

ord(r)e	PRE N°.	/	PRE N°.	<u>Introduction of Belgian pre-cancelled stamps PRE333-PRE838</u>
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▼ Imprint type A «small state coat of arms» ▼

1-12 [PRE333](#) / [PRE404](#) In 1938, a completely new system for pre-cancellation was introduced. Instead of the names of offices, the name of the country in two languages was used, supplemented with a year and a month indicated in Roman numerals.

The series of stamps featuring the "Small State Coat of Arms" in the values of 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, and 50c was used, which amounted to six stamps per month. The pre-cancellation was printed in the form of a standing hexagon.

Collectors of pre-cancelled stamps were probably not enthusiastic about this, as a total of 72 stamps had to be purchased for the entire year of 1938, with a total value of 21 francs. In 1939, only the months of January and February received a pre-cancellation that was executed in the same manner as in 1938.

For the remaining months, three stamps sufficed: 2c, 5c, and 10c, with only the year and a post horn in a rectangle used as pre-cancellation.

▼ Imprint type B «small state coat of arms» ▼

13-40 [PRE405](#) / [PRE613](#) In 1939, two different pre-cancellations were also introduced that covered a time period. There were eight stamps for the period I-I-39 / 31-XII-39 and nine for the period I-VII-39 / 30-VI-40. This resulted in four different clichés for the pre-cancellation that year.

This system of pre-cancellations with time periods was continued.

Sometimes very decentralized pre-cancellations can be found.

15 [PRE417](#) [PRE419](#) **▼ Imprint type C « Posthorn» on «small state coat of arms» ▼**

No comments.

16-40 [PRE420](#) [PRE332](#) **▼ Imprint type D « Posthorn» ◀▶ «small state coat of arms» ▼**

No comments.

see albums [N° 798/802](#)

On June 18, 1949, five stamps of the type "Small State Coat of Arms" were provided with a pre-cancellation where the postage value was adjusted.

1-40 [PRE333](#) / [PRE613](#) In total, 194 stamps of the type "Small State Coat of Arms" were provided with a pre-cancellation according to time periods. The last issue had the period I-I-51 / 31-XII-51.

41-65 [PRE614](#) [814P5a](#) In 1951, the stamps with the "Small State Coat of Arms" design were gradually replaced by the type "Heraldic Lion". However, the printing for the pre-cancellations remained unchanged, with the post horn and the indicated time periods.

41 [PRE614](#) / [PRE619](#) The first stamp issued with a pre-cancellation was of the type "Heraldic Lion," which was released on February 15, 1951. A new design of this type was introduced from April 1951 onwards. The stamps of 5c, 10c, 20c (blue), 20c (purple), 40c, and 80c received the pre-cancellation of 1-VII-51 / 30-VI-52, which thus applied for more than a year.

42-43 [PRE620](#) / [PRE629](#) In 1952, two types of pre-cancellations were used: one with the period I-I-52 / 31-XII-52 and another with I-VII-52 / 30-VI-53.

44-45 [PRE630](#) [PRE639](#) This also applied to 1953, with a pre-cancellation for the period I-I-53 / 31-XII-53 and another for I-VII-53 / 30-VI-54

46 [PRE640](#) [PRE644](#) For 1954, only one pre-cancellation was used with the period I-I-54 / 31-XII-54.

see albums: [N° 941/942](#)

A pre-cancellation where the postage value was adjusted simultaneously appeared on January 1, 1954. The stamps of 65 and 90 centimes were converted to a postage value of 20 centimes, with the period I-I-54 / 31-XII-54 included in the printing.

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▼ Imprint type E « Posthorn» ◀▶ «small state coat of arms» ▼

47-48 [PRE645](#) [PRE658](#) In 1954, the fifth form of pre-cancellation was introduced. In this case, the post horn was retained in the printing, but the time periods were replaced by years.

49 [PRE659](#) [PRE665](#) The value of 1F had already been included in the range since 1954.

50-55 [PRE666](#) [PRE735](#) However, the 90 centimes were new and were used from 1957.

see albums: N° [1172/1173A](#)

Two stamps with an imprint of a new postage value, 15c and 20c on 30 centimes, were also printed with a pre-cancellation in 1962. In 1963, the imprint was simplified again.

▼ Imprint type F « Posthorn» «small state coat of arms» ▼

56-58 [PRE736](#) [PRE768](#) From 1963, a printing was used for the pre-cancellations that consisted solely of the post horn and a year within a rectangular frame. The postage values varied from 2 centimes to 1 franc.

Throughout the years 1963, 1964, and 1965, the postage values remained unchanged.

59 [PRE769](#) [PRE779](#) In 1966, the assortment was adjusted and the values of 25, 60, and 75 centimes were added, while the values of 40, 80, and 90 centimes disappeared. However, the clichés for the pre-cancellations underwent changes again.

▼ Imprint type G « Posthorn» «small state coat of arms» ▼

60-60A [PRE780](#) [PRE799F](#) The last change of the imprint for the pre-cancellations, which began in 1967, consisted solely of the post horn in a new frame. This may seem simple, but it actually offers an interesting area of research due to the different types of paper used for the later issues of the "Heraldic Lion" stamps.

61-65 [PRE800](#) [PRE814F](#) From 1977, the modernized design "Heraldic Lion with Banner" was introduced.

66 [PRE815P6a](#) [PRE838F](#) From 1986, many stamps featuring images of birds, designed by André Buzin, were provided with a pre-cancellation. This series of birds invites exploration of the many possibilities regarding paper and gum types. This collection alone can already form a set. On December 31, 1996, the use of pre-cancelled stamps was discontinued.

As of January 1, 1997, you may no longer frank shipments at preferential rates with pre-stamped postage stamps. These pre-stamped postage stamps may only be used for the delivery of magazines and printed materials (min. 100) until December 31, 1997. Since this year, only the remaining stock is available; these stamps will no longer be printed.