

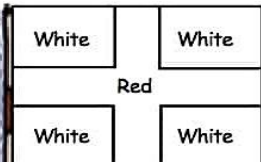
THE UNION JACK



The Making of the United Kingdom

Britain today is made up of four countries: England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Our flag, the Union Jack is made up of the flags of the following countries and was intended as a sign of their unity.

ENGLAND - The flag of St. George



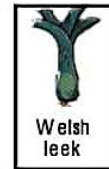
England was the most powerful nation in the British Isles. England was often at war with other countries.



English Rose

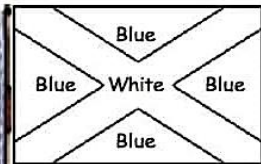
WALES - Already unified so came under the flag of England

Wales was conquered by England in the 13th Century. In 1536 the Act of Union joined England and Wales officially.



Welsh leek

SCOTLAND - The flag of St. Andrew

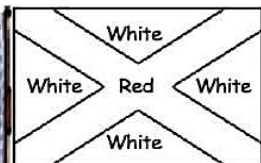


In 1603 James VI of Scotland became James I of England. It was only in 1707 that they were joined by the Act of Union and the first union flag was created.



Scottish thistle

IRELAND - The flag of St. Patrick



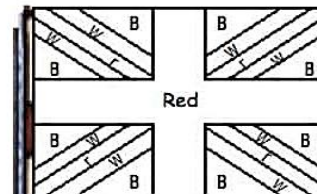
In 1690 the last Irish rebellions were over. The flag of St. Patrick was added in 1801 to make the Union Jack we have today.



Irish Shamrock

The Union Jack

As a symbol of unity between the four countries, the Union Jack is made up of parts of all the different flags. The word 'Jack' means a flag on a small mast at the front of a ship. This is our national flag.



Found at www.SchoolHistory.co.uk