

A Collection of Australian 'Official' Perfins.



Compiled by **Roy Gault** with acknowledgements to

David Andersen and **John Mathews**.

June 2009



Western Australia.

Queensland.

South Australia.

New South Wales.

Victoria.

Tasmania.

Australian States.



Federal Capital Territory
created 1st January 1911, and renamed
Australian Capital Territory
on 29th July 1938.



The Commonwealth of Australia.

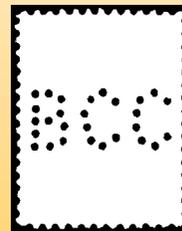
1st January 1901.





Brisbane City Council, Brisbane, Queensland.

1913-1940



BCC.1

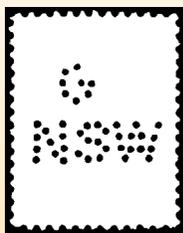
Although the die was in use for quite some time,
very little is known about it.

The Perfin is rated as **Scarce**.

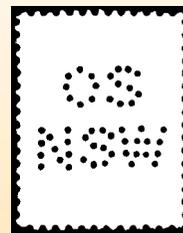
New South Wales Government, General Departmental Use.

Introduced in May 1933, this die replaced the "OS" Perfin.

1933-1937



NO Examples in the Collection!



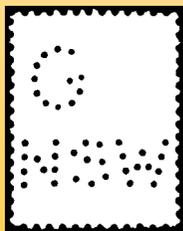
G/NSW

The old "OS/NSW" (Type A) die was modified to produce "G/NSW", hence the offset "G".

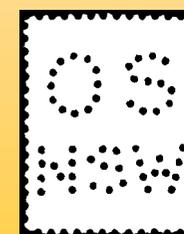


Introduced in May 1933, this die also replaced the "OS" Perfin.

1933-1937



G/NSW

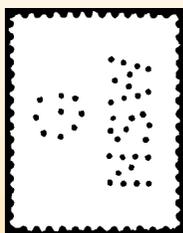


The old "OS/NSW" (Type C) die was modified to produce "G/NSW", hence the offset "G".

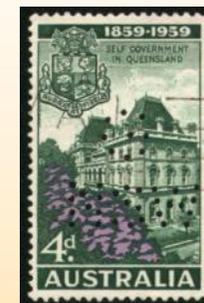
New South Wales Government, General Departmental Use - continued ...

Introduced in 1937 to accommodate the smaller format KGVI stamps.
Multiheaded die (10x1), arranged with the initials upright.
Punctures often poor!

1937-1961



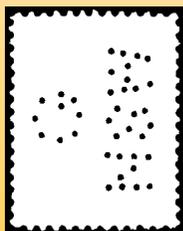
G/NSW-C



Also known in combination with an "OS" overprint in Red, usually postmarked 1951.

Introduced in 1961. Multiheaded die (10x1), initials set sideways.

1961-1978



G/NSW-D

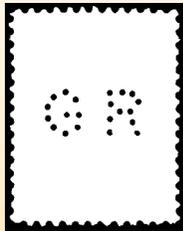


Punctures are often poor! This Perfin is very common.

Government Railways - New South Wales.

The first New South Wales Government Department to use Perfins.

1895-1903



GR Type A

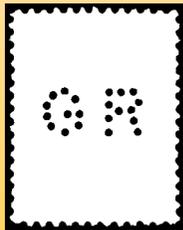
Produced on a small, hand-machine with a single headed die.



The die is rated as **Common**.



1902-1912



GR Type B

'Harrild & Sons, London' comb perforating machine converted in 1902 to take a 12x1 mhd.



"GR" Perfins suspended c1909, in favour of the Standard issue Government Perfins.

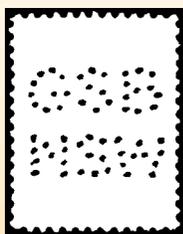
The die is rated as **Very Common**.



Government Savings Bank of New South Wales, Moore St, Sydney, NSW.

From 1st January 1907 the Bank was placed under the control of three Commissioners.
The “OS/NSW” Perfins currently in use were replaced by “GSB/NSW”.

