



Currency: 100 Kopeks = 1 Rouble



Periods Covered

This stamp album covers two arbitrary postal periods in Russian history:

The Imperial Period 1857-1917 The House of Romanov. Peter's Westernisation of Russia culminated in the destruction of the autocracy by the Socialist Revolution of 1917.

The Soviet Period

1917-1991 The Communist Party maintained the Empire as the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The USSR fell in 1991 and dissolved into 15 nations. This Soviet Period is split into the RSFSR and USSR

The Post-Soviet Russian Federation Period The Post-Soviet Period 1991-Present is not covered. With the disintegration of the USSR in December of 1991, Russia set out on a new road to democracy and a market economy.



Kazakhstan. A central Asian republic which declared independence from the USSR on 16 December 1991. First stamps in 1991.

Kirghizstan. A central Asian republic which declared independence from the USSR in September 1991. First stamps in 1991.

Latvia. The first stamps in 1918 were printed on German army maps. From 1944 stamps of the USSR were used, and in 1991 the first stamps of the independent republic were issued, some overprinted on USSR. Declared in May 1990 that Soviet occupation in 1940 was unlawful, and independence conceded by USSR in September 1991.

Lithuania. The first primitive stamps were issued in 1918. The Lithuanian SSR was formed in 1940, and in 1941 German stamps overprinted LIETUVA were used. From 1944 stamps of the USSR were used, and the first stamps of the independent republic were issued in 1990. Lithuania has used three currencies since 1990, with interesting results, worthless kopeck stamps being twice revalued. Declared in March 1990 that 1918 constitution was still valid; independence was conceded by USSR in September 1991.

Moldova. The stamp issuing territory of Moldavia and Wallachia, which became Romania, at one time included the whole of Bessarabia. The border between the Soviet Union and the rest of Europe moved frequently during the 20th century, and Bessarabia ended up in the USSR, either in Moldavia or Ukraine. The Moldavian SSR became Moldova in December 1991. Two regions declared independence from Moldova in 1992.

Russia. Until 1918 there was no country name on its stamps. Kerensky's "broken chain" stamp was inscribed (Cyrillic) ROSSIA, but on all other stamps only initials were used, first RSFSR (PCíCP) and in 1923 USSR, or CCCP. In 1991 stamps were inscribed ROSSIJA in Latin and Cyrillic type. Local overprinted stamps were legally issued in the city of St. Petersburg.

Tadjikistan. A central Asian republic which adopted a declaration of republican sovereignty in August 1990. First stamps in 1991.

Turkmenistan. A central Asian republic which adopted a declaration of independence in October 1991. First stamps in 1991.

Ukraine. The first Ukraine stamps in 1918 were overprinted on RSFSR stamps. Definitives were issued in 1919, and then Ukrainian SSR stamps. In 1924 stamps of the USSR were overprinted YCCP, after which USSR stamps were used unoverprinted. During occupation in 1941-3 German stamps were overprinted UKRAINE. Independence was declared in December 1991 and brought a feeling of philatelic deja vu as USSR stamps were overprinted with the trident symbol first used in 1918. The republic of Crimea, politically and linguistically closer to Russia wants independence from Ukraine and has issued overprinted USSR & Ukraine stamps.

Uzbekistan. A central Asian republic which adopted a declaration of sovereignty in June 1990 and independence in August 1991. First stamps in 1991.

CREDITS



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USSR

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS





Tsar Alexander II

18 February (=2 March) 1855-1 (=13) March) 1881

Alexander (Aleksandr) II of Russia was the Emperor (zar) of Russia from March 2, 1855 until his assassination. As such, also the Grand Duke of Finland 1855-1881. Born the eldest son of Nicholas I of Russia, Alexander's early life gave little indication of his potential, and up to the time of his accession in 1855, few imagined that he would be known to posterity as a great reformer. Alexander succeeded to the throne upon the death of his father in 1855. The first year of Alexander's reign was devoted to the prosecution of the Crimean War, and after the fall of Sevastopol to negotiations for peace. Then began a period of radical reforms, encouraged by public opinion but carried out with autocratic power.

