

The Cowboy Pride Flag



History

In March of 1998, Cowboy Frank Harrell created a pride symbol for his website, modifying a cowboy boot graphic. On March 24, 1998, he applied to join the Gay Cowboy WebRing, and the webring administrator asked for permission to use the boot symbol he had created. Since the initial boot graphic was from a bumper sticker, and was copyrighted, Frank quickly designed a flag using the standard six-colour gay pride flag, and a cowboy hat image.



As the webring evolved, Frank's cowboy pride flag began to appear in more places. In September of 2000, Frank agreed to take over the Yahoo Webring, and after designing a cleaner version of the flag, it became the new and official logo of the Gay Cowboy WebRing.

While the flag had endured for over a decade, I emailed Frank in April of 2009 to ask for his input on how the flag could be modified so that it could be produced as an actual fabric flag. Because the existing design had an graphic of a cowboy hat, it could not be produced without screen printing, and traditional flag production methods could not be used. So that the flag would fit the traditional definition of a flag, he considered a modified version of the flag, adding a brown canton, and stylizing the cowboy hat for fabric flag compatibility.



Meaning

The field of the Cowboy Pride Flag contains the standard six colours of the gay pride flag: Red for life, Orange for Healing, Yellow for Sun, Green for Nature, Blue for Harmony, Violet for Spirit- the colours combined meant to represent the diversity of the gay community, to unite people of all races, creeds and cultures.

The brown canton is meant to represent respect for the earth and it's animals, the bounty and delicate balance of nature that is the cornerstone of cowboy history. The hat is an icon of the cowboy culture, a symbol of his pride and unity. The tan of the hat represents the patience, skill, and virtues of the cowboy lifestyle brings. The hat is surrounded by a dark brown band to symbolize the perpetual mindfulness of the earth and it's animals.

Specifications

The flag is a 3:5 ratio format, with each of the six colours of the field at a ratio of 1:6, or 16.6% of the flag's height. The canton fills the upper half (1:2) of the mast height on the left stopping just above the green bar of the field, and comes 44% of the flags' width. The hat is displayed at an angle, with the front of the hat pointing towards the lower right corner of the flag, the mast-side brim flipped up.

While the colours of the flag are not meant to be exact, and may be altered dependant on the fabric and materials available, the colours should be as close to the design as possible.