

FROM CLOTH TO AMERICAN FLAG

BY Melanie Mitchell

Look! An American Flag!

How is a flag made?

Machines make cloth.

American flags are made from cloth. Cloth is made on looms.

Looms are machines that weave thread into cloth.

The cloth is colored.

Workers dip cloth into dye. Dye is a liquid that colors the cloth.

American flags need red, white, and blue cloth.

The wet cloth is put on

a rack to dry. Then the cloth is sent to a factory where American flags are made.

Strips are cut.

Workers cut strips of red and white cloth for the flags.

Strips are long skinny pieces of cloth. These strips are used to make stripes for the flags. Every American flag has 13 stripes.

The stripes are sewn.

Large sewing machines sew the stripes together.

There are

7 stripes and 6 white stripes on each flag. Every flag has

a red stripe on the top and red stripe on the bottom.

Blue squares are cut.

Blue cloth is cut into many squares. Each

American flag

has one blue square.

Stars are cut.

Workers cut stars from white cloth. There are

50 stars

on each American flag. Each stars stands for one
of

the 50 states in the United States.

The stars are sewn.

The stars are sewn onto the blue squares of

cloth. The stars

can be sewn by hand or by a machine. A sewing
machine

sews much faster than a person sews by hand.

Workers sew the blue squares and stripes together.

The blue squares are sewn onto the upper left corner of

the stripes. The flags are finished.

The flags are wrapped.

The new flags are folded and wrapped. Trucks

take the flags

to stores to be sold. People buy the flags to fly or wave.

American flags fly in the wind!

People fly American flags to show that they are

proud of their country. Where do you see

American flags flying?

Dye: a liquid used to change the color of cloth.

Factory: a place where things are made

Looms: long, skinny pieces of cloth