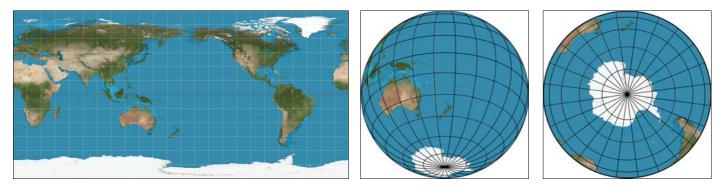
NASA G.Projector - Global Map Projector software

(Available as a free download from https://www.giss.nasa.gov/tools/gprojector/)

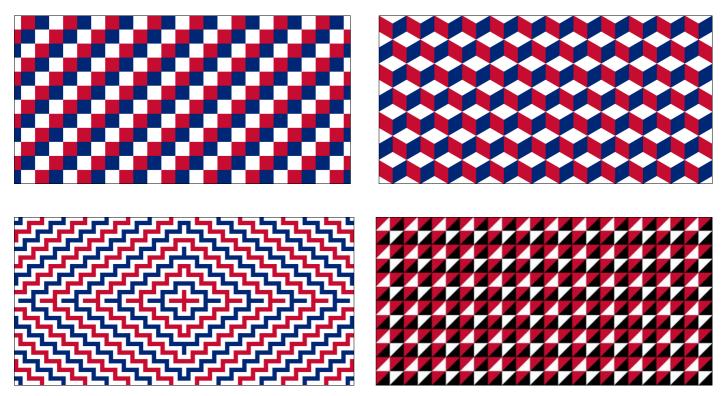
Here is NASA's nutshell description of the software:

"G.Projector transforms an equirectangular map image into any of over 125 global and regional map projections. Longitude-latitude grid-lines and continental outlines may be drawn on the map, and the resulting image may be saved to disk in GIF, JPEG, PDF, PNG, PS or TIFF form."

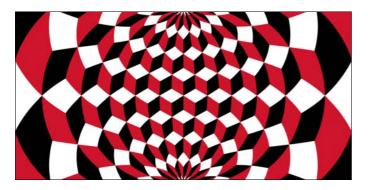
This means that with the proper type of flat map image as an input, the software can produce accurate orthographic projections as well as more than a hundred other types of projections.

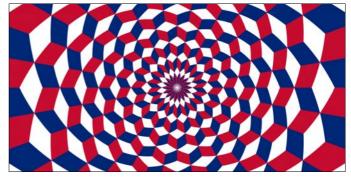


However, there is nothing to prevent the use of images other than maps as inputs to the software . . .



... from which any number of patterns can be derived, ranging from those that might prove useful for an Australian flag design to those that can only be categorised as fun.







The software requires the input image to have one of a handful of common raster graphics formats, all of which may be more or less pixellated due to anti-aliasing. The output images are also limited to raster graphics formats, except for the PDF output option. It is possible that G.Projector outputs PDF images with little or no additional pixellation, and it is certainly the case that Adobe uses *vector* graphics techniques for the proprietary inner workings of PDFs, such that PDF images can be directly input to vector graphics programs. From there such images can be scaled upward without degradation. PDF images have such quality, in fact, that manufacturers often accept them for making flags.