

MEMEL / KLAIPĖDA PHILATELIC HANDBOOK, PART 2:

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Stamps of Memel

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Three-level Classification

For this handbook to reach all levels of philately, each stamp and group of stamps will be approached on three levels. These levels are 1) the collector, 2) the specialist and 3) the philatelist. Each person will be able to assess their level within philately based upon their interest in the subject matter presented.

1. Collector:

- A picture of the stamp
- Overprint information
- Watermark information
- Perforation information
- Date of issuance and validity
- Catalog numbers from major catalogs
- Number printed
- Membership in societies of interest

3. Philatelist:

- Printing or overprint plate numbers
- Specialization in some aspect or aspects of philately
- Type of printing method
- Forerunners
- Minor (Ernst Becker) varieties
- Fakes and Forgeries
- Writing articles for specialists
- Exhibiting
- Research and teaching

2. Specialist:

- Major color varieties
- Perforation varieties
- Overprint varieties
- Gum varieties
- Paper/watermark varieties
- Flat versus rotary plate varieties
- Cancellations
- Vertical or Horizontal gutter pairs
- Center of sheet gutter blocks of 4
- Inverted Overprints
- Bottom margin printing dates
- Perforations
- Telegram Service
- Revenue Stamps
- Postal History
- Literature

Code of Catalogs:

Mi	=	MICHEL
Sc	=	SCOTT
Y&T	=	YVERT & TELLIER
SG	=	STANLEY GIBBONS

Experts:

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Ernst Becker Variety Notation

In Ernst Becker's catalog and articles, he did not give letter or number notations to the varieties he found on sheets of Memel Territory stamps. An attempt is made in this handbook to employ both the Michel stamp identification numbering system and their variety notation system. Those lower case letters not used in the Michel system will be used in notation for Ernst Becker varieties. Becker varieties will be preceded by a capital "B" followed by the Michel stamp number, the lower case variety notation and a number.

Upper Case Letters:

DD I = double overprint both strong	F = color variety
DD II = double overprint one weaker	U = imperforate
OR = upper sheet margin	UR = lower sheet margin
UMw = vertical pair, imperforate between	UMs = horizontal pair, imperforate between
Hz = cross gutter block of 4	K = inverted overprint
P = flat plate printing	W = rotary printing
S = vertical se-tenant stamps, no gutter	SZ = vertical se-tenant stamps with gutter
W = horizontal se-tenant stamps, no gutter	WZ = horizontal se-tenant stamps with gutter

Lower Case Letters:

a, b, c, d, e = color varieties of the same stamp	f = plate or inking flaws on the base stamp
g = gum variety	h = corner & border varieties
k = dots, dashes, slugs, etc.	q = spacing <u>within</u> words, numbers, bars
m = letters n = numbers o = bars	p = spacing <u>between</u> words, numbers, bars.
w = none of the varieties above	x, y, z = paper varieties

Michel Catalog Varieties:

Roman Numerals = I, II, III, IV, V, VI, etc. major plate or overprint varieties.

Gutter Pairs and Blocks in Memel

The layout of overprinting stamps by the French authorities for use in Memel from January 1920 to spring 1923 was handled in Paris. It also created a collecting interest for stamp collectors. The stamps in use at this time were the “Sower” and the “Merson” designs. The Sower design was generally used on the lower denominations and the Merson design was used on the higher denominations..

The physical layout was 10 stamps and 15 rows down interrupted by a thin or thick gutter. To be more specific, on the Sower design the thin gutter started between Stamps 5 and 6 on the first row and continued down the sheet to the last row. Between row 5 and 6 and 10 and 11 were thick gutters. There were 150 stamps per sheet.

On the Sower stamps horizontally, gutter pairs are a pair of stamps separated by a thin gutter. Vertically, the pair is separated by a thick gutter. A number appears on the thin gutter three times on the sheet between positions 15–16, 65–66 and 115–116. This number represents the year that the base sheet [not the overprint] was printed. Thus, 6 to 9 indicates 1916 to 1919 and 0 to 2 indicates 1920 to 1922.

In a similar fashion, the “Merson” design plate set up with 5 stamps horizontally and three groups of 5 rows separated by a thick gutter. This produced a sheet of 75 stamps.

