



Philatelic Review Bulletin

Wyong & Districts Philatelic Society

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Dear members,

The content of this bulletin aims at informing about items and topics relevant to our hobby and club.

It is hoped that errors and omissions are kept to a minimum.

All members are invited to submit articles that they like to share with others. Articles can be short or long and the editor will decide to publish those in one or more than one bulletin.

The editor

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Philas Connection

[Philatelic Association of NSW \(philas.org.au\)](http://philas.org.au)

Evening Meeting:

The **third Wednesday** of the month at 7.00 pm
(at Canton Beach Sports Club).

Daytime Meeting:

The **first Wednesday** of the month at 1.00 pm
(at Masonic Village Centre, Lakehaven).

George V Study Group

The **first Wednesday** of the month following the daytime meeting.

2025 Meeting Dates

Evening meetings at Toukley 7.00 pm

19 February

19 March

Workshop night: all members problems, Flaws, etc.

16 April

Christine Munro: own choice

21 May

Peter Van de Ven: Dutch Indies

18 June

AGM

Daytime meetings 2025 at Lakehaven 1.00 pm

2 April

Exchange & KGV study group

7 May

Exchange & KGV study group

4 June

Exchange & KGV study group

Monthly Display

Ray Mahony: NZ Miniature sheets

Austria First Republic 1918-1938 – Part 1



The first **German Austria** stamps appeared in December 1918. This new post-war republic utilized the recent issues of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, overprinting them "**Deutschösterreich**".



The new state of **Deutschösterreich**, or **German Austria**, was created after World War I, as a temporary state in the German-speaking areas within what had been the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The other areas of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire were broken up into separate states, based on their cultural and ethnic populations.

On November 12, 1918, the new National Assembly declared the new republic and named [Karl Renner](#)



as the first Chancellor. The new constitution declared German Austria as a democratic republic, and stated that German Austria is an integral component of the (*Weimar*) German Republic. *This statement reflected*

the feelings of many of the delegates that Austria, with the loss of 60% of its territories, was no longer viable on its own and that the only reasonable course of action was the eventual union of Austria with the Republic of Germany.

The victorious Allied forces of World War I, however, opposed the union of Austria and Germany, and the Treaty of Versailles forbade it! In order to achieve a peaceful post-war resolution, the new Austrian government would have to change its proposed policy of unification.



On **September 10, 1919**, Karl Renner signed the **Treaty of Saint Germain**, and it was ratified by the national assembly on October 21, 1919. According to its provisions, the new country had to change its name from "**German Austria**" to "**Austria**". A new constitution was drafted in 1920, and the "**First Republic of Austria**" was born shortly thereafter.

Beginning in 1922, all issues of Austrian stamps were inscribed "**Österreich**", though existing supplies of stamps inscribed "**Deutschösterreich**" continued in use until the end of 1921.



Flag of the Republic of Austria
Adopted in 1918

Collecting Austria stamps, if one stays away from the more expensive charity stamps and the souvenir sheets, can be fun, and it is not very expensive. The many colourful stamps can lend themselves to a beautiful and educational collection display.

On the other hand, Austria stamps offer a multitude of opportunities for the philatelist. There are many shade varieties, perforation varieties, plate varieties, plate proofs, trial colour proofs, and more, some of which are quite rare. Please refer to the specialized catalogues for details.

The stamps featured in the content of the pages in this category will be presented in **Michel Österreich-Spezial-Katalog sequence**. It is by the Michel (or Netto) chronological cataloguing methodology that most European and serious Austria philatelists around the globe collect the stamps of Austria.

Issues of 1918-1919

The new Austria stamps appeared December 1918 with the overprint "**Deutschösterreich**", about four weeks after the Armistice that ended World War I. This interim state of "**German Austria**" was established in the German-speaking areas of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire. The leaders of this frail state envisioned their eventual unification with the new Republic of Germany, but that would never happen. The state of German Austria would soon evolve into the **First Republic of Austria**, and it would eventually survive to become a thriving European democracy, but during the post-World-War-I years and the Great Depression, life would become very difficult for the people of this new republic, both politically and economically.



The **fifteen** Imperial Austria **stamps** shown above were issued in **1918** and **1919** with the overprint "**Deutschösterreich**". These stamps are all **perforated 12 1/2**.

The catalogue attributes, for stamps that are **perforated 12 1/2** and printed on **normal paper**, are as follows.

- **03 H.** (1918 - Mi. #228, Sc. #181) - Bright Violet.
- **05 H.** (1918 - Mi. #229, Sc. #182) - Light Green.
- **06 H.** (1918 - Mi. #230, Sc. #183) - Deep Orange.
- **10 H.** (1918 - Mi. #231, Sc. #184) - Magenta.
- **12 H.** (1918 - Mi. #232, Sc. #185) - Light Blue, Greenish Blue.
- **15 H.** (1918 - Mi. #233, Sc. #186) - Dull Red.
- **20 H.** (1918 - Mi. #234, Sc. #187) - Deep Green.
- **25 H.** (1918 - Mi. #235, Sc. #188) - Blue.

