

Plate Number Coils

Stamp Collectors and the general public have seen printing plate numbers in the margins of panes of U.S. stamps for a long time. Early coils were made from stamp panes that were cut in strips the width of the pane and then glued together into continuous strips for coiling. The plate numbers were meant to be trimmed off the finished product.

U. S. coil stamps changed in 1981 when the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) began deliberately printing plate numbers at fixed intervals on coil stamps.



To celebrate **25 years** of PNC's, the PNC³, founded in 1988, has designed this logo.

The central part of its design is the 18c Flag (... from sea to shining sea) issued **April 24th 1981**.

This was the first coil to have a plate number intentionally printed as part of its design. Look closely and you will see a **"1"** centered at bottom just below the design.

PNC³, a club dedicated to identification and study of plate number coils, brings you this one frame exhibit on the 25th anniversary of this exciting collecting specialty. The pages that follow will expose you to the many facets of this still young specialty.

Just for fun:

A printing error exists on a stamp in this exhibit which is not described on its designated page. Correctly identify it and claim a prize at our booth!