The terminology used to describe gutter pairs or blocks can be seen on the illustration that follows. ZS = a vertical pair with gutter between. ZW = a horizontal pair with a gutter between. Ms = a ZW pair with a number on the thin gutter.



“Sower” ZS



“Sower” ZW



“Sower” Ms



“Merson” ZS

CHAPTER 3

The Germania Provisional Issue (Mi 1-17)

Stamps for the new Memel Territory were ordered from both Paris and Berlin. The overprinted stamps from the French printers in Paris arrived first and were put into use on July 7, 1920. The overprinted Germania stamps printed in Berlin arrived later and were put into use in early August. The earliest known date of use for the Germania stamps is August 2, 1920. The French governmental administration allowed use of the Germania provisional issue only in the Memel territory and for items mailed within the territory or to east Prussia and Germany until October 31, 1920.

The Michel numbering system generally follows the numbering system of the HAN (printing order number), thus some Pfennig values follow the Mark values. The Scott numbering system did not follow this distinction. It is believed that since the overprinted Germania issue is considered a provisional issue that these stamps are placed before the French regular issue as a matter of convenience rather than date of issue in all stamp catalogs.

All of the stamps had perforations 14 (top and bottom) by 14½ on each side; they were printed on lozenges watermarked white paper; exceptions are the 30 Pf and 60 Pf; and all had smooth gum except for Mi 16y that had vertically ribbed gum.



Ernst Becker
Table E27A

Collector / Specialist

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
5	6	30	6

"Memel : gebiet" on 30 Pf.

The recognized colors of ink used on the 30 Pfennig, Mi 5 are:
shades of dark red orange (13-17-6) and black.

There are two paper variations:

- x) light chrome-yellow paper and
- y) orange-white paper [SG-30a].

The orange-white paper variety had two gum varieties:

- 1) almost colorless peace time gum and
- 2) yellowish war time gum.

A total of the 106,000 stamps were issued.

Philatelist

The HAN numbers of the Michel number 5 flat plate and rotary printed stamps are not known. The rotary printed stamps are more frequently seen. War gum is found on the orange-white paper, of the rotary printed stamps and peace gum is found on flat plate printing.

The overprint printing numbers for the corresponding HAN above are:

- H 4069.20 [19.5 mm] – found over the baseline,
- H 4069.20 [19.5 mm] – found on top.

Additional information and varieties

B 5 w₁ = the overprint is shifted to the right past the frame.

Becker noted that [probably one sheet] was used only in Motzischen.

Collector / Specialist

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
28	28	10	28

2 mark on 1 fr.

Mi 28, is separated by “x” and “y” papers. Both Plates I. and II. have a vivid brownish carmine (19-10-5) / greenish yellow (5-38-6). The Plate I. Mi 28x is printed on a grayish brown or gray GC paper and issued July 7, 1920. [SG 24]

Plate II. Mi 28y is printed on a white paper and was released in September 1920.

Philatelist

The sheet numbers wre:

Mi 28 (Plate I.) = I 2 706.32 , I 3 006.32, I 507.32, I 707.32.

Mi 28 (Plate II.) = L 2 905.31, L 2 906.31, L 2 306.31, L 2 106.31, L 1 906.31,

L 1 806.31, L 1 406.31, L 1 206.31, L 1 106.31, L 806.31, L 706.31, L 406.31.

Additional information and varieties

The 10,689 sheets issued are equivalent to 801,675 stamps.

Becker shows overprint varieties on his table E 2 (page 51).

The normal distances between 2—mark is 2.2 mm and r—k of mark is 0.5 mm.

Mi 28x I = spacing between 2—mark is 2.8 mm not 2.2 mm, Field 4.

Mi 28y I = spacing between 2—mark is 2.8 mm not 2.2 mm, Field 74.

Mi 28y II = spacing between r—k of mark is 0.9 mm

not 0.5 mm, Field 30 (partial printing).

B 28y o₁ = damaged bar near “mark” is 1.5 not 1.9 mm.

B 28x q₁ = spacing between 2—mark is 2.4 mm not 2.2 mm, Field 36.

B 28y q₂ = spacing between 2—mark is 2.4 mm not 2.2 mm, Field 40.

