

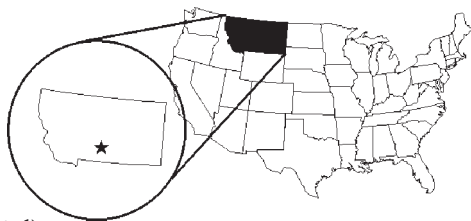
BILLINGS, MONTANA



Population Rank: U.S. ... # 250
Montana # 1

Proportions: 3:5 (usage)

Adopted: 3 February 1986 (official)



DESIGN: The flag of Billings is a vertical tribar of blue, white, and blue stripes in proportions of 1:2:1, making the white stripe nearly square. On the center of the white stripe is a large city seal, 1.5 units in diameter on a flag of 3 units by 5. A white ring edged in blue surrounds the seal. Running across the bottom of the seal and hiding the lower portion of the ring is a red horizontal bar extending beyond the seal's edges. Across this bar is **BILLINGS**, in white, the "B" and the "S" larger and more cursive than the other letters. Centered below the red bar on the white field, in small blue letters, is **MONTANA**. On the visible portion of the ring, curved over the top, is the legend **STAR OF THE BIG SKY COUNTRY**, in red. The inner field of the seal is blue. Along the lower portion of the seal are four buildings represent-

ing the skyline of the city, in blue shaded in white. Behind the buildings on the hoist side are the Rimrocks, a city landmark, jutting from the hoist side and slanting downward in the center, in blue with a white line running down it. The blue sky above has a red sun hovering over the buildings, slightly to the fly side of center.

SYMBOLISM: The seal depicts what the city calls “a progressive image of Billings”, showing the city’s three tallest buildings. Montana’s nickname is “Big Sky Country”.

HOW SELECTED: On 23 January 1986, the Flag Committee of Billings met to discuss the need for a city flag and a new city seal to replace the former seal adopted in 1885. Two contests were held, one for the seal and one for the flag, with a top prize of \$500 in each. The committee received 66 entries.

DESIGNER: Fernando Méndez received a plaque and his prize of \$1,000 at the council meeting of 9 June 1986 for designing both the flag and the new seal. JP 