

Stamp Information Card

Find out

- the country the stamp is from
- the continent the stamp is from
- when the stamp was issued
- why the stamp was issued
- the name of the person, place, object or animal on the stamp



1. The best place to start is to look at the stamp with a magnifying glass.
2. Use the information you've found out to look up the stamp in a stamp catalogue (either hardcopy or online).
3. The entry in the stamp catalogue should provide most of the information.



The stamp was issued in China in 1995. Catalogue information will inform you that this was part of an Endangered Animals set. The other stamp features a koala and there is an Australian issue exactly the same. It may also inform you of the scientific name for giant panda which is *Ailuropoda melanoleuca*.



The stamp was issued in Spain but the year of issue is not on the stamp. However the words '1st Centenario Instituto Geografico y Catastral' appear on the stamp which translates to 100th Anniversary of the Geographical and Statistical Institute. A quick online search provided an article on the history of the institute which started in 1870. Therefore the stamp was issued in 1970.

Stamp Identification

How to find out which country a stamp is from:

1. Look on the stamp to find the country name. It may be written in English or the language of the country it is from.
2. For those that are difficult to understand, look up in a Stamp Finder (*these are available both in hardcopy or online*).

Some points to note:

- There will be old stamps with names of countries that don't exist today.
- Stamps from the UK do not have the name of the country on them. They have a picture of the reigning king or queen.

Deutschland – Germany

Eire – Republic of Ireland

España – Spain

Helvetia – Switzerland (historic name for Switzerland)

Magyar Posta – Hungary (Hungarian post)

Malagasy – Madagascar

Nippon or 日本 – Japan

СССР – Soviet Union (Союз Советских Социалистических Республик)
(Stamps from 1923 to 1991)

Norge – Norway

Polska – Poland

RSA - Republic of South Africa

Sverige – Sweden

ΕΛΛΑΣ – Greece

БЪЛГАРИЯ – Bulgaria

中国 – China

भारत – India