

This gauge is designed to correctly measure all perforations that occur on United States Stamps. Perforations were first measured in Europe and the European method of using millimeters was, of course utilized. In case of the United States stamps, this is absolutely incorrect. Every stamp made by, or used in the United States has had both the design and the perforations basically made in inches or fractions of an inch. Every perforating machine used in this country has had the pins which do the perforating spaced in 1000's of an inch – **NOT** in millimeters. The number on the left represents the approximate number of perforations in a distance of 2 centimeters. The number on the right represent the **ACTUAL** distance between the center of the perforation holes in thousandths of an inch. As this was the basis on which perforation equipment was designed, it is the only true way that perforations can be measured and classified.

PERF. 15-51 First perforations used 1857-1861

PERF. 12-66 Used in 1861 on all stamps till 1914 except the 1910 coil. In 1943 only used on the overrun Nations.

PERF. 8½-95 Used 1910 – 1914 on Flat Plate Coil Stamps.

PERF. 10-79 Used on all Flat Plate Stamps 1914 – 1917: Also appears on 1923 Rotary.

PERF. 10-80 First used in 1915 on Rotary coils. Used on 1923 Rotary Issue and Coil Waste Stamps. Still in use today.

PERF. 10-81 Practically the same as 10-80, but does not appear after the 1922-6 period.

PERF. 11-72 First used in 1915 on 2¢ watermarked stamps. Became generally used in 1917 on all Flat Plate Issues. On issues of 1918-22 used on offset printings and rotary. Today used on Giori Press Stamps.

PERF. 11-73 Same use as 11-72 in the period 1917-22, though not as common as 11-72. The diameter of the perf holes are larger than the 11-72, being the same size as perf 10's.

PERF. 12½ - 63 Only used on 1¢ offset in 1919.

PERF. 11-70 Used in combination with 10½ - 75 Rotary issues 1926 to date.

PERF. 10½ - 75 Used in combination with 11 – 70.

PERF. 12 – 67 Used on High Value Revenue Stamps starting 1914.

The above information is the result of much time and research in the field of perforations on United States Stamps. This research will continue for many questions remain unanswered.

Any comment or information you may offer in the field of U.S. Perforations will be appreciated.

UNITED STATES

Spacing Inches	Actual Perf	Specialist System	Scott Listing
.095	8.29	8½-95	8½
.081	9.72	10-81	10
.080	9.84	10-80	10
.079	9.97	10-79	10
.075	10.50	10½-75	10½
.073	10.79	11-73	11
.072	10.94	11-72	11
.070	11.25	11-70	11
.067	11.75	12-67	12
.066	11.92	12-66	12
.063	12.49	12½-63	12½
.051	15.44	15-51	15

UNITED STATES SPECIALIST GAUGE

..... 8½ - 95
 10 - 81
 10 - 80
 10 - 79
 10½ - 75
 11 - 73
 11 - 72
 11 - 70
 12 - 67
 12 - 66
 12½ - 63
 15 - 51

A PERFORATION GAUGE DESIGNED
 WITH EXTREME ACCURACY FOR USE
 ON U. S. STAMPS ONLY.

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