1907

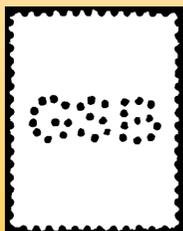


GSBNSW.1

NO Examples in the Collection!

In use from 5th January 1907 to 14th March 1907,
the Perfin is rated as **Rare**.

1907-1912



GSB.1

NO Examples in the Collection!

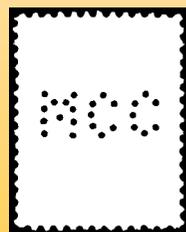
With so many holes in the original puncture, the tendency for initialled stamps to
tear easily was overcome by removing the “NSW” portion of the die.

The Perfin is rated as **Uncommon** in its modified form.

Melbourne City Council, Swanson St, Melbourne, VIC.



1902-1917



MCC.1

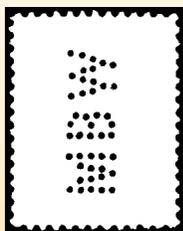


The Perfin is rated as **Common**.

Metropolitan Board of Works,

110 Spencer St, Melbourne, VIC.

1895-1918



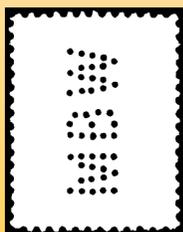
MBW.1



Three dies are known to have been used by the Metropolitan Board of Works.

Although introduced progressively, all three were in use **1914-1918**.

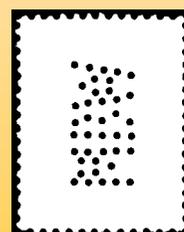
1904-1931



MBW.2



1914-1924



MBW.3

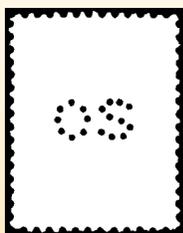


All three Perfins are rated as **Common**.

Official Service “OS” Dies.

Used on **New South Wales State Stamps** (Types ‘A’ and ‘B’),
and **Queensland State Stamps** (Type ‘C’).

1902-1903



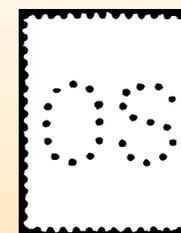
OS - Type A

<< Type ‘A’ was short-lived, in use - Nov 1902 to April 1903.

Type A - NO Examples in the Collection!

Type C - NO Examples in the Collection!

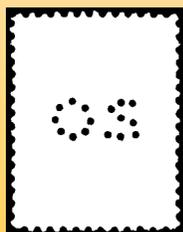
1905



OS - Type C

Type ‘C’ was also short-lived, in use Aug to Oct 1905. >>

1903-1912



OS - Type B

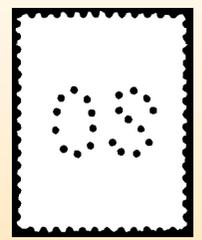
This Type ‘B’ pattern replaced Type ‘A’. Earliest date: 28th April 1903.



The die was multiheaded with 12 patterns, arranged in two groups of 6, separated by a space to allow for the gutter.

Official Service “OS” Dies. Used on **South Australia** State Stamps.

1905-1912



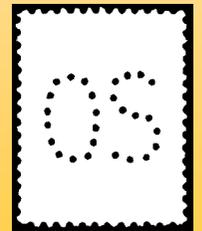
OS - Type D

The Type ‘D’ die was multiheaded with 12 patterns.



Type ‘E’ was introduced c1907, specifically to puncture large format stamps.

1907-1912



OS - Type E

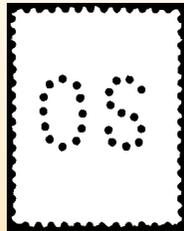


Official Service “OS” Dies – Type ‘F’ (Melbourne Puncture).

Used on various State Stamps.

Commonwealth Government Departments in **New South Wales** (Pre 1912).

1902-1912



OS - Type F

NO Examples in the Collection!

