

A 'faded' Union Jack canton serves as a backdrop for a raised gold Commonwealth Star, thus paying homage to Australia's colonial English heritage whilst firmly indicating that it is a thing of the past. Bracketing the Commonwealth Star are sixteen small red-and-white stars, symbolising the full Australian realm of six states and ten territories. Sixteen red-and-blue stripes extend the full length of the flag to further represent the realm, and the Southern Cross and Pointer Stars complete the design. Variant '1' removes the sixteen stars, variant '2' the sixteen stripes, and variant '3' both the stars and the stripes.