

Glossary for stamps (general & for <https://stamps-be-album.jouwweb.be/>)

Stamping a postage stamp		Stamping is a stamp or other characteristic affixed to a postage stamp with the aim of making a second use impossible.
removing used stamps from paper	Sort	Sort before you deviate stamps, first sort the stamps by color of the paper to which they are attached. Cut off all the unnecessary paper around the stamps.
	Soaking	Use plenty of water. Take a bowl and fill it with hot water. Add a little salt to the water. The salt prevents stamps from discoloring. Place the stamps in the water with the image side down. As a result, the water is sucked up faster by the stamp and can be removed more easily. Watch out! Be careful about deviating from older stamps, because sometimes the stamp is printed with ink that is sensitive to water. Self-adhesive stamps are not always easy to sweep off. If the letter has an interesting stamp, you can better keep the piece as it is.
	Self-adhesive stamps ▲	
	Time	Patience waits patiently, about thirty minutes, until all the stamps have come out of the paper and take them carefully, preferably with tweezers, out of the water. Do this carefully, because wet stamps can easily be damaged. Of course, the disepent time depends on the gum used. Especially with older stamps, sometimes considerably more patience is required. I once left stamps in the water for a week!
	Dry	Dry stamps on water-absorbing paper After you have removed the stamps from the water, place them to dry, preferably on water-absorbing paper. By putting on a heavy object on it, the stamps will dry neatly flat. Now all you have to do is a little patience until the stamps have dried up.
Albums	Buy albums? What is recommended by clubs.	If you are just starting it is best to buy a simple album that you consider suitable. Don't buy an expensive one right away. You can also purchase an expensive album later, after you have gained more insight into how and what you want to collect. These albums are boring and without any explanation about the stamps you collect.
	Free Album: Belgian stamps	For this you can go to: = as far as we know, this is the only album on the market with explanations. STAMPS-BE ALBUM Of course it is nice to find inscriptions and information on your pages. In this way, your collection will have its own character and will also be interesting for others. You will find that you can add loose leaves as your collection grows. Here you can arrange your stamps at your own discretion.
	Storing	<u>Do not store your album in a damp room:</u> It is very important not to store your album in a damp room. It is best to store your album in a cupboard. Of course you make sure that your album stays clean. Dust and dirt can penetrate your album and damage your stamps.
	Types of albums	Types of albums - World - Country - Thematic - Blank
	Block	Normally one to five stamps together or apart we call a block if max 2 of the same stamps from the series are shown. The word `block` is also used for a so-called miniature sheet. Otherwise they are called: sheets. At Bpost, the blocks are called "leaflet".
Discommissioning		
	Are all old stamps still valid? © bpost	The ministerial decree of 11 July 1962 states: "All stamps still in circulation on the date of 11 July 1962, as well as all stamps that will be and appear have a permanent franking validity." This means that all stamps released after 1962 are still valid today, even if they were in Belgian Frank or unstamped. However, in Y2022 there was talk of abolishing the above.... to be continued.
Catalog	Catalogue with the value of stamps	Stamp catalogs do collectors a great service as guideline for determining the value of stamps. A catalog is an illustrated price list of all stamps issued in a given area. Thanks to the images, you can quickly bring the stamp home. In a catalog you can see which stamps have all been issued and you can decide which stamps you want to purchase.
	Issues	In Belgium: OBP issued by the Belgian Appeals Chamber of Stamp Collectors. In the albums OBP is translate to OSC (Official stamp cataloq)

