

# The Salvation Army crest

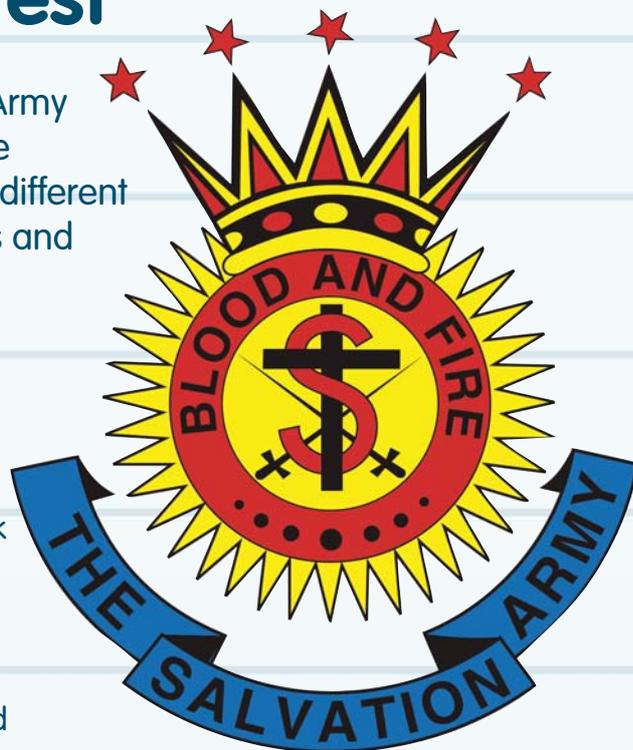


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[www.salvationarmy.org.uk/schools](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/schools)



# The Salvation Army crest

**Captain William Ebdon** designed the Salvation Army crest in 1878 when The Christian Mission became 'The Salvation Army'. The crest is made up of six different symbols and a motto which represent the beliefs and mission of The Salvation Army.



## The cross

The cross in the centre is the main Christian symbol. Members of The Salvation Army believe that Jesus died on a cross to save people, and that he was brought back to life again. This is their most important belief.

## The letter 'S'

The 'S' stands for 'Salvation'. The Salvation Army offers salvation to others by helping anyone who is in need and by telling people about God's love.

## Two swords

The two swords represent fighting against evil with words and actions. The Salvation Army doesn't actually fight with fists, swords or guns. They use 'weapons' such as love, kindness, a listening ear, the words of the Bible, and practical help.

## A sun

The sun is a symbol of the light and fire of God's Holy Spirit.

## A crown

The crown represents the reward from God which Christians will get in Heaven. It's a reward for being faithful to God.

## Seven 'gospel shots'

The seven shots on the crest represent the truth of the Christian gospel.

**The Salvation Army motto 'Blood and Fire'** is also included on the crest. The blood is Jesus' blood from his death on the cross. The fire is a symbol of God's Holy Spirit which is given to Christians to help and guide them.

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# The Salvation Army flag



## The Salvation Army flag

Catherine and William Booth, the founders of The Salvation Army, designed the flag in 1878. As they travelled to different Salvation Army corps they presented each one with their own flag, symbolising three important Christian beliefs.

**Blue** represents the purity of God.

**Red** stands for the blood of Jesus who died to save people.

**Yellow** symbolises the light and fire of God's Holy Spirit.

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# The Red Shield



## The Red Shield

Members of The Salvation Army were wearing shield badges as part of their uniform as early as the 1880s, but the Red Shield became well-known during the First World War. Today this symbol is used by The Salvation Army all over the world.

The shield 'tells of a fight on a spiritual battlefield which must last as long as life itself, and that God in Christ is a Shield to protect and save us to the uttermost' (excerpt from one of The Salvation Army's magazines, *All The World*, June 1917).

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