CHAPTER 5

First Intermediate French Issue (Mi 34-39)

The French administration of the Memel Territory increased the postal rates on April 1, 1921. The issue of the stamps (Mi 34 through 39) coincides with that increase. The Mi 34 – “15” over 10 pf over 10c stamp covered the lowest weight printed matter (Drucksache) rate and the Mi 35 – “60” over 40 pf over 20c stamp covered the 20 gram or less letter. The large format “Merson” design stamps (Mi 36 to 39) came along in mid-May.

Collector / Specialist



The “15” over 10 pf on 10 c.

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
34	43	?	?

The recognized color of ink used on Mi 34, released April 1, 1920, were shades of dark orange red (17-13-6) printed on white paper. The overprint appears to be a very deep blue.

Philatelist

The following sheet numbers are known: D 2805.27, D 2905.27, D 3105.2 D106.27, D 206.27.

Additional information and varieties

Mi 34 was an issue of 4,000 sheets (600,000 stamps). Becker shows overprint varieties on his table E 5 (page 55). Mi 34 had the Millésimes number of “0”.

Mi 34 K = inverted overprint

Mi 34 V = strongly shifted overprint (approaching “5 1”)

Collector / Specialist**3 Mark on 60 c.**

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
37	40	?	?

Mi 37a (Plate I.) had blackish red violet(27-17-8) / pale gray ultramarine (29-2-3) colors on white paper. The overprint is a strong bright red. The stamps were released May 14, 1921.

Mi 37b (Plate II.) had dark gray violet (27-2-8) / cobalt (33-0-6) colors on white paper. The stamps were released May 24, 1921. The overprint is a strong bright red.

B 37c (Plate III.) had dull violet (no number) / blue (31-0-6) colors on white paper. The stamps were released June 4, 1921. The overprint is a subdued red

Philatelist

The following sheet numbers are known:

Plate I. = J 2 106.22, I 1 007.22, I 1 207.22, I 1 307.22. Plate II. = none listed.

Plate III. = I 1 506.22, I 1 906.22, I 2 806.22.

Additional information and varieties

Mi 37a was an issue of 1,000 sheets (75,000 stamps), Mi 37b was an issue of 749 sheets (56,175 stamps) and B37c was an issue of 2,810 sheets (216,000). Becker shows overprint varieties on his E 4 table (page 60).

Mi 37 I = long bar is 25 mm instead of 28 mm (Becker Plate III.)

Mi 37 II = upper right of "M" is broken off (Plate I.), Field 37.

Mi 37 U = used only! one sheet of imperforate Plate III. was used for packages only.

B 37c m₁ = upper right of "M" is broken off (Plate III.), Field 48.

B 37b o₁ = top short bar is rounded internally (Plate II.).

B 37c o₂ = long bar comes to a point starting 4.5 mm from the right end in Plate III., Field 75.

B 37b o₃ = top short bar is shorter on right (Plate III.), Field 50.

B 37 a, b, c q₁ = bottom MEMEL to bottom of Mark is 8.55 mm instead of 7.9 mm.

B 37c k₁ = slug between 3 and M, Fields 45, 37.

B 37b k₂ = thin slug after L of MEMEL.

B 37c k₃ = thin slug after L of MEMEL.

B 37c k₄ = slug before M of MEMEL, Fields 45, 37.

B 37c k₅ = thin slug before M of MEMEL, Field 59.

B 37c k₆ = thin slug after double bars, Field 60.

Collector / Specialist

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
38	41?	?	?

10 Mark on 5 fr.

The Mi 38 Plates I. and II., can be separate by the distance between the value and the long bar and then by color.

Plates I. has a distance of 1.9 mm between the overprint value and the long bar. The color is: blackish blue (31-0-8) / pale brown ocher (9-11-3) for Mi 38a I.

The “b” color is vivid gray ultramarine (29-12-5) / pale brown ocher (9-11-3) for Mi 38b I. Both were printed on a white paper. Plate I. was issued May 14, 1921.

Plate II. has a distance of 1.45 mm between the overprint value and the long bar. The color is blackish blue (31-0-8) / pale brown ocher (9-11-3) for Mi 38a II. These also were printed on a white paper. Plate II. was released May 5, 1922.