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Condition	Condition determines value	<p>The most important thing regarding the value of your collection is the condition or condition of a stamp or postal item.</p> <p>A good stamp has - No diluted spots - No cracks - No discoloration - No stains - A postfresh stamp has no sticker or sticker remnants and is still provided with the original gum - No heavy stamp, if the stamp has been used</p> <p>The condition of a stamp</p> <p>Of course, some older stamps hardly exist in this perfect condition. The more recent the stamp, the better a stamp should be. The condition of a stamp is often described as: - Magnificent copy without flaws - Very beautiful copy, may have slight defects - Beautiful copy with stronger defects (album piece)</p>
	Used stamps	Used stamps are often described as: - Light stamp - Heavy stamp impression
Contiguous coherent stamps	contiguous coherent images	<p>A continuous coherent stamp is a stamp whose image continues onto an adjacent stamp. Continuous coherent stamps are stamps with an image that forms a complete picture on its own, but can be expanded with one or more other stamps to form a larger coherent unit. Philatelists also distinguish between two-sided and four-sided continuous coherent stamps. Two-sided continuous coherent stamp can be extended to the left and right or above and below to form a larger image. Four-sided continuous coherent stamp can be extended in all directions.</p>
	Subsurface continuous coherent stamp	Subsurface continuous coherent stamp, in which a substrate or background color has been used, which extends over the entire printed sheet. These subsurface continuous coherent stamp are also called color subsurface continuous coherent stamps. In Belgium?
	Tab contiguous coherent images	These stamps are equipped with a tab from which the image of the stamp continued. This may contain one or several stamps
	Tab contiguous coherent text	These stamps are with tabs grouped with two of which the text of both stamps continued on two tabs. Can be a horizontal or vertical whole.
Printing techniques: the differences	Letterpress, planographic printing and intaglio printing	<p>Various printing techniques are available for printing postage stamps. The printing company determines the printing technique to be used based on: - the technical capabilities of the printing company - the requirements set by the postal service for the stamp - the form in which the stamps are issued (sheet, roll, booklet) - the printing technique that best showcases the stamp design</p> <p>The printing techniques can be divided into: - high pressure: a well letterpress or typography called: the raised parts of the printing form give off ink on the paper (letterpress).</p>
	Engraving	The low-lying parts of the printing form give off ink on the paper (raster gravure). -
	Planography	With this printing technique, there are no differences in the height of the printing form, but part of the printing form is made ink-repellent (offset).
	Combination of printing techniques	Sometimes stamps are issued in different print runs and using different printing techniques. If the same perforation combs have been used and the stamps have been printed on similar paper, the different print runs can only be distinguished by the specific characteristics associated with a particular printing technique. For example, a halftone intaglio stamp can be recognised by the halftone dots, which, although large areas of ink have run together, are still recognisable by the halftone dots at the edges. For an offset stamp, no halftone needs to be used, resulting in a more even ink surface.
	Techniques in Belgium See: info with each stamp - stamp series	
First day cover FDC	First day cover (FDC)	<p>First day of issue of the stamps A first day envelope is a postal item with a stamp or value impression (e.g. Postcard) with a stamp with a date showing that the piece was stamped on the first day of issue of the stamps or the postal item.</p> <p>Collectors usually use the English abbreviation fdc (first day cover) for this type of envelopes. These envelopes are usually beautifully designed</p>
	Thematic collectors	The fact is that first day covers can enrich a collection, especially for thematic collectors, because the images on the envelopes depict things that are not depicted on stamps. In addition, including envelopes in album pages can create a more varied picture.
	<p>Three different FDCs have been issued: no longer issued since 25/10/2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - issued by Compo Rodan FDC(cr) from 4/9/1948 (No. 785) to 25/10/2014 (No. 4467/68) : - issued by Bpost on the FDC(S) side from 16/01/1972 (No. 1621) to 10/09/2005 (No. 3430 / 3431): - issued by Bpost with post horn FDC(ph) probably from 4/9/1948 (No. 785) to 20/05/73 (No. 3431): 	
First day sheet (FDS)	These FDS have been issued by Bpost from 23/01/1999 (No. 2793 ► 2795) to the present day.	
	A First Day Sheet is issued for each new limited edition: a souvenir card of each issue, so to speak. The new stamp(s) are affixed to the card and stamped in Brussels on the first day of issue (not the pre-sale date). On the back, you will find technical information, including the story behind the issue.	

