

Jude - The Jewish star of David badge

During the Holocaust, the Nazi regime implemented a series of discriminatory laws aimed at isolating and dehumanising the Jewish population across occupied Europe. One of the most infamous of these measures was the requirement for Jews to wear identifiers, notably a yellow badge in the shape of the Star of David. The enforcement of this law began in 1941 and was intended to visibly distinguish and segregate Jews from the rest of the population. The badge, often referred to simply as the "Jewish star," featured two overlaid triangles forming a hexagram and was typically yellow, echoing medieval regulations that marked out Jews for persecution.

The badge was compulsory in public for all Jews over the age of six and was a key element of Nazi propaganda that dehumanised Jews and facilitated their exclusion from society. This visual identifier not only stigmatised those who wore it but also made them easy targets for harassment and violence. It served as a constant reminder of the Nazi's oppressive control over Jewish lives and was a step towards the more brutal and final aspects of the Holocaust, including deportation to concentration camps. The yellow star remains a powerful symbol of the dangers of racism and discrimination.

1. What was the purpose of the yellow Star of David badge during the Holocaust?

2. When was the wearing of the Jewish star made compulsory?

3. Who was required to wear the Jewish star?

4. How did the star feature in Nazi propaganda?

5. What historical precedent influenced the Nazis' decision to use the yellow star as a marker for Jews?

Uses comprehension strategies to expand content knowledge.