- 30 H. (1918 - Mi. #236, Sc. #189) - Dull Violet.
- 40 H. (1918 - Mi. #237, Sc. #190) - Olive Green.
- 50 H. (1918 - Mi. #238, Sc. #191) - Deep Green, Opal Green.
- 60 H. (1918 - Mi. #239, Sc. #192) - Deep Blue.
- 80 H. (1918 - Mi. #240, Sc. #193) - Orange Brown.
- 90 H. (1918 - Mi. #241x, Sc. #194) - Red Violet.
- 01 K. (1918 - Mi. #242, Sc. #195) - Carmine on Yellow.

The catalogue attributes, for stamps that are **perforated 12 1/2** and printed on **thick paper**, are as follows.

- 90 H. (1918 - Mi. #241y, Sc. N/L) - Red Violet.



The **Krone** denomination Imperial Austria stamps shown above were also overprinted "**Deutschösterreich**", and they were issued in **1919**. These stamps exist in two sizes and with two different perforation gauges, as indicated below. Both the **Prussian Blue** and the **Dark Blue** shades of the **2 Kr.** denomination are shown above.

The catalogue attributes, for stamps whose design measures **25 x 30 mm** and that are **perforated 12 1/2**, are as follows.

- 10 K. (1919 - Mi. #246IA, Sc. #199a) - Dark Brownish Violet.

The catalog attributes, for stamps whose design measures **26 x 29 mm** and that are **perforated 12 1/2**, are as follows.

- 02 K. (1919 - Mi. #243IIA, Sc. #196) - Dark Blue, Prussian Blue, Greenish Blue.
- 03 K. (1919 - Mi. #244IIA, Sc. #197) - Lilac Red.
- 04 K. (1919 - Mi. #245IIA, Sc. #198) - Yellow Green.
- 10 K. (1919 - Mi. #246IIA, Sc. #199) - Dark Brownish Violet.

The catalogue attributes, for stamps whose design measures **26 x 29 mm** and that are **perforated 11 1/2**, are as follows.

- 02 K. (1919 - Mi. #243IIB, Sc. #196c) - Prussian Blue.
- 04 K. (1919 - Mi. #245IIB, Sc. #198a) - Yellow Green.



The **newspaper stamps** shown above, originally issued in 1916, were re-issued in **January 1919** with the "**Deutschösterreich**" overprint. As with the previous newspaper stamp issue, these are all **imperforate**.



The 1917 special handling stamps shown above, were re-issued in **January 1919** with the "**Deutschösterreich**" overprint. These stamps feature the profile of Mercury, and they come in *four different perforation gauges*.

The *most common* of the four perforation gauges are **12 1/2** and **11 1/2**. Stamps of the *other two perforation gauges*, **11 1/2 x 12 1/2** and **12 1/2 x 11 1/2** are very *scarce*.



The **re-valued** special handling stamp shown above was actually issued in **December 1921**, but since it incorporates the "**Deutschösterreich**" overprint, the Michel catalogue includes it here in their listings.

Issues of 1919-1921

New Austria stamps, inscribed "**Deutschösterreich**", began to appear in the middle of 1919. The large number of definitive postage and newspaper stamps primarily featured symbolic allegorical vignettes.

For the specialist, this group of stamps offers many plate and die varieties, as well as proofs, trial colour proofs, perforation errors, and shade varieties, not to mention stamps with inverted centres.



The new major-type **definitive** postage Austria **stamps** shown above were issued between 1919 and 1920. There are quite a few listed shade varieties for some of these new Austria stamps, with a few of them being quite expensive.

The common designs feature a **Post Horn**, the **Austrian Coat of Arms**, and an **allegory of the new Republic** of German Austria.

The catalogue details, for stamps that are **perforated 12 1/2** and printed on **ordinary paper**, are as follows.

- 03 H. (1919 - Mi. #255x, Sc. #200) - Gray, Dark Gray, Gray Black.
- 05 H. (1919 - Mi. #256x, Sc. #201) - Yellow Green.
- 05 H. (1920 - Mi. #257x, Sc. #202) - Gray, Dark Gray, Gray Black.
- 06 H. (1919 - Mi. #258x, Sc. #203) - Orange.
- 10 H. (1919 - Mi. #259x, Sc. #204) - Deep Rose.

- 10 H. (1920 - Mi. #260x, Sc. #205) - Red.
- 12 H. (1919 - Mi. #261x, Sc. #206) - Greenish Blue.
- 15 H. (1920 - Mi. #262x, Sc. #207) - Bister.
- 20 H. (1919 - Mi. #263x, Sc. N/L) - Blue Green.
- 20 H. (1920 - Mi. #264x, Sc. #208) - Dark Green, Yellow Green.
- 25 H. (1919 - Mi. #265x, Sc. #209) - Blue, Pale Blue, Deep Blue.
- 25 H. (1920 - Mi. #266x, Sc. #210) - Violet.
- 30 H. (1919 - Mi. #267x, Sc. #211) - Dark Brown.
- 40 H. (1919 - Mi. #268x, Sc. #212) - Violet.
- 40 H. (1920 - Mi. #269x, Sc. #213) - Lake.
- 45 H. (1919 - Mi. #270x, Sc. #214) - Olive Green.
- 50 H. (1919 - Mi. #271x, Sc. #215) - Dark Blue.
- 60 H. (1920 - Mi. #272x, Sc. #216) - Olive Green.
- 01 K. (1919 - Mi. #273x, Sc. #217) - Carmine on Yellow.
- 01 K. (1920 - Mi. #274x, Sc. #218) - Light Blue, Deep Blue.