Philatelist

The following sheet numbers are known for Mi 38:

Plate I. = D 22 011.32, D 23 011.32, D 24 011.32, D 25 011.32.

Plate II. = O 19 011.32, O 22 011.32, O 26 011.32, O 25 011.32.

Additional information and varieties

Mi 38 I. and II. were an issue of 2,124 sheets (159,300 stamps). Plate I value to bar is 1.90 mm. Plate II value to bar is 1.45 mm.

Mi 38 I PF Ia = distance 1—0 is 1.5 mm not 1.0 mm.

Mi 38a I PF Ib = distance 10—Mark is 2.7 mm not 2.2 mm, Fields 63, 74.

Mi 38a I PF Ib = distance 10—Mark is 2.5 mm not 2.2 mm, Field 61.

Mi 38a I PF II = upper right of double bars is short, Field 12.

Mi 38a II PF I = upper right of double bars is short, Field 12.

Mi 38a II PF Ia = distance 10—Mark is 2.7 mm not 2.2 mm, Fields 18, 24.

Mi 38a II PF IIa = distance 10—Mark is 2.5 mm not 2.2 mm, Field 16.

B 38a I o₁ = thickened inside edges of double bars.

B 38a II o₁ = upper double bar is hollow, Field 23.

E 3

Steildruck Grossformate 1920/21.

Plattengruppe B (B_1 60 Pf. B_2 4m, 10, 20 M.)
 Katalog-Nr. 36 I.+II. ; 31 II. 38, 39 II. 49 I.+II./36 II. 41/36 I.
 Maße: α (geändert) 9,4 statt 9,8 mm. 46/31/AI 80/31/B) II
 c (geändert) 1,45 " 1,9 mm. (Kleiner Balkenabstand)
 $x = \alpha - c = 7,9$ mm wie bisher.

Literatur: 1937
 Memel-Spezial-Katalog
 Teil I. Seiten 18-20.

MEMEL

60 Pfennig Mark

4 mark 10 20 M

C typisch eng 1,45 mm nur B-Gruppe!

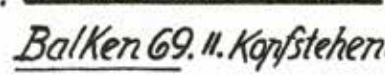
23. 

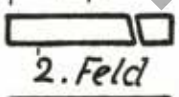
B. 54.



B
(4m)
(10, 20 M)

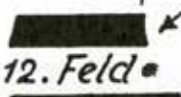
I. 

II. 

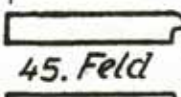
2. Feld 

4 mark B

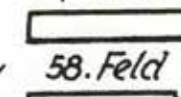
Nr. 36 (I. II.)

12. Feld 

4m, 10, 20 M.

45. Feld 

75/60 Pf.

58. Feld 

75/60 Pf.

36 I. II. 41/36 I. 49/36 II

51. Feld 

Balken 69. II. Kopfstehend! Balken 13. mit Kerbe bei vielen Werten.

Collector / Specialist

"Flugpost" over 2 mark on 1 fr.

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
44	C4	57	PA5

Mi 44 that was released on July 6, 1921, was vivid brownish carmine (19-10-5) / greenish yellow (5-38-6). They were printed on both (x) gray-brownish GC paper [Y&T-PA 5b] and (y) white paper. The overprint FLUGPOST has hollow letters slanting downward from left to right. These stamps did not have a dot in the "T."

Philatelist

The following sheet numbers are known

Mi 44 = I 2 905.31, I 2 706.31, I 806.31, I 1 206.31, I 1 506.31.

Additional information and varieties

Mi 44 had an issue of 870 sheets (65,250 stamps).

Mi 44 K = inverted overprint (one sheet of 75 known). [Y&T-PA 5a] [SG 57a]

Mi 44x I = 2—m is 2.8 not 2.2 mm, Field 74. GC paper. [Y&T-PA 5b]

Mi 44y I = 2—m is 2.8 not 2.2 mm, Field 74. White paper.

Mi 44y II = spacing between r—k of mark is 0.9 not 0.6 mm, Field 30. (Partial printing)

B 44 o₁ = thickening of the left inside corner of the upper double bar, Field 30.

B 44 o₂ = bottom short bar has a notch, Field 51.

B 44 o₃ = long bar with distance form "mark" 1.5 not normal 1.9 mm.

