

# "PERFINS"

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## A QUOTATION

from the Postoffice Department

"Any persons or concerns may avail themselves of this privilege and no permit is necessary. The punctures or perforations are not placed on the stamps by the postal service but this must be done by the persons or concerns themselves. No record is kept by the postal service of such persons and concerns, nor is a list compiled.

"Punctured or perforated stamps have been in use for many years, and no change has been made in the regulation cited with respect to the manner in which such punctures or perforations should be made since it was promulgated.

"This regulation, as above stated, provides for the perforation of U. S. postage stamps by mailers for the purpose of identification only, such purpose being to aid and restrict their use by the purchaser.

"When perforated stamps are used on matter mailed at another post-office, it gives rise to the question of whether the stamps have been stolen or surreptitiously acquired from someone connected with the concern by whom they were perforated, and for this reason the practice is not favorably looked upon. However, matter having such stamps affixed when presented by others than purchasers of the stamps is not unmailable."

## PERFINS

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Postal Laws and Regulations  
Section 716 entitled,  
"Perforation for Identification"

United States postage stamps, to be acceptable for postage shall be without defacement, provided that for the purpose of identification only, and not for advertising, it shall be permissible to puncture or perforate letters, numerals or other marks or devices in United States postage and special delivery stamps. The punctures or perforations shall not exceed one-thirty-second of an inch in diameter, and the whole space occupied by the identifying device shall not exceed one-half in. square. The puncturing or perforating shall be done in such a manner as to leave the stamp easily recognizable as genuine and not previously used. Stamps on which ink or other coloring substance has been used, in connection with such puncturing or perforating shall not be accepted as postage.