The catalogue details, for stamps that are **perforated 12 1/2** and printed on **thick greyish paper**, are as follows.

- 10 H. (1920 - Mi. #260y, Sc. #205a) - Red.
- 15 H. (1920 - Mi. #262y, Sc. #207a) - Bistre.
- 20 H. (1920 - Mi. #264y, Sc. #208b) - Dark Green, Yellow Green.
- 50 H. (1919 - Mi. #271y, Sc. #215a) - Dark Blue.

The catalogue details, for stamps that are **imperforate** and printed on **ordinary paper**, are as follows.

- 05 H. (1919 - Mi. #275, Sc. #227) - Yellow Green.
- 05 H. (1920 - Mi. #276, Sc. #228) - Gray, Dark Gray, Gray Black.
- 10 H. (1919 - Mi. #277, Sc. #229) - Deep Rose.
- 10 H. (1920 - Mi. #278, Sc. #230) - Red.
- 15 H. (1920 - Mi. #279, Sc. #231) - Bistre.
- 25 H. (1920 - Mi. #280, Sc. #232) - Violet.
- 30 H. (1919 - Mi. #281, Sc. #233) - Dark Brown.
- 40 H. (1919 - Mi. #282, Sc. #234) - Violet.
- 60 H. (1920 - Mi. #283, Sc. #235) - Olive Green.





Inverted centre



The 2 Kr. (Mi. #284K, Sc. #219a) and 4 Kr. (Mi. #287K, Sc. #222a) denominations are occasionally obtainable, for the collector that doesn't mind spending a thousand dollars or more a single stamp. The 20 Kr. (Mi. #291K, Sc. #226a) denomination, if one can be located for sale, will cost the collector about the price of a new, high-end model Mercedes Benz!

The new major-type high-denomination **definitive** postage Austria **stamps** shown above were issued between 1919 and 1921.

The common design of these new stamps features the [Parliament Building](#) in Vienna.

The catalogue attributes, for stamps that are **perforated 12 1/2**, are as follows.

- 02 K. (1919 - Mi. #284A, Sc. #219) - Vermilion & Black.
- 02 1/2 K. (1920 - Mi. #285A, Sc. #220) - Olive Bister.
- 03 K. (1919 - Mi. #286A, Sc. #221) - Blue & Black Brown.
- 04 K. (1919 - Mi. #287A, Sc. #222) - Carmine & Black.
- 05 K. (1920 - Mi. #288A, Sc. #223) - Black.
- 07 1/2 K. (1920 - Mi. #289A, Sc. #224) - Plum.
- 10 K. (1919 - Mi. #290A, Sc. #225) - Olive Green & Black Brown.
- 20 K. (1920 - Mi. #291A, Sc. #226) - Lilac & Red.
- 50 K. (1921 - Mi. #292A, Sc. #248) - Dark Violet on Yellow.

The catalog attributes, for stamps that are **perforated 11 1/2**, are as follows.

- 02 K. (1920 - Mi. #284B, Sc. #219b) - Vermilion & Black.
- 03 K. (1919 - Mi. #286B, Sc. #221a) - Blue & Black Brown.

- 04 K. (1919 - Mi. #287B, Sc. #222b) - Carmine & Black.
- 05 K. (1920 - Mi. #288B, Sc. #223b) - Black.
- 07 1/2 K. (1920 - Mi. #289B, Sc. #224a) - Plum.
- 10 K. (1919 - Mi. #290B, Sc. #225b) - Olive Green & Black Brown.
- 20 K. (1920 - Mi. #291B, Sc. #226b) - Lilac & Red.
- 50 K. (1921 - Mi. #292B, Sc. #248a) - Dark Violet on Yellow.

The catalogue attributes, for stamps that are **perforated 11 1/2 x 12 1/2**, are as follows.

- 05 K. (1920 - Mi. #288C, Sc. #223a) - Black.
- 07 1/2 K. (1920 - Mi. #289C, Sc. #224b) - Plum.
- 10 K. (1919 - Mi. #290C, Sc. #225a) - Olive Green & Black Brown.



The **nineteen newspaper stamps** shown above were issued in 1920 and 1921. They were all **Typographed** and **imperforate**.

The common design features the **facing head of Mercury**, the ancient Roman messenger of the gods.

Many publishers had the imperforate sheets **privately perforated**, to make them easier to separate. These privately perforated stamps are rather common and inexpensive.

The catalogue attributes, for Austria stamps on **normal white paper**, are as follows.