Commonwealth & State Government Departments in **Queensland** (1905-1914).



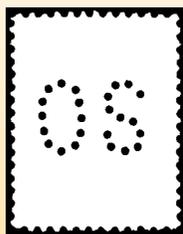
The Type ‘F’ die was multiheaded with 10 sideways patterns.

Official Service “OS” Dies – Type ‘F’ (Melbourne Puncture).

Used on various State Stamps - continued ...

Commonwealth Government Departments in **Tasmania** (1904-1912).

1902-1912



OS - Type F



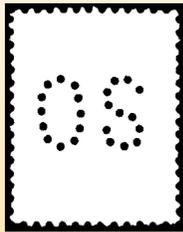
Commonwealth & State Government Departments in **Victoria** (1902-1913).



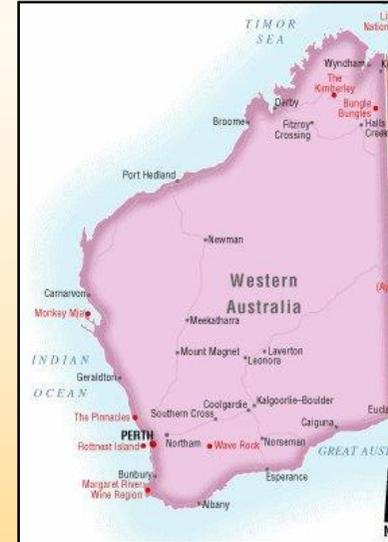
Official Service “OS” Dies – Type ‘F’ (Melbourne Puncture). Used on various State Stamps - continued ...

Commonwealth & State Government Departments in
Western Australia (1904-1912).

1902-1912



OS - Type F



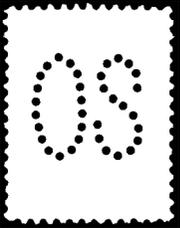
Commonwealth & State Government Departments. **Late Usage 1927-1929.**



The old ‘Melbourne Puncture’ die was retained until at least 1929.
Known on three commemorative issues for Official usage.

Official Service “OS” Dies used on Commonwealth Stamps.

1913-1915

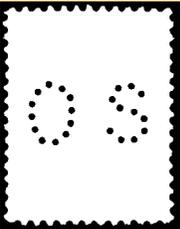


OS Type G



Type ‘G’ was such a large Perfin that problems separating the stamps were reported, resulting in the use of a pattern with much smaller letters - Type ‘H’.

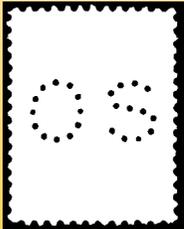
1913-1931



OS Type H



1933

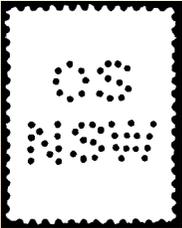


OS Type I

Used in New South Wales Government Departments, April-May 1933.

Official Service New South Wales. Government Departments.

1902-1933



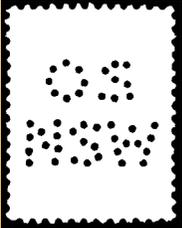
Type A

Type 'A' was multiheaded with 10 patterns. In use October 1902 to March 1903.



Re-introduced in 1913 with two additional patterns - only used to puncture the Kangaroo issue.

1903-1912



Type B

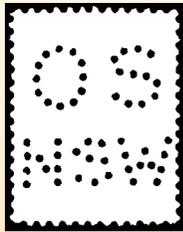
Introduced in February 1902, Type 'B' was multiheaded with 12 patterns.



Official Service New South Wales. Government Departments.

Introduced in 1915, Type 'C' was multiheaded with 12 patterns arranged in two groups of 6.

1915-1933



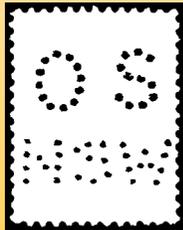
Type C



Note: The "S" has 12 pins.

