

ACCOUITEMENTS AND ACCESSORIES– new rates – new definitive series from 1st April.

As has become a tradition, a new table of rates was introduced on 1st April, and with it a new range of definitives. Several denominations appear on more than one stamp, doubtless for good political reasons. The stamps come in rolls and on cards; the special sets for philatelists are singles cut out from the cards (as you can tell from the printing on the back!).



The stamps were designed by Anita Kern and printed in Offset by Enschedé. Each is 25mm square, self-adhesive. The designs are accessories and accoutrements that might accompany a traditional costume.

“Because of Covid-19” some of the usual presentations are not available, but special cancels were available until the end of June from the Rochusplatz office. [This is only stated in the German version of the OPost web site.] All the denominations except three are available on cards; three only come on rolls – eg the 85c Bridal Wreath can be bought as 5, 100, or 2000. Order with care!

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Here are three of the cards, front and back. Above the actual stamps is an explanation of what that value is intended for.

There is also a large (16 items) range of Postal Stationery with the appropriate new stamps as imprints.



On the next pages are a list of the new rates; and another of all the stamps.

The rates.

Inland letter

Priority letter	Small letter	85
	Medium letter	135
	Small packet	275
	Medium packet	430
Eco letter	Small letter	74
	Medium letter	130
	Small packet	255
	Medium packet	410
Eco business letter	Small letter	70
	Medium letter	115
	Small packet	230

It is not possible to apply a franking of 74 cents with the new stamps! However, small and medium Eco letters may only be put into post boxes using the pre-paid postal stationery envelopes, or taken into a post office where a special Eco cancellation will be applied. See the article in Austria 206 p42ff on ECO Post. This means that the envelopes will now cost more. As you cannot use stamps to pay for Eco post there is no need for a 74 cent stamp (nor for a 130, which can be made up: 100 + 3 x 10).

International (Foreign) letter

	EU & rest of Europe		Rest of the world	
	Priority	Economy	Priority	Economy
Small letter	100	n/a	180	n/a
Medium letter	210	175	275	255
Large letter	700	560	1235	1025
Extra-large letter	n/a	990	n/a	2180

International Plus letter

	EU & rest of Europe				Rest of the world			
	Priority		Economy		Priority		Economy	
	Item	Kilo	Item	Kilo	Item	Kilo	Item	Kilo
P75	60	1000	57	800	85	1250	82	1100
P100	63	1000	60	800	88	1250	85	1100
B	170	260	160	220	230	540	220	430
N	290	495	260	360	390	900	300	830

The stamps

cents	Design & whence	Description
5	Astrachankappe – Seewinkel	Die warme Kappe wird aus dem Fell des Karakullamms gefertigt. The warm cap is made from the fur of the Karakul lamb.
10	Bodensee-Radhaube – Bodensee	Die prachtvollen Hauben aus Lamespitze werden händisch erzeugt. The magnificent bonnets made of lamé lace are hand-made.
85	Fiaker-Melone – Wien	Die typische Melone der Wiener Fiaker hat ihren Ursprung in London. The typical bowler hat of the Viennese Fiaker has its origin in London.
85	Hut mit Gamsradl – Ausseerland	Das goldbestickte Gamsradl ist ein beliebter Schmuck für den Ausseer Hut. The gold-embroidered chamois radl is a popular ornament for the Ausseer hat (<i>it's made from the dark hairs along the spine of the animal's back</i>).
85	Schuberkette mit Taschenuhr – Montafon	Die silberne Uhrkette ergänzt die Montafoner Festtagstracht der Frauen. The silver watch chain complements the Montafon festive costume for women.
85	Stinatzer Festtagskranz – Stinatz	Der Brautkranz wird mit Blumen, Perlen und Bändern geschmückt. The bridal wreath is decorated with flowers, pearls and ribbons.
100	Köchertasche – Salzburg	Die kunstvollen Ledertaschen werden mithilfe einer Holzform gefertigt. The artistic leather bags are made using a wooden mould.
100	Kropfkette – Innviertel	Die Halskette besteht aus enganliegenden Silberketten und einer großen Schließe. The necklace consists of tight-fitting silver chains and a large clasp.
135	Schnürstiefel – Gailtal	Die geschnürten, wadenhohen Trachtenstiefel sind kunstvoll bestickt. The laced, calf-high traditional boots are artistically embroidered.
135	Taschenfeitl – Ybbstal	Das kleine klappbare Taschenmesser hat einen Griff aus Rehgeweih. The small foldable pocket knife has a deer antler handle.
175	Federkielstickerei – Osttirol	Nur wenige beherrschen die hohe Kunst der Stickerei mit Pfauenfedern. Few can master the fine art of peacock feather embroidery.
180	Modelstutzen – Ennstal	Die aufwendigen Muster der Stutzen dienen auch der Kommunikation. The elaborate patterns of the socks are also a means of communication (<i>possibly of marital status?</i>)
210	Tiroler Schützenhut – Pitztal	Die weißen Hahnenfedern symbolisieren den Wagemut der Schützen. The white feathers of the blackcock symbolize the daring of the marksmen.
275	"Ischler" Rocktasche – Salzkammergut	Das Eichenlaub wird in Hellgrün auf Taschen und Revers aufgesteppt. The oak leaves are quilted in light green on pockets and lapels.
275	Waidmesser – Innengebirg	Die Griffe des kunstvollen Jagdmessers bestehen aus Hirschhorn. The artistic handles of the hunting knife are made of stag horn.
430	Scheibenbart – Ausseerland	Der große Hutschmuck wird heute noch bei Trachtenumzügen getragen. The large hat decoration is still worn as part of the traditional costume in parades.

Comprehensive details (*from Austrian Post*) about this “Accessories” series

The definitive stamps that were issued on 1 April 2020 are dedicated to a traditional subject that plays a major role in Austrian culture: traditional dress. Back in the 1930s and 1940s, we had two traditional dress series dedicated to the regional particularities of different types of traditional dress. This time around, accessories, which add a special touch to traditional dress, will grace our stamps. Sixteen definitive stamps and two postal stationery items will highlight the existing variety of traditional dress and put special emphasis on regional differences. While all Austrian provinces will be presented, not every stamp is dedicated exclusively to a specific region or province. The Salzkammergut region, for example, is a historical cultural area that covers three provinces: Upper Austria, Styria and Salzburg. The so-called “Ausseerland” and the capital of traditional dress, Bad Aussee, is located in the Styrian Salzkammergut region.

Some techniques are present across regions, such as hunting knives and quill embroidery. The production of accessories relies on traditional artisan expertise. Only a few people still master these tried-and-trusted techniques, which makes hand-made accessories very valuable. Often, they are passed down from one generation to the next, thereby preserving the tradition.

A journey through Austria

Our traditional dress journey will take us from Burgenland and its Stinatz festive wreath and Astrachan cap to Styria and its Ennstal knee socks, the hat with the chamois beard, the disk beard and the Koppelschloss belt buckle. The journey continues to Carinthia and its Gailtail laced boots, the Gurktal hat and then to Tirol with quill embroidery and the Tirol hunting hat. Vorarlberg has contributed its Montafon Schuberkette chain and the Bodensee Radhaube bonnet. Our journey continues to the Salzburg Köchertasche bag and the hunting knife used in Innengebirg, on to Upper Austria and its skirt pocket from Bad Ischl and the Kropfkette chain from the Innviertel region. Our last stops are Lower Austria with the pocketknife from Ybbstal and the typical bowler hat worn by horse carriage drivers in Vienna.