- 02 H. (1920 - Mi. #293x, Sc. #P29) - Violet.
- 04 H. (1920 - Mi. #294x, Sc. #P30) - Brown.
- 05 H. (1920 - Mi. #295x, Sc. #P31) - Slate.
- 06 H. (1920 - Mi. #296x, Sc. #P32) - Turquoise Blue.
- 08 H. (1920 - Mi. #297x, Sc. #P33) - Green.
- 09 H. (1921 - Mi. #298x, Sc. #P34) - Yellow.
- 10 H. (1920 - Mi. #299x, Sc. #P35) - Red.
- 12 H. (1920 - Mi. #300x, Sc. #P36) - Blue.
- 15 H. (1921 - Mi. #301x, Sc. #P37) - Lilac.
- 18 H. (1921 - Mi. #302x, Sc. #P38) - Blue Green.
- 20 H. (1920 - Mi. #303x, Sc. #P39) - Orange.
- 30 H. (1921 - Mi. #304x, Sc. #P40) - Yellow Brown.
- 45 H. (1921 - Mi. #305x, Sc. #P41) - Green.
- 60 H. (1920 - Mi. #306x, Sc. #P42) - Claret.
- 72 H. (1921 - Mi. #307x, Sc. #P43) - Chocolate.
- 90 H. (1921 - Mi. #308x, Sc. #P44) - Violet.
- 01.20 K. (1921 - Mi. #309x, Sc. #P45) - Red.
- 02.40 K. (1921 - Mi. #310x, Sc. #P46) - Yellow Green.
- 03 K. (1921 - Mi. #311x, Sc. #P47) - Gray.

The catalogue attributes, for Austria stamps on **thick greyish paper**, are as follows.

- 15 H. (1921 - Mi. #301y, Sc. #P37a) - Lilac.
- 18 H. (1921 - Mi. #302y, Sc. #P38a) - Blue Green.
- 20 H. (1920 - Mi. #303y, Sc. #P39a) - Orange.
- 30 H. (1921 - Mi. #304y, Sc. #P40a) - Yellow Brown.
- 60 H. (1920 - Mi. #306y, Sc. #P42a) - Claret.
- 90 H. (1921 - Mi. #308y, Sc. #P44a) - Violet.
- 03 K. (1921 - Mi. #311y, Sc. #P47a) - Gray.



The new vertical format high-denomination **definitive** Austria stamps shown above were issued during 1920 and 1921.

The catalogue attributes, for Austria stamps on **normal white paper**, are as follows.

- 80 H. (1920 - Mi. #312x, Sc. #238) - Rose.
- 01 K. (1920 - Mi. #313x, Sc. #239) - Black Brown.
- 01 1/2 K. (1921 - Mi. #314x, Sc. #241) - Green.
- 02 K. (1920 - Mi. #315x, Sc. #242) - Blue.
- 03 K. (1921 - Mi. #316x, Sc. #243) - Yellow Green & Dark Green.
- 04 K. (1921 - Mi. #317x, Sc. #244) - Red & Claret.
- 05 K. (1921 - Mi. #318x, Sc. #245) - Violet & Claret.
- 07 1/2 K. (1921 - Mi. #319x, Sc. #246) - Yellow & Brown.
- 10 K. (1921 - Mi. #320x, Sc. #247) - Ultramarine & Blue.

The catalogue attributes, for Austria stamps on **thick greyish paper**, are as follows.

- 80 H. (1920 - Mi. #312y, Sc. #238a) - Rose.
- 01 K. (1920 - Mi. #313y, Sc. #239a) - Black Brown.
- 01 1/2 K. (1921 - Mi. #314y, Sc. #241a) - Green.
- 02 K. (1920 - Mi. #315y, Sc. #242a) - Blue.
- 03 K. (1921 - Mi. #316y, Sc. #243a) - Yellow Green & Dark Green.
- 04 K. (1921 - Mi. #317y, Sc. #244a) - Red & Claret.
- 05 K. (1921 - Mi. #318y, Sc. #245a) - Violet & Claret.

10 K. (1921 - Mi. #320y, Sc. #247a) - Ultramarine & Blue.

Issues of 1920-1922

Surtaxed German Austria stamps were introduced in 1920. These surtaxed stamps, also known as semi-postal or charity stamps, were priced at double their face value, in addition to the denomination inscribed on the stamp. Thus, a 20 Kroner postage stamp would cost the buyer 60 Kroner, a sizable sum of money, with 100 Kroner of just a few years earlier being a one ounce gold coin! Unfortunately, most of the issues of this period were for political propaganda funds, instead of being for charitable funds.



all imperforate.



During 1922, the current 2 K. denomination definitive stamps were **overprinted "Flugpost"**, for use as **air mail stamps**.

Many of them were prepared, but they were never officially issued to post offices. For an unissued stamp variety though, these are not particularly rare today. Authenticated examples can be located on the internet for around \$50 each. One is shown in the image above (Mi. #III, Sc. N/L).



On September 16, 1920, the current definitive postage stamps, or their types, printed in differing colors, were overprinted "**Kärnten Abstimmung**" for the **Carinthia Plebiscite**. They are all shown above (Mi. #321-39, Sc. #B11-29). The lower denominations were all perforated 12 1/2, and the higher denominations were





The **twenty-three** pictorial-type propaganda stamps shown above were prepared in **October 1920** to publicize the **Carinthia Plebiscite**, but **THEY WERE NEVER ISSUED**. These stamps are listed in the *Locals* section of the *Michel Österreich-Spezial* catalog.

Even had these stamps been issued, under Universal Postal Union rules they would not have been valid for letter postage, as the designs do **NOT INCLUDE THE COUNTRY NAME**, with that being **"Deutschösterreich"**.

These Austria stamps are all inscribed **"Volksabstimmung / 1920 / Kärnten"**, and they picture **patriotic designs** and **Carinthian scenery**. According to the Michel catalogue, there were two printings of these stamps. About 6,000 sets were printed.

