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**I.The symbols of the UK**

Every country has its specific culture and peculiarities which can be found in their symbols. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland [consists of four countries:](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#69) England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Each of them has its symbols and usually there are two types of them official and [unofficial ones.](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#206)

England is the main part of the UK as [there is its capital — London city](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#125). The floral emblem and at the same time the symbol of England is the red rose. [This flower has become a symbol since the Civil war which is called War of roses (1455-1485). The winner was the Royal Family with a red rose as a family symbol.](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#101) Besides the floral symbol England has the national animal of England and it is a lion.

The national flower in Scotland is the Thistle or sometimes it is called Scottish Bluebell. It [became the symbol in the 15th century](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#207) when this prickly-leaved violet flower was used as the defense of the border of the country. Scotland also [has its national animal](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#208) and it is a unicorn

Wales has the symbol spring flower daffodil. [There are many versions about the origin of this symbol, but the main was told by Shakespeare in his poem in which Welsh archers wore this flower in the battle of Agincourt in 15th century for easy distinguishing from the enemies.](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#52) Sometimes it is possible to find the leek as the symbol of Wales. Welsh national animal is a red dragon [which is also on the welsh flag.](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#209)

And the Northern Ireland also has its own flower symbol it is shamrock. The legend told that with the help of this three-leaf plant St. Patrick explained the Trinity. He said that the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit can’t exist separately as the shamrock can’t be with one leave. And later his followers used [to wear the shamrock on St. Patrick's Day.](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#210)

In England St. George is a patron and in his honor every year [on the 23rd April a national day, the Day of St. George, is celebrated there.](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#211) The national day in Wales is on the 1st March [and this day dedicated to St. David](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#212) who is the patron of Wales. The patron of Scotland is St. Andrew and Scotsmen [celebrate on the](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#54) 30th November the national day, St. Andrew day. [St. Patrick is a saint patron of the Northern Ireland and on the 17th of March it is a great holiday, the day of St. Patrick.](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#60)

All the floral and saint symbols of the UK countries can be called unofficial and [the official symbols](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#194) are their flags and emblems. The official symbol of England is the Cross of St. George the red crosses on the white ground. The national flag of Wales is [called the Welsh dragon](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#215). [There is a red dragon](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#214) on the white and green ground. The national flag of [Scotland](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#3572) is the Cross of St. Andrew the white diagonal crosses on the blue ground. And the national flag of Northern Ireland is the Cross of St. Patrick red diagonal crosses on the white ground.

Besides the individual symbols and the emblems the UK has the common symbol the Union Jack. It is a flag which unites the peculiarities of the patrons [of England](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#65), [It is a flag which unites the peculiarities of the patrons of England, Northen Ireland and Scotland.](http://tooday.ru/?l=eng&r=1&t=the_symbols_of_the_uk-simvolyi_obedinennogo_korolevstva-e1#3247)

II. Заполнить таблицу

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| **Country**  | **National flag** | **Floral symbols** | **Saint patron of the country** |
| **The UK** |  |  |  |
| **England** |  |  |  |
| **Scotland** |  |  |  |
| **Wales** |  |  |  |
| **Northern Ireland** |  |  |  |