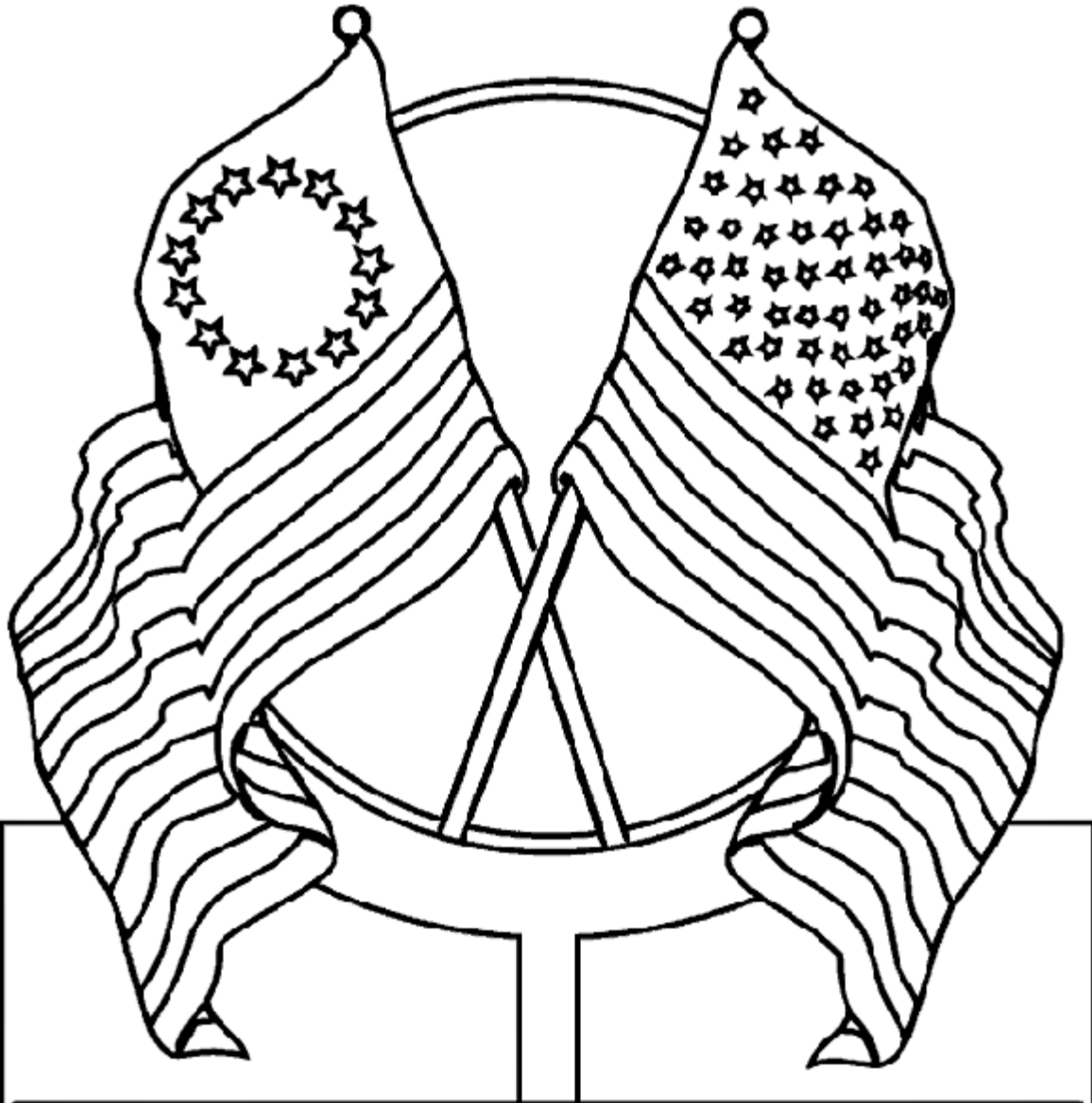


# THE UNITED STATES FLAG - PAST AND PRESENT



The first flag of the United States had 13 stars and 13 stripes to signify the original 13 colonies. Today's flag still has the 13 stripes, but contains 50 stars, one star for each of the states.