Though not high-priced today, these un-issued propaganda stamps are a bit difficult to locate, especially in complete sets.





On **March 1, 1921**, the current **definitive postage stamps**, or their types, printed in differing colours, were overprinted "**Hochwasser / 1920**" for **Flood Relief**. They are all shown above (*Mi. #340-59, Sc. #B30-49*). These German Austria stamps are all **perforated 12 1/2**.

The profits from the sale of these stamps went to a fund for the victims of **serious flooding** along the **Danube River Basin** that occurred during the Winter of 1920.



On **May 29, 1921**, the current **definitive postage stamps** were *locally* overprinted "**Salzburger Volksabstimmung**" (in various formats) for the **Salzburg Peoples' Plebiscite**. Of the twenty denominations overprinted, thirteen of them are shown above.

The **Salzurg Plebiscite** was actually *not an authorized plebiscite* and the German Austria government in Vienna

ordered that it be canceled. *This plebiscite was NOT about annexation to German Austria, but about **annexation to the Republic of Germany!*** The Allied nations, the League of Nations, and the Treaty of Versailles strictly forbade the unification of any part of German Austria with the Republic of Germany. The people of Salzburg voted for unification with Germany, however the results were not recognized, and the union never happened.



On **April 24, 1921**, the current **definitive postage stamps** were *locally* overprinted with an **Eagle** and "**24 April 1921**" (in various formats) for the **Tirol Peoples' Plebiscite**. All of them are shown above.

The Tirol Plebiscite was actually not an authorized plebiscite and the German Austria government in Vienna ordered that it be cancelled. This plebiscite was NOT about annexation to German Austria, but about annexation to the Republic of Germany! The Allied nations, the League of Nations, and the Treaty of Versailles strictly forbade the unification of any part of German Austria with the Republic of Germany. The results were not recognized, and the union never happened.

Issues of 1922

Republic of Austria stamps, inscribed **Österreich**, first appeared in 1922, though the new republic had actually been created two years earlier.

The **Republic of German Austria** was created in 1918, with the intent that there would eventually be a *union of Germany and Austria*. However, having the two former Germanic empires unite to form a single nation was completely unacceptable to the Allied powers of World War I and to the League of Nations, and the post-war republic was never officially recognized.

The [Treaty of Saint Germain](#), on September 10, 1919, in effect, **dissolved** the government of the **Republic of German Austria**. A new government was formed, and a new constitution, having an *anti-Anschluss* (anti-unification) platform was implemented in 1920. Thus was born the modern **Republic of Austria (First Republic)**. With the establishment of a brand new nation, of course, there needed to be new currency, coins, and postage stamps. And for Republic of Austria stamps, 1922 was a very productive year!



The **thirty-eight** symbolic **definitive** Republic of Austria **stamps** shown above (*Mi. #360-97, Sc. #250-87*) began appearing in **January 1922**, continuing through **December 1924**. They are all **Typographed** and **perforated 12 1/2**.

The design of the narrow stamps features **symbols of agriculture**, and the design of the wide stamps features **symbols of labour and industry**.





The eleven major-types symbolic **definitive** Republic of Austria **stamps** shown above also began appearing in **January 1922**, continuing through **December 1924**. They are all **engraved**.

The design of these stamps features **symbols of agriculture and science**.

These stamps come with *three different perforation gauges* and *two different design sizes* which, unfortunately, makes them rather complex.

The catalog attributes, for stamps whose design measures **25 x 30 mm** and that are **perforated 12 1/2**, are as follows.

- **00050 K.** (1922 - Mi. #400AI, Sc. #290) - Brown Red.
- **00100 K.** (1922 - Mi. #401AI, Sc. #291) - Deep Green.
- **00200 K.** (1922 - Mi. #402AI, Sc. #292) - Dark Violet.
- **00500 K.** (1923 - Mi. #403AI, Sc. #293) - Deep Orange.
- **01000 K.** (1922 - Mi. #404AI, Sc. #294) - Black Violet on Yellow.
- **02000 K.** (1922 - Mi. #405AI, Sc. #295) - Olive Green on Yellow, Yellow Green on Yellow.
- **03000 K.** (1923 - Mi. #406AI, Sc. #296) - Claret Brown.
- **05000 K.** (1923 - Mi. #407AI, Sc. #297) - Gray Black.

The catalogue attributes, for stamps whose design measures **25 x 30 mm** and that are **perforated 11 1/2**, are as follows.

- **00050 K.** (1922 - Mi. #400BI, Sc. #290a) - Brown Red.
- **00100 K.** (1922 - Mi. #401BI, Sc. #291a) - Deep Green.
- **01000 K.** (1922 - Mi. #404BI, Sc. #294a) - Black Violet on Yellow.

The catalogue attributes, for stamps whose design measures **25 x 30 mm** and that are **perforated 12 1/2 x 11 1/2**, are as follows.

- **00050 K.** (1922 - Mi. #400CI, Sc. #290c) - Brown Red.

The catalogue attributes, for stamps whose design measures **26 x 29 mm** and that are **perforated 12 1/2**, are as follows.

