Stamps

UDLS

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Components of a Stamp

- 1. Design
- 2. Separation
- 3. Denomination
- 4. Country Name (Except UK)



Postage Stamp Design

Design Categories

- Portrait bust profile or full-face
- Emblem coat of arms, flag, national symbol, posthorn, etc.
- Numeric a design built around the numeral of value
- Pictorial









Shape and Size

- Mostly rectangular
- Usual size 10 to 30 mm
- Other shapes possible





Design Failures







- Wrong music sheet
- Wrong statue (Las Vegas instead of New York)
- Insulting to recipient

Propaganda Design









Postage Stamp Separation

Imperforate

- 1840 to 1850
- Cut from sheet by user
- Time-consuming
- Error-prone



Rouletting

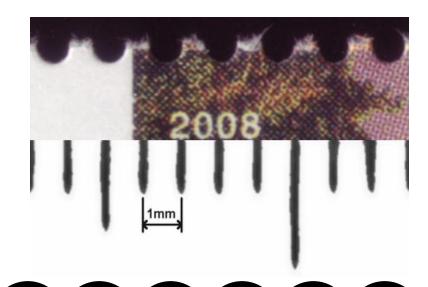
Small cuts along the edge, different angles





Perforation

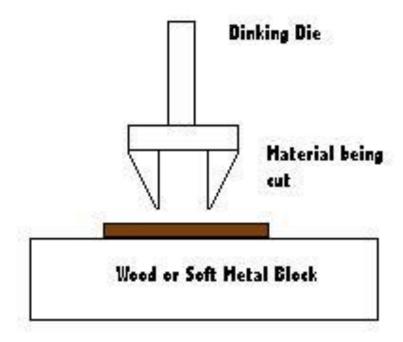
- Most often used method
- Defining the shape of stamps
- Measured by number of holes per 2cm (usually 11-14)





Die Cutting

- Used for self-adhesive stamps
- Often imitating perforations





Denomination

Overprint

Changing value due to monetary system, inflation, or external influence







Non-Denominated Postage

- Also called non-value indicator (NVI) postage
- Used to keep stamps valid after rate increases







Notable Stamps

Penny Black

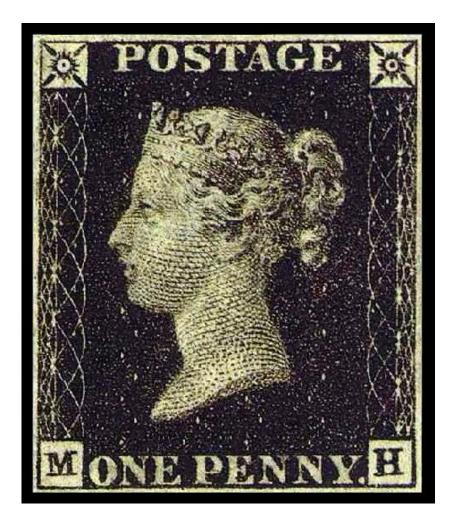
- World's first postage stamp
- Invented by Sir Roland Hill as part of postal system reform
- Beginning of prepaid postage
- Letter up to ¹/₂ ounce (14 grams)
 regardless of distance

Country United Kingdom

Date 1 May 1840

Face value 1 penny

Current value \$6,000



Bull's Eye

First stamp issued by Brazil

 Brazil as second country to issue nation wide postage



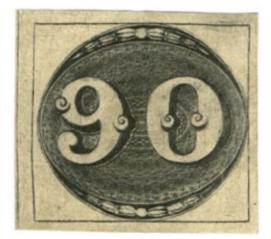


Country Brazil

Date 1 August 1843

Face value 30, 60 and 90 réis

Current value \$400



Basel Dove

World's first tricolor stamp

Country Switzerland

Date 1 July 1845

Face value 2½ rappen

Current value \$30,000



Mauritius "Post Office" stamps

- About 27 remaining
- Later changed to "Post Paid"

Country Mauritius

Date 21 Sep 1847

Face value 1 penny / 2 pence

Current value \$4,000,000



Treskilling Yellow

- "three schilling banco error of color"
- Only one copy is known to exist
- Printed in the wrong color, normally blue-green

Country Sweden

Date 1855

Face value 3 Swedish skillings

Current value \$2,300,000



British Guiana 1c magenta

- World's most famous rare stamp
- Only one copy is known to exist

Country British Guiana

Date 1856

Face value 1c

Current value \$9,480,000



Inverted Jenny

• 100 stamps exist

Rare because of invert error

Country United States

Date 10 May 1918

Face value 24c

Current value \$977,500



Thanks

