

= Royal Standard of Scotland =

The Royal Banner of the Royal Arms of Scotland , also known as the Royal Banner of Scotland , or more commonly the Lion Rampant of Scotland , and historically as the Royal Standard of Scotland , ( Scottish Gaelic : Bratach rìoghail na h @-@ Alba , Scots : Ryal banner o Scotland ) or Banner of the King of Scots , is the Royal Banner of Scotland , and historically , the Royal Standard of the Kingdom of Scotland . Used historically by the King of Scots , the banner differs from Scotland 's national flag , the Saltire , in that its correct use is restricted by an Act of the Parliament of Scotland to only a few Great Officers of State who officially represent the Sovereign in Scotland . It is also used in an official capacity at royal residences in Scotland when the Sovereign is not present .

The earliest recorded use of the Lion rampant as a royal emblem in Scotland was by Alexander II in 1222 ; with the additional embellishment of a double border set with lilies occurring during the reign of Alexander III ( 1249 ? 1286 ) . This emblem occupied the shield of the royal coat of arms of the ancient Kingdom of Scotland which , together with a royal banner displaying the same , was used by the King of Scots until the Union of the Crowns in 1603 , when James VI acceded to the thrones of the Kingdom of England and Kingdom of Ireland . Since 1603 , the Lion rampant of Scotland has been incorporated into both the royal arms and royal banners of successive Scottish then British monarchs in order to symbolise Scotland ; as can be seen today in the Royal Standard of the United Kingdom . Although now officially restricted to use by representatives of the Sovereign and at royal residences , the Royal Banner continues to be one of Scotland 's most recognisable symbols .

= = Design = =

Displaying a red lion rampant , with blue tongue and claws , within a red double border on a yellow background , the design of the Royal Banner of Scotland is formally specified in heraldry as : Or , a lion rampant Gules armed and langued Azure within a double tressure flory counter @-@ flory of the second , meaning : A gold ( Or ) background , whose principal symbol is a red ( Gules ) upright lion ( lion rampant ) with blue ( Azure ) claws and tongue ( armed and langued ) , surrounded by a two @-@ lined border ( tressure ) decorated with opposing pairs of floral symbols ( flory counter @-@ flory ) of the second colour specified in the blazon ( Gules ) . Used as a house flag , its proportions are 5 : 4 ; however , flag manufacturers themselves may also adopt alternative ratios , including 1 : 2 or 2 : 3 .

= = History = =

The Lion rampant was legally used by King William I of Scotland as the great grandson of King Malcolm III Canmore . The Lion Rampant has been used as a heraldic symbol by Royal descendants of Malcolm III beginning with King David I of Scotland The Great Seal was also used by his 2nd great @-@ grandson , Alexander II ( 1214 ? 1249 ) . Its use in Scotland originated during the reign of Malcolm III ( 1058 ? 1093 ) , The Lion rampant motif is also used as a badge by those Irish clans who has lineage in common with Malcolm III . They are linked to the legendary Milesian genealogies . An earlier recorded Scottish royal standard featured a dragon , which was used at the Battle of the Standard in 1138 by David I ( 1124 ? 1153 ) .

Following the Union of the Crowns of England , Ireland and Scotland in 1603 , the Royal Standard of Scotland was incorporated into the royal standards of successive Scottish then , following the Acts of Union in 1707 , British monarchs ; with all such royal standards being quartered to include the banner of the arms of each individual realm . Since 1603 , the Royal Banner of Scotland has appeared in both the first and fourth quarters of the quartered royal standard used in Scotland , while appearing only in the second quarter of that version used elsewhere .

= = Protocol = =

== Use at royal residences ==

The Royal Banner of Scotland is used officially at the Scottish royal residences of the Palace of Holyroodhouse , Edinburgh , and Balmoral Castle , Aberdeenshire , when the Queen is not in residence . The Royal Standard of the United Kingdom used in Scotland is flown when the Sovereign is present .

== Use by representatives of the Sovereign ==

In the tradition of Scottish heraldry , use of the Royal Standard of Scotland is not restricted to the Sovereign . Several Great Officers of State who officially represent the Sovereign in Scotland are permitted to use the Royal Banner of Scotland , including ; the First Minister of Scotland ( as Keeper of the Great Seal of Scotland ) , Lord Lieutenants within their respective Lieutenancies , the Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland , the Lord Lyon King of Arms and other lieutenants who may be specially appointed by the Sovereign .

== Use by the Heir Apparent ==

A variation of the Royal Standard of Scotland is used by the heir apparent to the King of Scots , the Duke of Rothesay , whose standard is the Royal Standard of Scotland defaced with an Azure coloured plain label of three points . The personal banner of the current Duke , Prince Charles , also features the same , displayed upon an inner shield .

== Legal status ==

As the personal banner of the Sovereign , use of the Royal Banner of Scotland is restricted under the Act of the Parliament of Scotland 1672 cap . 47 and 30 & 31 Vict. cap . 17 , and any unauthorised use of such is an offence under the Act . In 1978 a St Albans linen merchant , Denis Pamphilon , was fined £ 100 daily for usurpation of the banner on decorative bedspreads until he desisted , and both Rangers F.C. and the Scottish National Party have been admonished by the Court of the Lord Lyon for their improper and non @-@ authorised use of the banner . Despite such action , the flag continues to feature on a variety of merchandise and souvenirs produced commercially for Scotland 's economically important tourism industry .

In 1934 , George V issued a Royal Warrant authorising use of the Royal Banner of Scotland during the Silver Jubilee celebrations , due to take place the following year . However , such use was restricted to hand @-@ held flags for " decorative ebullition " as a mark of loyalty to the Sovereign ; the banner was not to be flown from flagpoles or public buildings . The use of hand @-@ held flags at state occasions , such as the opening of the Scottish Parliament , and at sporting events , continues to be authorised by this Royal Warrant , although according to former Lord Lyon Robin Blair , in an interview given to the Sunday Post in November 2007 , such use at sporting events " was not envisaged in 1935 " .

== Appearance in other Royal Standards ==

As well as forming the basis of the standard of the Duke of Rothesay , the Royal Standard of Scotland has since 1603 been a component of what is now styled the Royal Standard of the United Kingdom ; both that version used exclusively in Scotland and that used elsewhere . It similarly appears in the Royal Standard of Canada , with the arms of Canada reflecting the royal symbols of England , Scotland , Ireland and France .

== Gallery ==

= = National Flag of Scotland = =

The Flag of Scotland , also known as the Saint Andrew 's Cross or more commonly The Saltire , is the national flag of Scotland . The Saltire is the correct flag for all individuals and corporate bodies to fly in order to demonstrate both their loyalty and Scottish nationality . It is also , where possible , flown from Scottish Government buildings every day from 8am until sunset , with certain exceptions ; for example United Kingdom National Days .