- **00020 K.** (1922 - Mi. #398AII, Sc. #288) - Dark Brown.
- **00025 K.** (1922 - Mi. #399AII, Sc. #289) - Blue.
- **00050 K.** (1922 - Mi. #400AII, Sc. N/L) - Brown Red.
- **00100 K.** (1922 - Mi. #401AII, Sc. N/L) - Deep Green.
- **00200 K.** (1922 - Mi. #402AII, Sc. N/L) - Dark Violet.
- **00500 K.** (1923 - Mi. #403AII, Sc. N/L) - Deep Orange.
- **10000 K.** (1924 - Mi. #406AII, Sc. N/L) - Red Brown.

The catalogue attributes, for stamps whose design measures **26 x 29 mm** and that are **perforated 11 1/2**, are as follows.

- **00020 K.** (1922 - Mi. #398BII, Sc. #288a) - Dark Brown.
- **00025 K.** (1922 - Mi. #399BII, Sc. #289a) - Blue.
- **00050 K.** (1922 - Mi. #400BII, Sc. N/L) - Brown Red.
- **00100 K.** (1922 - Mi. #401BII, Sc. N/L) - Deep Green.
- **00200 K.** (1922 - Mi. #402BII, Sc. N/L) - Dark Violet.



The **eight** Republic of Austria **newspaper stamps** shown above (**Mi. #409-16, Sc. #P48-55**) were issued between **December 1921** and **January 1922**. They are all **Typographed** and **imperforate**.

The common design features the **left-facing profile** of

Mercury, the ancient Roman messenger of the gods.

Many publishers had the imperforate sheets **privately perforated**, to make them easier to separate. These privately perforated stamps are rather common and inexpensive.



The **seven** surtaxed **commemorative** Austria stamps shown above were issued on **April 24, 1922** to honor **Austrian Composers and Musicians**. These stamps were issued with two different perforation gauges.

These stamps were sold at ten times the face value, with the surtax being given to needy musicians.

The designs of these Austria stamps are as follows:

- **2.5 K.** - Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)
- **5.0 K.** - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)
- **7.5 K.** - Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
- **10 K.** - Franz Schubert (1797-1828)
- **25 K.** - Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)
- **50 K.** - Johann Strauss the Younger (1825-1899)
- **100 K.** - Hugo Wolf (1860-1903)

The catalogue attributes, for stamps that are **perforated 12 1/2**, are as follows.

- **002 1/2 K.** (1922 - Mi. #418A, Sc. #B50a) - Brown.
- **005 K.** (1922 - Mi. #419A, Sc. #B51) - Dark Blue.
- **007 1/2 K.** (1922 - Mi. #420A, Sc. #B52) - Black.

- **010 K.** (1922 - Mi. #421A, Sc. #B53) - Dark Violet.
- **025 K.** (1922 - Mi. #422A, Sc. #B54) - Dark Green.
- **050 K.** (1922 - Mi. #423A, Sc. #B55) - Claret.
- **100 K.** (1922 - Mi. #424A, Sc. #B56) - Brown Olive.

The catalogue attributes, for stamps that are **perforated 11 1/2**, are as follows.

- **002 1/2 K.** (1922 - Mi. #418B, Sc. #B50) - Brown.
- **007 1/2 K.** (1922 - Mi. #420B, Sc. #B52a) - Black.
- **010 K.** (1922 - Mi. #421B, Sc. #B53a) - Dark Violet.
- **025 K.** (1922 - Mi. #422B, Sc. #B54a) - Dark Green.
- **100 K.** (1922 - Mi. #424B, Sc. #B56a) - Brown Olive.



The first **air mail stamps** of the Republic of Austria, shown above (Mi. #425-32, Sc. #C4-11), began appearing in **October 1922**, continuing through **April 1924**. The four lower denominations are **Typographed**, the four higher denominations are **engraved**, and all the stamps are **perforated 12 1/2**.

The two common designs feature a **Hawk in Flight** and **Wilhelm Kress (1836-1913)**, an Austrian

aircraft designer.

It may be noticed that NONE of the Austria stamps in this entire column are denominated in Heller! They are ALL denominated in Kroner! This is a sign of the arrival of the period of hyperinflation that swept over Central Europe in 1922 and 1923. The hyper-inflationary period in Austria, though severe, was not as bad as it was in Germany and in Hungary.



Being the only stamp on this entire page that is denominated in Heller, this **special handling stamp** was issued at the end of **December 1921**.

This was the last, special handling stamp to be issued in Austria (*Mi. #417, Sc. #QE8*).

Issues of 1923-1928

Austria stamps for the period from 1923 through 1928 would include a much larger number of pictorial definitive stamps, new definitive air mail stamps, and commemorative or pictorial charity stamps. In the aftermath of Austria's hyperinflation years, a new Austrian currency, the Austrian Schilling (*100 Groschen = 1 Schilling*), would also be implemented.



The **nine** pictorial Austria stamps shown above (*Mi. #433-41, Sc. #B57-65*) were issued on **May 22, 1923**. They were **engraved and perforated 12 1/2**.

These stamps were sold *at five times face value*, with the

proceeds benefiting **needy artists**.

Their designs are as follows:

- **100 K.** - Martin's Tower, Upper City, Bregenz
- **120 K.** - Mirabelle Gardens, Salzburg
- **160 K.** - Church, Eisenstadt
- **180 K.** - Assembly House, Klagenfurt
- **200 K.** - Golden Roof, Innsbruck
- **240 K.** - Main Square and Old Town, Linz
- **400 K.** - Town and Castle Hill, Graz
- **600 K.** - Benedictine Abbey, Melk
- **1000 K.** - Sphinx, Upper Belvedere Gardens, Vienna



The **five** pictorial **charity stamps** shown above (*Mi. #442-46, Sc. #B66-70*) were issued on **September 6, 1924**.

