

CANADIAN STAMP ERRORS - MISPERFORATIONS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this traditional exhibit is to showcase Canadian stamps containing perforation errors.

SCOPE

Since stamps were first produced, they have been accidentally produced containing various types of errors, commonly called EFO's (Errors, Freaks and Oddities). I have identified over 30 different types of observable EFO's such as paper creases, paper fold overs, missing images, inverted images, missing colours, printed with wrong colours, repellex, etc., to name but a few.

This current exhibit will limit itself to one type of error, namely: MISPERFORATIONS.

CHALLENGE

The challenge with this exhibit is that numerous EFO stamps (if not a large majority) are quite expensive. As well, the known number that exist for many documented EFO stamps is quite small (e.g., only 100 known). The odds of "discovering" an error stamp is very slight and most EFO's need to be purchased from dealers or at auctions.

PRESENTATION

Misperforated stamp errors (misperfs) will be displayed as follows:

1. Misperfs on the left side of stamps
2. Misperfs on the right side of stamps
3. Top misperfs
4. Bottom misperfs
5. Center misperfs
6. Double misperfs
7. Partially perforated
8. Imperforated

TREATMENT AND ORGANIZATION

It really is arbitrary and in the "eye of the beholder" to state whether a stamp has been misperforated on the right side versus the left side or the top versus the bottom of a stamp! However, I have taken the position that if the perforations on a stamp appear to primarily cut into the design on the left side of the stamp, then I am calling it an error or misperf on the left side. Just as if the perforations appear to primarily cut into the right side of a stamp, it is referred to as an error or misperf on the right. Similarly, I would apply the appearance of misperforations to either the top of a stamp or to the bottom.

SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

A strip of fourteen, 6c orange coil Queen Elizabeth stamps containing one fully perforated stamp, two partially perforated stamps but with the remainder being imperforate. A possibly unique gutter block of eight 46c flag imperforate stamps with “traffic lights.”

RESEARCH AND REFERENCES

Much information in researching this topic was derived over the years from the newspaper *Canadian Stamp News*, from Gary J. Lyon’s various stamp offering pamphlets, and from the book published by Darnell which was the only reference book I found solely dedicated to Canadian EFO’s, as listed below.

Harris, D. Robin, *Environment Definitive Series 1977 – 1987 Second Edition* (2020); Canada; Adminware Corporation.

Harris, D. Robin, Ed., *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps* (2019); Toronto, ON; The Unitrade Press.

Lyon, Gary J, *Selected Offerings for Selected Clients*; Bathurst, NB; Gary J. Lyon (Philatelist) Ltd.

Mackay, James, *Stamp Collecting - Philatelic Terms Illustrated* (1987); London and Ringwood; Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd.

Rousseau, Lyse, *Specialised Edition, Canadian Philatelic E. F. O. 'S, Errors, Freaks & Oddities* (2005); Darnell 3rd Edition; Montreal, QC; Rousseau Inc.

Walsh, Mike, Ed., *Canadian Stamp News* (Newspaper); Welland, ON; Trajan Publishing Corporation.