



Issue of 1902-03

PERFORATED 12

DOUBLE-LINE WATERMARK



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington



Andrew Jackson



Ulysses S. Grant



Abraham Lincoln



James A. Garfield



Martha Washington



Daniel Webster



Benjamin Harrison



Henry Clay



Thomas Jefferson



David G. Farragut



James Madison



John Marshall

Issue of 1906-08

IMPERFORATE



Benjamin Franklin



Abraham Lincoln

Issue of 1903-06

PERFORATED 12

IMPERFORATE



George Washington



George Washington

THIS series of postage stamps featured elaborately engraved framed designs with the name of the person and the years of birth and death on each stamp directly under each portrait. For the first time in United States postal history an American woman, Martha Washington, graced a stamp, the 8c value.



Issue of 1908-17

Perforated 12
Double-line Watermark



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington

Perforated 11



579
399



342
248

Imperforate



This series for the sake of uniformity and artistic effect featured the head of George Washington on all of the denominations except the 1c which portrayed Benjamin Franklin. Part of this issue was printed on a stock which was made of 35 per cent rag and are known as "bluish paper," although they are actually grayish in appearance. Most of the denominations printed on this paper are rare.



Issue of 1908-10

Coil Stamps
Perforated 12 Horizontally
Double-line Watermark



Coil Stamps
Perforated 12 Vertically



Officially issued coil stamps came into being in 1908. As the name indicates, the stamps instead of being issued in sheet form, were made available in lengths which were coiled into rolls of five hundred and one thousand. Stamps in this form were found to be more convenient for handling large quantities of mail that called for the same stamp value. These coils were also made available to private companies who were licensed to perforate them and sell them in vending machines at neighborhood stores for the convenience of the public.



Issue of 1910-13
Coil Stamps
Single-line Watermark

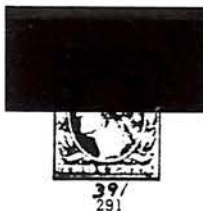
Perforated 12 Horizontally



Perforated 12 Vertically



Perforated 8½ Horizontally



Perforated 8½ Vertically



This series of coil stamps featured the designs of the previous regular issues. As an experiment the Bureau of Engraving and Printing used a 8½ perforation instead of the usual 12 in an effort to find a more suitable size. The 3c perforated 12 stamp of this series is the rarest coil only a few being used at Orangeburg, N. Y. and for that reason is omitted from this album.



Issue of 1910-14

Perforated 12

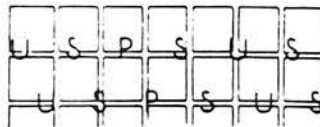
Single-line Watermark



Imperforate



This issue employed the same designs as the previous series. A single line style of watermark was used.



Single-line



Issue of 1912

Single-line Watermark

Perforated 12



Imperforate



Coil Stamps

Perforated 8 1/2 Horizontally



Perforated 8 1/2 Vertically



Issue of 1912-14

Perforated 12

Single-line Watermark



Double-line Watermark



The portrait of Benjamin Franklin was featured on the entire set of this issue. The 50c denomination appeared with both types of watermark.



Issue of 1914

Coil Stamps, Flat Plate Printing
Perforated 10 Horizontally
Single-line Watermark



Perforated 10 Vertically



Issue of 1914-16

Coil Stamps, Rotary Press
Perforated 10 Vertically



Perforated 10 Horizontally



With the coil issue of 1914-16 a rotary press was used for the first time in printing United States stamps. Rotary press stamps are printed from curved plates and are therefore slightly larger either vertically or horizontally than flat plate printings. This process of printing enabled the Bureau to produce stamps more quickly.



Issue of 1914-15

Perforated 10

Single-line Watermark



429
320



430
321



431
322



432
323



434
325



439
329



440
330

Perforated 10



460
331

Perforated 11



The portraits of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin were again used as the prominent part of the design on this issue. The larger-holed perforation 10 was placed in use to prevent sheets from falling apart due to the fineness of the perforation 12.