The inscribed surtax on these Austria stamps went to support **child welfare** and **anti-tuberculosis efforts**.

Their symbolic designs, denoting charitable work, are as follows:

- **100 K.** - Comforting the feeble
- **300 K.** - Supporting agriculture and handicrafts
- **500 K.** - Orphans needing a mother's love
- **600 K.** - Activities for the aged
- **1000 K.** - Donating food



A new Austrian currency was introduced in 1924. The **Schilling** (*100 Groschen = 1 Schilling*) was established by the Schilling Act of **December 20, 1924**,

and it became the **official currency** of the Republic of Austria on **March 1, 1925**. For exchange purposes, the new *Schilling* (silver coin) was equivalent to 10,000 Austro-Hungarian Kronen of the hyperinflation era.



The **twenty-one** definitive Republic of Austria **stamps** shown above (*Mi. #447-67, Sc. #303-324*), all denominated in Groschen and Schillings, began appearing in **June 1925**, continuing through **June 1927**.

These new definitive stamps utilize *four different designs* with them being, in order of appearance, a **denomination numeral**, **telegraph lines** over a landscape, a **white shouldered eagle**, and the **Church of the Mennonite Friars** in Vienna.



The **twenty** definitive air mail Republic of Austria **stamps** shown above (*Mi. #468-87, Sc. #C12-31*), all denominated in Groschen and Schillings, began appearing in **August 1925**, continuing through **June 1930**.

These new definitive air mail stamps utilize *two different designs* with them being a **plane** and **pilot's head** and a **plane passing over a crane** in flight.



The **six pictorial charity stamps** shown above were issued on **March 8, 1926**, with the surtax benefiting **child welfare**. The stamps are **engraved** and **perforated 12 1/2**.

These stamps are known by Austrian philatelists as the **Nibelungen Issue**. The **Nibelungen (Dwarves)** is a story from pagan Norse / German mythology.

Richard Wagner (1813-1883) composed four operas, first performed in 1876, telling the story of the **Ring of the Nibelung**, also called the **Ring Cycle**. The musical scores from the four operas have endured the test-of-time, and over the years, they have provided the familiar musical themes for many movies and television productions.

These four operas are: *Das Rheingold*, *Die Walküre*, *Siegfried*, and *Götterdämmerung* (twilight of the gods).

These six Austria stamps depict scenes from the **Ring Cycle**, as follows:

- 3 G. - Siegfried slaying the dragon.
- 8 G. - Gunther's voyage to Iceland.
- 15 G. - Brunhild accusing Kriemhild.
- 20 G. - Nymphs telling Hagen the future.
- 24 G. - Rudiger von Bechelaren welcomes the Nibelungen.
- 40 G. - Dietrich von Bern vanquishes Hagen.

These stamps come in *two different design sizes*

- I - 27 1/2 x 28 1/2 mm - (Mi. #488I-93I, Sc. #B71-76)
- II - 28 1/2 x 27 1/2 mm - (Mi. #488II-93II, Sc. #B72a-76a)



The **four commemorative charity stamps** shown above (Mi. #494-97, Sc. #B77-80) were issued on **November 5, 1928** to celebrate the **10th Anniversary of the Austrian Republic**.

These Austria stamps sold for double face value, with the surtax aiding **orphans of World War I** and the **children of crippled World War I veterans**.

The common design features a portrait of **Michael Hainisch** (1858-1940), the second president of the Republic of Austria (1920-1928).

Issues of 1929-1932

For Austria stamps, 1929 would see the first of a new series of pictorial definitive postage stamps, finally replacing the tiresome and somewhat monotonous art-nouveau-style symbolic definitive and air mail postage stamp issues of the previous decade. More pictorial charity stamps would also appear, giving the period from 1929 to 1932 a very nice looking assortment of attractive new stamp issues.

There was something ominous on the horizon though. In October 1929, the Great Depression began. This period of unspeakable poverty and suffering hit the German-speaking countries of Central Europe, still suffering from war reparation expenses and the era of hyperinflation. The social and political instability in the aftermath of the Great Depression would bring extremist political movements to power in Central Europe, and over the next 15 or so years, they would destroy the First Republic of Austria and the fallout from them would negatively affect the modern World for the remainder of the 20th Century!



The fourteen landscape-types definitive Republic of Austria **stamps** shown above (*Mi. #498-11, Sc. #326-39*) began appearing in **November 1929**, continuing through **September 1930**. The **Groschen denominations** are **Typographed** and the **Schilling denominations** are **engraved**.

Their designs are as follows:

- 10 G. - Güssing, Burgenland.
- 15 G. - Hochosterwitz, Carinthia.
- 16 G. - Dürnstein, Lower Austria.
- 18 G. - Traunsee, Upper Austria.
- 20 G. - Dürnstein, Lower Austria.
- 24 G. - Salzburg Fortress, Salzburg.
- 30 G. - Seewiesen, Steiermark.
- 40 G. - Castle of Innsbruck, Tirol.
- 50 G. - Wörthersee, Carinthia.
- 60 G. - Hohenems, Vorarlberg.
- 1 S. - National Library, Vienna.
- 2 S. - St. Stephen's Cathedral, Vienna.