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First stamps of Belgium		<p>First Belgian postage stamp In 1849, the first postage stamps were issued in Belgium, following the example of stamps that had appeared in England and other countries. As for many countries, the British postal service was used as a model. The Belgian Post Office sent an inspector, Louis Bronne, to England. The purpose of this trip was to study Rowland Hill's revolutionary idea of sending mail by means of prepayment with a postage stamp as proof. However, Bronne's first report had no effect on the Belgians, as it was suspected that the losses would be too high, and it was decided not to issue stamps for the time being.</p> <p>Uniform rates and introduction of the first postage stamp. However, at the insistence of the trade, a law was passed on 24 December 1847 that provided for uniform rates and the introduction of the first postage stamp in Belgium. The two most important reforms resulting from this law were:</p> <p>a) Simplification of postage costs for letters. From then on, two distance and weight scales were used to determine the postage to be paid.</p> <p>b) The introduction of pre-payment of postage using postage stamps.</p>
Philately	Philately	The collection and study of postage stamps and related items is called philately. The word philately is derived from the two Greek words "philos" (friend) and "atelès" (free of charge). Many collectors are not only interested in stamps; postal history, first-day covers (FDCs), postal items, stamp booklets, etc. are also collected and studied.
	Philatelist	Someone who collects or studies stamps is also called a philatelist.
	First stamp	The first postage stamp was issued in 1840 by Great Britain: the Penny Black, featuring a portrait of Queen Victoria. In 1870, the first postage stamp exhibition was held in Frankfurt, Germany.
Error printing		A misprint or printing error is an anomaly that occurred due to an error during the production of a stamp or postmark. A completely or partially reversed stamp image or a partially missing perforation are highly sought after by collectors.
	Mistakes in the design	Errors made during the design phase are not included here, but can be quite amusing. For example, Columbus used binoculars that were not invented until several hundred years later, and in East Germany, a composer was commemorated with an image of a piece of music by a colleague. Stamps with such errors are sometimes withdrawn from circulation by the postal service and replaced with stamps bearing the correct image.
Postage value		The postage value is the value that a stamp represents for sending mail. This value is usually indicated by numbers, but other methods also exist. Sometimes the numbers are indicated by letters (e.g. five cents).
	Numbers and symbols	Belgium currently issues stamps with the value indicated by a number. This number indicates the service. The advantage of this method is that no new stamps need to be produced when the rate changes. The stamps are simply sold at a higher price at the post office.
		For this, see the valuations in Belgium since J2007:
Gum	Arabic gum	Gum on stamps Arabic gum was used until around 1970 to coat stamps with a gum layer. This gum was applied as a shiny layer.
	Yellow gum color	The gum is transparent in its pure form, but has a yellowish tint when less refined gum is used. Arabic gum is made from a substance extracted from the acacia tree.
	Species	Used types of gum on Belgian stamps in list of paper types. See for this: Info 1: Belgium Stamps - Paper types / info STAMPS-BE ALBUM
Year	Year of issue	The year is the number that indicates the year of issue or the year in which the stamp was printed. Nowadays, the year is usually included in the image on the stamp, but sometimes the date can only be found on the edge of the sheet.
Tab	Meaning	<p>A tab on a stamp is a tear-off (perforated) attachment that is usually located along the side of the sheet F...., V...-.... or block BL.... In most cases, this attachment contains text relating to the design of the stamp.</p> <p>Usually, one tab is in Dutch and the other in French. Sometimes there are two identical tabs on a sheet.</p>
	Tab contiguous coherent images	The stamp image continues on a tear-off (perforated) tab. The sides can all be perforated (e.g. in blocks BL...) or one side can be unperforated on the outside of the sheet.
	Tab contiguous coherent text	The text on the tabs continues from one tab to the next. All sides are perforated except for the outside of the sheet.

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<p>Small Sheet F.... Sheets NOT F.... : Classified here as: V5-..., V10-..., V15-..., V20-....</p>	<p>At Bpost called "sheet" The difference between «small sheets (F.....)» and «sheets (V.....)» are not clearly outlined in the official catalogue.</p> <p><u>F: small sheets</u></p> <p>Some stamps come from small sheets, called "F....". Up to and including No. 2967 - "F2967" (25/12/2000) these sheets are classified from only <u>one type of identical</u> stamp. From No. 2993 - "F2993/95" (21/04/2001) They are composed of <u>one or more identical types of</u> stamps from the same series. From No. 3052 - "F3052/55" (19/01/2002) they are only composed of <u>several identical types of</u> stamps from the same series. The reason is unknown to me !!!</p> <p><u>Sheets of 5, 10, 15 or 20</u></p> <p>From 01/01/2002 (No 3050) the following sheets of <u>identical</u> stamps are no longer called "F...." (small sheets) but as "sheets of 5, 10, 15 or 20" pcs.</p> <p>Although there are already sheets (<u>no F....</u>) were mentioned from No. 2963 (11/18/2000) In this album: "https://www.postzegelalbum-be.com/" they are called "V5-..., V10-..., V15-... or V20-..."</p>
<p>Vignette Meaning</p>	<p>It is an appendix to the stamp in which all stamps have the same profile on a sheet F...., V..-.... or block BL..... All sides are perforated except for the outer edge of the sheet. However, in some issues of the Prior stamps, the vignettes are perforated or imperforated on the same sheet.</p>