Type 'C' is a **hybrid** of "OS" (Type 'H'), and the "NSW" portion of "OS/NSW" (Type 'C').

c1919



Type D

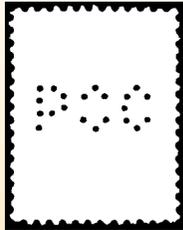
NO Examples in the Collection!

Note: The "S" has 11 pins.

Minor variations reported in the spacing of the Rows.

Prahan City Council, High St, Prahan, VIC.

1908-1920



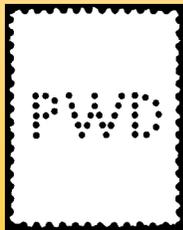
PCC.1



The Perfin is rated as **Uncommon**.

Public Works Department of WA, State Government, Perth, WA.

1903-1904



PWD.1

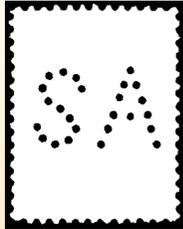
Perfin used by the PWD of WA from early 1903 until sometime in April 1904.
It was replaced by the Official "WA".



The Perfin is rated as **Rare**.

South Australian Government Departments.

1903-1912



SA

Introduced 30th September 1903.

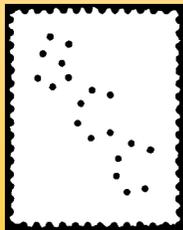


From 1913 to 1931 the South Australian Government Departments used the "OS" Types F - H.

Sydney County Council, Sydney, NSW.

Established by the Gas and Electricity Act of 1935, the Sydney County Council was formed on 1st January 1936

1937-1954

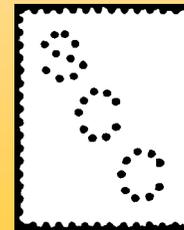


SCC.1



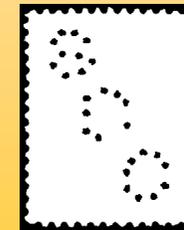
The 'S\M\C' perforating machine was altered to read "S\C\C".

1936-1937



SCC.2

???

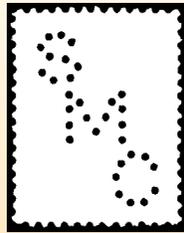


SCC.3

NO Examples in the Collection!

Sydney Municipal Council, Sydney, NSW.

1915-1935



SMC.1

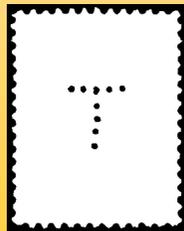


The Perfin is rated as **Common**.

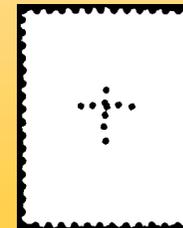
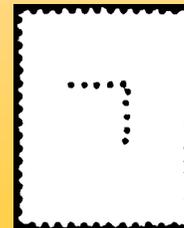
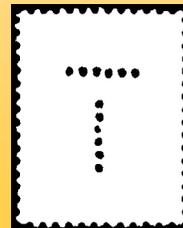
Tasmanian Government Departments.

The "T" was formed by two strikes at right angles of a line of holes, varying in number from 4 to 8.

1902-1977



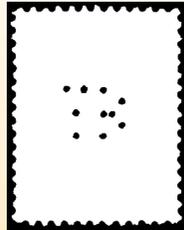
T



Although the Perfin is **Very Common**, well formed letters are rarely found!

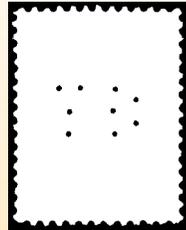
Melbourne & Metropolitan Tramways Board, 616 Lt Collins St, Melbourne, VIC.

1924-1931



TB.1

1932-1984



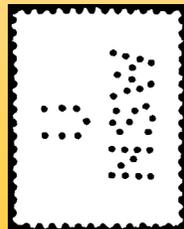
TB.2



This pattern was the very last **Commercial Perfin** used in **Australia** in **1984**.

University of New South Wales, Kensington, NSW.