The **six charity stamps** shown above (*Mi. #512-17, Sc. #B81-86*) were issued on **October 4, 1930**.

These Austria stamps sold for *double face value*, with the surtax aiding **anti-tuberculosis work** and the building of **new sanatoriums in Carinthia**.

The common design features a portrait of **Wilhelm Miklas (1872-1956)**, the third president of the Republic of Austria (1928-1938).



The **six overprinted Austria stamps** shown above (*Mi. #518-23, Sc. #B87-92*) were issued on **June 20, 1931** to publicize the **Rotary International Convention** held in Vienna.

The overprints, which were applied to six denominations of the 1929 landscape definitive stamp series, consisted of the **Rotary International Emblem** and "**CONVENTION / WIEN / 1931**" in various colours.



The **six pictorial charity stamps** shown above (*Mi. #524-29, Sc. #B93-98*) were issued on **September 12, 1931**, and they feature noteworthy **Austrian writers**.

These stamps were sold at *double face value*, with the proceeds **benefiting unemployed young people**.

Their designs are as follows:

- 10 G. - Ferdinand Raimund (1790-1836).
- 20 G. - Franz Grillparzer (1791-1872).
- 30 G. - Johann Nestroy (1801-1862).
- 40 G. - Adalbert Stifter (1805-1868).
- 50 G. - Ludwig Anzengruber (1839-1889).
- 1 S. - Peter Rosegger (1843-1918).



During 1932, fourteen landscape definitive stamp types of 1929 were re-issued in a much smaller size. They are all illustrated above (Mi. #530-43, Sc. #340-53).

Their descriptions are as follows:

- 10 G. - Güssing, Burgenland.
- 12 G. - Traunsee, Upper Austria.
- 18 G. - Traunsee, Upper Austria.
- 20 G. - Dürnstein, Lower Austria.
- 24 G. - Salzburg Fortress, Salzburg.
- 30 G. - Seewiesen, Steiermark.
- 40 G. - Castle of Innsbruck, Tirol.
- 50 G. - Wörthersee, Carinthia.
- 60 G. - Hohenems, Vorarlberg.
- 64 G. - Hohenems, Vorarlberg.



The six pictorial charity stamps shown above (Mi. #545-50, Sc. #B100-05) were issued on November 21, 1932, and they feature noteworthy Austrian artists.

These stamps were sold at *double face value*, with the proceeds benefiting charitable institutions.

Their designs are as follows:

- 12 G. - Ferdinand Georg Waldmüller (1793-1865).
- 24 G. - Moritz von Schwind (1804-1871).
- 30 G. - Rudolf von Alt (1812-1905).
- 40 G. - Hans Makart (1840-1884).
- 64 G. - Gustav Klimt (1862-1918).
- 1 S. - Albin Egger-Lienz (1868-1926).



The 50 G. denomination pictorial charity stamp shown above (Mi. #544, Sc. #B99) was issued on October 12, 1932 to mourn the Death of Ignaz Seipel on August 2, 1932.

These stamps were sold at double face value, with the proceeds benefiting wounded veterans of World War I.

Monsignor Ignaz Seipel (1876-1932) was a prelate and politician of the Christian Social Party, and he was the Chancellor of Austria twice, during the period between 1922 and 1929.

Issues of 1933-1934

For Austria stamps, the big event of 1933 was the **Internationale Postwertzeichen**

Ausstellung (English: *International Postage Stamp Exhibition*) or **WIPA**, held in Vienna from June 24 through July 9, 1933. The souvenir sheet issued for the exhibition has now become one of the most popular (*and most expensive*) rarities of modern Austrian philately. The period from 1933 to 1934 also witnessed the appearance of a new series of pictorial definitive postage stamps, new pictorial charity stamp issues, and mourning stamps for a beloved Austrian political leader.



The surtaxed pictorial Austria **stamps** shown above (*Mi. #551-54, Sc. #B106-09*) were issued on **January 9, 1933** to publicize the **Meeting of the International Ski Federation** in Innsbruck from February 8 though February 13.

The stamps were sold for *double face value*, with the surtax **benefiting "Youth in Distress"**.

The four designs feature **mountain climbing, ski gliding, ski walking, and ski jumping**.



The surtaxed **pictorial stamps** shown above (*Mi. #555A, #556A, Sc. #B110, #B110a*) were issued on **June 23, 1933** for the **International Postage Stamp Exhibition (WIPA)**, held in Vienna from June 24 through July 9, 1933. These stamps are **engraved, perforated 12 1/2**, and they were issued in sheets containing 25 stamps.

There are *two different types*, with the *first* being printed on **regular white paper** (*above left*), and the *second* being printed on **granite paper** (*above right*).

A *third type* comes from *single stamps taken from the souvenir sheet* shown below. These stamps are also printed on **granite paper**, but they are **perforated 12**.

The stamps were sold at the exhibition for double face value, with the *additional amount benefiting various charities*. The admission fee for the exhibition was an

additional 1.60 Schillings.

The design features a **stagecoach**, based on a painting by **Moritz von Schwind** (1804-1871).