Stamps

UDLS
Jan Pilzer
2017-10-20
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 $1\frac{1}{2}$ ounce (14 grams) regardless of distance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>1 May 1840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face value</td>
<td>1 penny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current value</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bull's Eye

• First stamp issued by Brazil

• Brazil as second country to issue nation wide postage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Brazil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>1 August 1843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face value</td>
<td>30, 60 and 90 réis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current value</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Basel Dove

- World’s first tricolor stamp

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>1 July 1845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face value</td>
<td>2½ rappen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current value</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mauritius "Post Office" stamps

- About 27 remaining
- Later changed to “Post Paid”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Mauritius</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>21 Sep 1847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face value</td>
<td>1 penny / 2 pence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current value</td>
<td>$4,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Treskilling Yellow

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Sweden</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>1855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face value</td>
<td>3 Swedish skillings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current value</td>
<td>$2,300,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
British Guiana 1c magenta

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>British Guiana</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>1856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face value</td>
<td>1c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current value</td>
<td>$9,480,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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