

Cancellation service for philately

● What is the cancellation service for philately?

Postal date stamps (cancellation stamps) are classified roughly into the following two categories. The “cancellation service for philately” covers activities related to impressions of/cancellations with postal date stamps used in post offices.

Ordinary date stamp : A postal date stamp that is ordinarily used for the handling of postal items

Special postal date stamp: A postal date stamp that is used by specifying the post office/date or the term/method of the stamp usage

● Kinds of special postal date stamp

- Picture stamps (illustrated postal date stamps)

These are postal date stamps associated with notable local sites, historical places, etc. and are used in post offices in the vicinity.

Since each post office uses a postal date stamp of a unique design throughout the year, it is possible to send a letter with a cancellation stamp specific to the area where the person sending the letter lives and it is also possible to collect these cancellation stamps as memories of trips.

[For the list of picture stamps, click here](#)

- Small-sized stamps (Small size commemorative date stamps)

These are postal date stamps associated with a local ceremony, social event, etc. and are used for a specific period in post offices in the vicinity.

[For the list of post offices expected to use small-sized stamps, click here](#)

- Special stamps (commemorative postal date stamps)

These are postal date stamps associated with national commemorative events, etc. and used for a specific period.

The design and post offices using special stamps are announced in the press release.

- First day stamp (date stamp for first day stamp cancellation)

This is a postal date stamp associated with the issuance of postage stamps, postcards, etc.

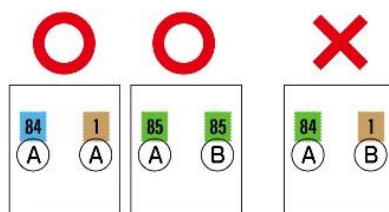
The design and post offices using the stamps are announced in the press release for the issuance of special postage stamps.

[The list of issued postage stamps, click here](#)

● Kinds of cancellation

There are two types of stamp cancellation. One is the “commemorative date stamp cancellation” that cancels a postage stamp affixed on a mount, etc. The other is the “acceptance stamp cancellation” that cancels a postage stamp affixed on the actual postal item delivered.

◎ Commemorative date stamp cancellation: Use the amount equivalent to the postal rate of second class mail (equivalent to the postal rate for postcards) affixed on a single mount as a unit and use a single type of postal date stamp for a unit for stamp cancellation



◎ Acceptance stamp cancellation: Use a single type of postal date stamp for a single postal item for stamp cancellation

* When using a special postal date stamp for stamp cancellation of international mail, place a regular date stamp on the side of the special postal date stamp.



● How to apply

1 How to apply at the mail counter

① Commemorative date stamp cancellation

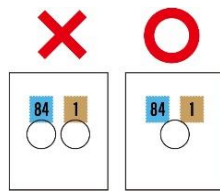
- A mount, etc. (paper material) or postcard affixed with a postage stamp which is equivalent to or higher than the postal rate of second class mail (equivalent to the postal rate of postcards)
- * If you do not have a postage stamp or a postcard, please purchase it at the post office counter.

② Acceptance stamp cancellation

- A postal item on which the address is specified and which is affixed with a postage stamp equivalent to the postal rate

Notes on application

- (1) Stamp cancellation overlaps 3 - 5 mm with the impression for commemorative date stamp cancellation and about 10 mm for acceptance stamp cancellation.
- (2) For both commemorative date stamp cancellation and acceptance stamp cancellation, the smallest number of stamp cancellations are performed.



- (3) Although due attention is paid when performing stamp cancellation, there may be cases in which smudges, scratches, misalignments, etc. occur on the Impression since it is pushed by hand. We ask for your understanding in advance that no re-stamp cancellation or recompense is made in such cases.
- (4) We cannot correspond to technically difficult requests for stamp cancellation such as a precise specification of the stamp cancellation position (such as to 1 mm units). Please understand in advance that there may be cases in which requested objects are returned with no stamp cancellation performed if the specified stamp cancellation is difficult to perform.
- (6) If you request a large number of cancellations during peak times, we may have to give priority to other customers.
- (7) The cancellation will be handled by a Japan Post employee. You cannot perform the cancellation yourself.

