

## Flag of Supreme Commander of the Soviet Armed Forces, dated 1975.

In silk, 40" x 28". Red field with Soviet state emblem in the center. The hoist sleeve shows a 1975 date of manufacture, extremely early for a silk flag. The canvas of the sleeve is noticeably different, thinner and lighter in color than the rough material of the hoist sleeves of the naval flags made after mid-1970s. The lanyard loops however are the same as the later model, not as thick as the earlier versions of the Soviet naval flags. The manufacturing standards apparently changed in 1973, as evident from the fact that the later silk flags often show "GOST-73" manufacturing code designation. This flag was apparently once of the last made according to the previous standard, before the factory could fully adopt to the new requirements. Combining the hoist loops of the newer design and hoist sleeve and markings of the older style, this flag is essentially transitional version.

The flag is in excellent condition, free of any tears, holes or other damage. The colors have not faded and are still as strong as when the flag left the factory. There are a couple of faint, barely noticeable stains to the hoist sleeve - in no way detractive. The flag is perfectly clean otherwise.

Technically, this is the highest ranking of all the Soviet naval flags. It was hoisted only when the top commander of the Soviet Armed Forces was present on board the ship. Its large size makes it suitable for one of the larger warships, perhaps a heavy cruiser or a nuclear sub. This flag is extremely rare - especially the transitional version with such an unusual date of manufacture!

Item# 32128

**\$250.00**