Issue of 1916-17

Flat Plate Printing

Perforated 10, Unwatermarked



The stamps of this series were a repeat of previous issues but with differences discernible only to stamp collectors. They were printed on unwatermarked paper and the \$2 and \$5 values were previously issued perforated 12. One of the most spectacular errors occurred in the printing of this series. Sheets of the 2¢ value were found with one stamp being of the 5¢ denomination. This was found on the lower right sheet of plate number 7942. On the Upper left sheet of plate number 7942 a double error was found. These errors continued to appear in later printings of the 2¢ stamp imperforate and perforated 11 and are greatly desired by stamp collectors.



Issue of 1916-17

Plate Plate Printing
Imperforate
Unwatermarked



Issue of 1916-22

Rotary Press Printing
Coils Perforated 10 Horizontally
Unwatermarked



Perforated 10 Vertically





Issue of 1917-19

Flat Plate Printing

Perforated 11

Unwatermarked



The Bureau of Engraving and Printing was still trying to find a more suitable size of perforation. Perforation 12 was found to be too fragile and perforation, 10 was too strong, causing damage to stamps during separation. To remedy these defects perforation 11 was used for this series.

NOT COUNTED



Issue of 1918-20
Offset Printing

Perforated 11



Perforated 11



Perforated 11



Perforated 11



Perforated 11



Perforated 11



Perforated 11



Perforated 11



Perforated 12 1/2



Imperforate



The Bureau again experimenting tried with the 1918-20 issues to use the offset method of printing (a type of lithography). It was not successful and was soon discontinued.

211



Issue of 1919-21

Rotary Press Printing

Perforated 11 x 10



Perforated 10 x 11



Perforated 10



Perforated 11



545
416

Perforated 11



546
417

Stamps which were originally intended to be issued in coil form but were later perforated fully are known as coil waste, and some of the above issues were created in this manner.



Issue of 1922-26

Flat Plate Printing

Perforated 11



Nathan Hale



Benjamin Franklin



Warren G. Harding



George Washington



Abraham Lincoln



Martha Washington



Theodore Roosevelt



James A. Garfield



William McKinley



Ulysses S. Grant



Thomas Jefferson



James Monroe



Rutherford B. Hayes



Grover Cleveland



Benjamin Harrison



American Indian



Issue of 1922-26

Flat Plate Printing

Perforated 11



Woodrow Wilson



Statue of Liberty



Golden Gate



Niagara Falls



Bison



Arlington Amphitheatre



Lincoln Memorial



U. S. Capitol



America

Imperforate



Benjamin Franklin



Warren G. Harding



George Washington

With this issue an entirely new series was made available to the American public. It featured presidents, famous Americans, and pictures of the American scene.



Issue of 1923-26

Rotary Press Printing

Perforated 11 x 10



Perforated 10



The same designs used in the previous issue were used for this printing. In order to overcome the tendency of Rotary Press stamps to curl, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing used gum breaker bars. These bars which are colorless, raised, impressions may be seen on the gummed side of mint rotary press stamps.



Rotary Press Coils of 1923-32

1923-29

Perforated 10 Vertically



1923-25

Perforated 10 Horizontally



1930-32

Perforated 10

Vertically



Vertically



Horizontally



Vertically





Issue of 1926-34

Rotary Press Printing

Perforated 11 x 10½





Issue of 1926-34

Rotary Press Printing

Perforated 11 x 10½

Perforated 10½ x 11



Perforated 10½ x 11



Perforated 10½ x 11



After much experimentation the Bureau of Engraving and Printing decided that the 11 by 10½ perforation was the most suitable for the rotary press printed stamps and is still in use.

Issue of 1926

Rotary Press Printing

Imperforate



Issue of 1930-32

Rotary Press Printing

Perforated 11 x 10½



Warren G. Harding



George Washington



William Howard Taft

Following the death of President William Howard Taft the Post Office Department issued a new 4-cent stamp bearing his likeness.