

## Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty stands on Liberty Island in New York harbour. It was a gift from the French people to America and took 21 years to design and build. The statue weighs 225 tons and is as tall as a 22-storey building.

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The sculptor, Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi, designed it in the shape of a cloaked woman, representing the Roman goddess "libertas". On her head is a crown with seven rays of light around it symbolizing the light of freedom for the seven continents of Earth. The right hand holds a gold-plated torch and in the other hand is a stone plate engraved with the date of the declaration of independence.

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The statue's foot stands on a broken chain, representing the overthrow of oppression and slavery, and faces to the southeast, where ships enter the port, so those arriving can see its face. The statue was unveiled on October 28, 1886; it is made of bronze, but has since turned green because of oxidation.

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What colour was the statue when it was first built?

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Which hand of the Statue of Liberty holds a stone plate?

There is only one word on the stone plate. What is it?