Empire Arms

(Posthorns are shown without thunderbolts in designs SG1-SG49)

1858 Imperf. SG1 Wmk. #2 in 1,2,3



1858 SG2 1 10k. blue & brown



1858 P14.5-15 Wmk #2 in "1","2","3" in dull white; thick or thin paper



SG1 was never a planned issue. The Imperial Postal Service had committed to releasing its first ever adhesive stamps at the end of 1857, to be used from 1 January 1858. They were to be perforated, but there were delays in receiving the perforating equipment and making it operational. Accordingly, in late 1857 the decision was made to release a limited number of sheets of unperforated 10k stamps so that at least a partial implementation of adhesive stamps would still be in place in time for the 1 January 1858 date. These unperforated 10k stamps were on sale for approximately one month before being replaced by properly perforated 10k stamps as well as two new values - a 20k and 30k stamp.

1858 P12.5 Wove No Wmk.

1863 P12.5 Typo Issued for St. Petersburg & Moscow Town Posts





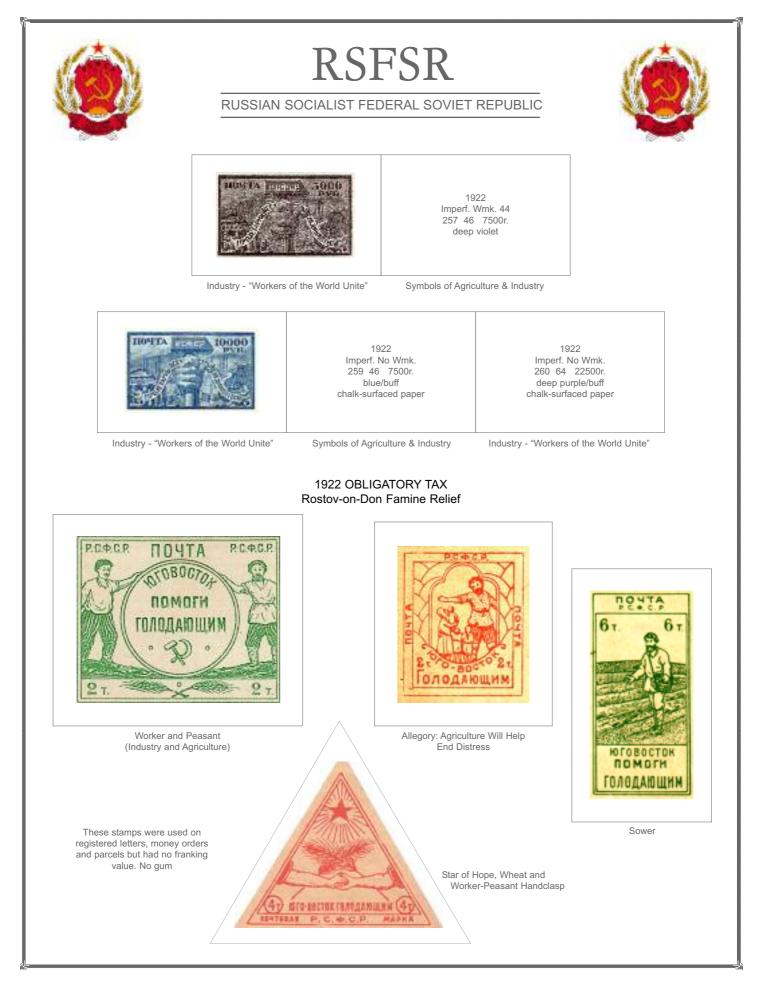
1858 7 1 30K green & carmine-rose



1864 P12.5 Wove No Wmk.



Note: First number given is the Stanley Gibbons 'SG' stamp number. The second number is the stamp 'design type' number





Russia



Stamp Album

➢ Volume 3∞
USSR Soviet Period
1923 - 1959

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