

Montana

Big Sky Country



Flag:

Under the word "Montana", on a blue field, is the state seal. The seal shows some of Montana's beautiful scenery and tells what people were doing in pioneer times. The pick, shovel and plow represent mining and farming. In the background a sun rises over mountains, forests and the Great Falls of the Missouri river. A ribbon contains the state motto "Gold and Silver". Flag adopted 1905 amended 1981.



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*In its early days, Montana was the **Bonanza State** (around 1893, and from the rich mineral deposits) and the **Stub-Toe State** (from 1890, and an allusion to its steep mountain slopes). But the rich gold and silver deposits have led it now to be known as the **Treasure State**, although the wide open spaces have also produced **Big Sky Country** (which is what appears on the state's licence plates)*

Economy:

Agriculture: Cattle, wheat, barley, sugar beets, hay, hogs.

Industry: Mining, lumber and wood products, food processing, tourism.