodic rest. By having a spare, you will be able to continue to fly a flag while one is being cleaned, rested and repaired.

All US flags are manufactured entirely at MCI Framingham.

Massachusetts state flags and POW flags are silk screened at MCI Norfolk and then sent to MCI Framingham for finishing.