

Some coils are designed for a specific purpose, which the general population would not use:



Service Designated

An inscription is included in the design of the stamp to indicate the category of postal service to be rendered. The service designated stamp does not normally receive any additional cancellation when used for the indicated service. The mailer must obtain a permit to be able to use these stamps.



Computer Vended Variable Denomination

Available only at a few test sites, these were produced for use in Postage and Mailing Center (PMC) machines, which originally could produce denominations from 1¢ to \$99.99. Produced blank, the denomination was printed by the computer as the stamps were dispensed.



Official Mail

For exclusive use of U.S. Government agencies. These are available to collectors through the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center in Kansas City, Mo. Bearing the notice of a fine if used on regular mail, they are sometimes referred to as "Penalty Mail Stamps".



Test Coils

These were developed to test printing processes and coiling equipment, and to set tension chocks in coil vending machines and stamp affixing machines. They are also used for training purposes and for mailing demonstrations at postal forums. Usually obtained through the secondary market, as they are not available through any Post Office or through the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center.



For Use by Mass Mailers

Produced in large rolls of 500, 3,000 or 10,000 for use by mass mailers whose stamp affixing equipment requires spacing between the individual stamps. These frequently have counting numbers on the backing paper to quickly determine how many stamps remain in a roll.



Collector Coils

These were only available to collectors through the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center. Their purpose was to provide evenly spaced stamps, which normally came as convertible booklets, for use in special affixing machines to provide First Day Covers and Souvenir Pages.