1962-1978



UNSW.1



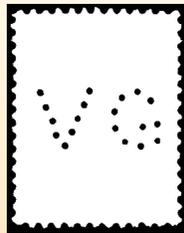
The Perfin is rated as **Uncommon**.

Victorian Government Departments.

When the Commonwealth ceased issuing 'Official' "OS" stamps, the Victorian Government began issuing their own "VG" initialed 'Officials'.

Type 'A' was first used in February 1933.

1933-1953



VG Type A

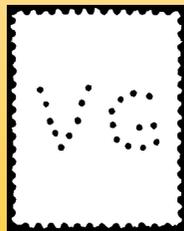


The perforating head had 12 patterns, arranged in two groups of 6.

Due to excessive wear, a new 12 pattern head was ordered to replace Type A.

The new die included a mixture of 10-pin G's (9 patterns as Type 'A') and 11-pin G's (3 patterns).

1935-1953



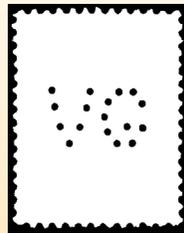
VG Type B



The Type 'B' designation is for the 11-pin G's only.

Victorian Government Departments continued ...

1953-1976



VG Type C

In August 1953 a new 10 pattern head was introduced replacing VG (Type B).

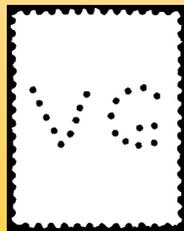


This Perfin is **Very Common!**

In 1976 a replacement head consisting of 10 patterns was introduced.

This Perfin is also **Very Common!**

1976-1989



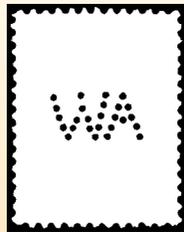
VG Type D



Great care was taken during the perforating process to ensure **good, clean punctures.**

Western Australian Government Departments.

1903-1915



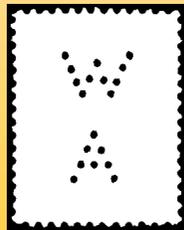
WA

Introduced 30th June 1903, but replaced by “OS” Type F in 1905.
Also used again in 1910 (½d wmk Crown), and 1915 (2½d Kangaroo).



Minor variations point to a multiheaded die.

1933-1954



W/A

Introduced in 1933 to replace the “OS” Official Service punctures.
Multiheaded die with 12 patterns.

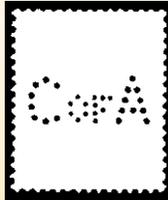


The die was re-arranged in 1937 (now with 16 patterns).
Production ceased in December 1954.

Australian Government Representatives in Great Britain.

Commonwealth of Australia, Australia House, London WC2.

1911-1937



C5510.01

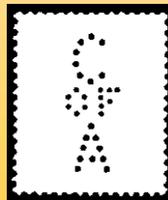
Known to be a single headed die.



Also used by Agent General for South Australia (1925), and Naval personnel from HMAS Stuart (1933), and HMAS Australia (1935).

Lower part of the die became damaged c1937.

1916-1970



C5520.01M

Known to be a multiheaded die, 2x1.



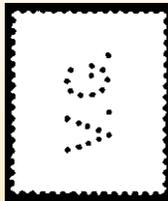
Used 1916-1918 by the Australian Military in Great Britain during WWI, then put into storage.

Re-used from c1937 when "C of A" die became damaged.

Australian Government Representatives in Great Britain.

Agent General for Victoria, London. {Suspected only}.

1936-1939



V0710.01

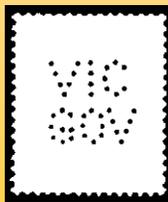


Reported on G.B. 1/2d KEVIII, 1 1/2d GVI Coronation,
and 1 1/2d KGV (Dark brown).

Australian Government Representatives in Great Britain.

Victoria Government Office, London. {Suspected only}.

c1913



V0870.01

NO Examples in the Collection!

Reported on just one example, so probably unique!
KGV 1d (Downey Head) postmarked London EC, 18th March 1913.