2 How to apply by mail

Send the following, by mail, to the post office that has the date stamp that you request to use for stamp cancellation.

① Commemorative date stamp cancellation

- (1) A mount or postcard affixed with a postage stamp which is equivalent to or higher than the postal rate of second class mail (equivalent to the postal rate of postcards)
- (2) A reply envelope on which the reply address is written and a postage stamp is affixed
- (3) A cancellation instruction that contains the following contents
 - The kind of date stamp wanted for stamp cancellation (“picture stamp”, “○○ small-sized stamp”, etc.)
 - Your contact name
 - Specification of cancellation place, etc.

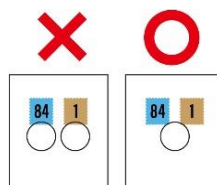
② Acceptance stamp cancellation

- (1) A postal item on which the address is specified and is affixed with a postage stamp equivalent to the postal rate
- (2) A cancellation instruction that contains the following contents
 - The kind of date stamp wanted for stamp cancellation (“picture stamp”, “○○ small-sized stamp”, etc.)
 - Your contact name

- Specification of cancellation place, etc.

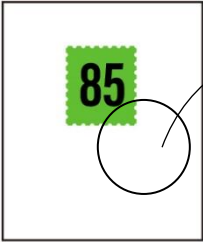
Notes on application

- (1) Stamp cancellation overlaps 3 - 5 mm with the impression for commemorative date stamp cancellation and about 10 mm for acceptance stamp cancellation.
- (2) For both commemorative date stamp cancellation and acceptance stamp cancellation, the smallest number of stamp cancellations are performed.



- (3) Although due attention is paid when performing stamp cancellation, there may be cases in which smudges, scratches, misalignments, etc. occur on the Impression since it is pushed by hand. We ask for your understanding in advance that no re-stamp cancellation or recompense is made in such cases.
- (4) Please apply after preparing postage stamps and postcards issued by Japan Post Co., Ltd. It is not allowed to use international reply coupons, fixed-amount postal money orders, currency registrations, etc. (other than postage stamps/postcards) for application.
- (5) We cannot correspond to technically difficult requests for stamp cancellation such as a precise specification of the stamp cancellation position (such as to 1 mm units).
Please understand in advance that there may be cases in which requested objects are returned with no stamp cancellation performed if the specified stamp cancellation is difficult to perform.
- (6) When applications by mail are found to be incomplete, the requested objects will be returned with no stamp cancellation performed.
- (7) Please understand in advance that there may be cases in which the specified stamp cancellation date cannot be applied.
- (8) Please refrain from sending applications by mail which require storage of one week or longer in a post office, except when the application date is specified on the Web page of Japan Post Co., Ltd. There may also be cases in which storage of shorter than even one week is difficult depending on the specific situation of a post office. We ask for your understanding in advance.
- (9) Please understand in advance that the mailing cost for sending the application to the post office must be paid even when a request is returned with no stamp cancellation performed.
- (10) The post office will discard the envelope and the cancellation instructions sent when making applications (the envelope, etc. cannot be returned).
- (11) Please note that if your mail request cannot be returned because the return address is not provided or for other reasons, we will keep it at the Post Office for three months and then dispose of it.

Cancellation instructions (押印指示書)

Name of applicant (申込者名)	
Name of date stamp used for cancellation (押印する日付印の名称)	Picture stamp(風景印)/ small-sized stamp (小型印) ()/ ordinary date stamp(Japanese) (通常日付印) / others ()
Kinds of cancellation (押印の種類)	Commemorative date stamp cancellation (記念押印) / acceptance stamp cancellation (引受消印)
Kinds of date stamp used for cancellation/position of cancellation, etc. (Please provide easy to understand descriptions using illustrations, etc.) (押印指示)	
<div> <div> <div>(Example of description)</div> <div>  <div> Please use picture stamps for commemorative date stamp cancellation at the lower right-hand position of a postage stamp </div> </div> </div> </div>	