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## Hong Kong Coils

by Ken Turner

Few people realise that Hong Kong does release coil stamps- a specialised collecting area in its own right.

The coils, in a lot of ways, are identical to the regular stamps, featuring the same definitive picture and value. However, the changes come in a number of different ways:

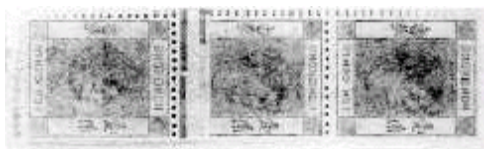
- S Every 5<sup>th</sup> stamp in the coil has a number on the back of it as shown below.



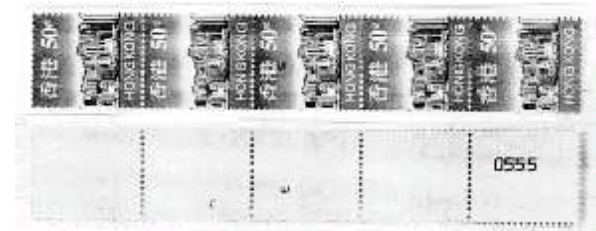
- S The perforations on the coil look like somebody trimmed them with a pair of scissors or a knife.



- S Jump strips exist where stamps have been joined to continue the roll.



- S Some coils have completely different pictures from the definitives and are smaller.
- S This applies to the most recent coil definitives. The colour on the stamp is flatter or duller in shade than the regular definitive. The writing on the bottom of the coil (eg., the "Hong Kong") appears to be brushed/pulled, giving in some cases a more dramatic drawn out lettering (shadows).



Coils do exist for a number of Hong Kong issues but nobody seems to pay any attention to them. Just try finding a numbered coil used on a letter. I feel that these stamps "used" in some ways are a true scarcity; especially the Queen Elizabeth II issues as they are no more. The new definitive coils nobody really looks for.

To the Hong Kong collector, good hunting and good luck!