

The Pledge of Allegiance - Changes Through the Years

[Changes noted in red bold italics.]

1892 - 1922	"I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and <i>to</i> the Republic for which it stands, one Nation	Written, on assignment, in August 1892 by Francis J. Bellamy, a member of the staff of Youth's Companion magazine, was first used in public schools on October 12, 1892 by Presidential Proclamation 335 (President Benjamin Harrison). "to" was added in October 1892.
	indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."	
1923	"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."	The National Flag Conference, under the leadership of The American Legion and the Daughters of the American Revolution, called for this change so that new immigrants would not confuse loyalties between their birth countries and the United States. Bellamy disliked this change; his protest was noted.
1924 - 1954	"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States <i>of America</i> , and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all."	A year later, also under the leadership of The American Legion and the Daughters of the American Revolution, this change was made. The U. S. Congress officially recognized the Pledge for the first time June 22, 1942.
1954 - Present	"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all."	President Eisenhower, on Flag Day, June 14, 1954 signed the bill into law to incorporate "under God" into the Pledge. President Eisenhower stated, "From this day forwardwe are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritagewhich forever will be our country's most powerful resource, in peace or in war." Bellamy's granddaughter said he would have disliked this change also.