Mississippi State Emblems & Symbols

State Coat-of-Arms
Mississippi’s Coat-of-Arms was adopted in 1894. Inscribed on the scroll is the state motto - Virtute et Armis - “By Valor and Arms.”

The Great Seal
The State Seal has been in use since Mississippi became a state in 1817. In 2014, the legislature passed a law adding “In God We Trust” to the seal.

State Flag
Designated in 1894, the State Flag incorporates the national colors - red, white, and blue - and 13 stars for the original states of the Union. The flag was adopted by popular vote on April 17, 2001.

State Bird
Found in all sections of Mississippi, the cheerful mockingbird was selected as the official State Bird by the Women’s Federated Clubs and by the State Legislature in 1944.

State Flower and Tree
In 1900, the school children of Mississippi elected the magnolia as the official State Flower. In 1952, the Legislature selected the magnolia as the official State Tree.

State Fish - Largemouth or Black Bass

State Waterfowl - Wood Duck

State Land Mammal
White-tailed Deer and Red Fox

State Water Mammal
Bottlenosed Dolphin

State Song - “Go Mississippi”
State Insect - Honeybee
State Shell - Oyster Shell
State Fossil - Prehistoric Whale
State Beverage - Milk
State Stone - Petrified Wood
State Butterfly - Spice Swallowtail

State Dance - Square-Dancing
State Toy - Teddy Bear
State Soil - Natchez Silt Loam
State Reptile - American Alligator
State Language - English
State Wildflower - Coreopsis
State Grand Opera House - Grand

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