B 44x p₁ = 2—m is 2.4 not 2.2 mm, Field 40, GC paper.

B 44y p₁ = 2—m is 2.4 not 2.2 mm, Field 40, white paper.

CHAPTER 7

Second Intermediate French Issue (Mi 47-51)

The Mi 47 – “15” over 20 pf on 25c Prussian blue (31-37-6) stamp and the Mi 48 -- “15” over 50 pf over 35c dark red violet (27-17-6) stamp. Mi 47 was issued November 15 and Mi 48 followed on December 2, 1921. The overprints of all stamps in this issue were applied by engraved printing plates. The Mi 49, 50 and 51 were the first issues in 1922 used the large format “Merson” design stamps.

Collector / Specialist



The “15” over 20 pf on 25 c.

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
47	44	43	39

Prussian blue (31-37-6) stamp was printed on white paper. The overprint is a deep blue.

Philatelist

The following sheet numbers are known: Mi 47 = S 1 408.1, S 1 708.1, S 1 808.1.

Additional information and varieties

Mi 47 was an issue of 2,000 sheets (300,000 stamps).

Mi 47 had the Millesimes number of “0.”

Mi 47 I = a wider space between 2—0, Fields 8, 44, 52, 62 and 137. [SG 43c] [Y&T 39b]

Mi 47 K = inverted overprint. [Y&T 39a] [SG 43b]

Collector / Specialist**10 Pf on 10 c.**

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
54	52	62	47

Plate I. and II. dark opal green (17-13-6) color, issued January 18, 1922. Plate II. dark green (39-0-7). There were two papers: x) yellowish paper and y) white paper.

Philatelist

The sheet numbers were:

Mi 54 (Plate I.) = D 2 801.27 and

Mi 54 (Plate II.) = D 2 701.27, D 2 901.27 (opal green).

Mi 54 (Plate II.) = D 102.27, D 202. 27 (dark green).

Additional information and varieties

Plate I. and II. 930 sheets (of 150) issued = 143,100 stamps.

Mi 54 I = spacing between Memel—10 is 3.5 mm not 2.7 mm, Plates I & II Fields 121-125.

Mi 54 II = right bar tapered on top, Plate I, Field 150.

Mi 54 III = “10” strongly shifted to left. Plate II, Field 16.

B 54 n₁ = “1” in 10 top slopes left, Plate I and II, Field 50.

B 54 n₂ = “1” in 10 with hole in base, Plate II, Field 110.

B 54 n₃ = “1” in 10 without right foot, Plate II, Field 146.

B 54 n₄ = “0” in 10 open at top with notch, Plate I, Field 9.

B 54 n₅ = “0” open at top and bottom, Plate I, Field 105.

B 54 n₆ = “0” open at the bottom, Plate II, Fields 1, 2.

B 54 n₇ = “0” open at top, Plate II, Field 105.

Small Format *Italic* Issues

E12B

Typical damage to words "Pfennig" or "Mark"

Michel Nos. 52-59, 61, 62, 84-87, 108-112, 122, 123 Fr. 1946.

Literature: Memel Sonderkatalog, 1937, Part II, Pages 42 & 60

P P P P P P i f Ia Ib II III ? II II III IIIa II III IIIa 125. 1. 11. 81. 51. 146. 14. 142.							
e e e e e e e I II II III IV III III ↑ III IIIa III IIIa IIIa 5. 85. 15. 21. 135. 143. 145.							
n n n n n Ib II III Ib II III ? III 35. 115. 125. 7. 145.					n Ib II III IIIa 45. 85.		
l n n n Ib Ib II III III ↑ IIIa III 95. 105. 25. 145. 116.					n i II ↑ III ↑ IIIa 25. 55.65.		
i i i i Ib II III III IIIa (II) III IIIa III ↑ III ↑ 85. 146. 104. 148.					g g g Ia ↓ Ib II III Ib II III IIIa 145. 144. 143.		
q g 10 Pf 10 Pf → II ? 25. 142.		a a IVb ↑ IVb 26. 122.		r M k IVb ↑ IVa IVb 125. 135.			

Arb.-Gem. für Memel-Forschung-Hamburg 1946.

Collector / Specialist

80 Pf on 45 c.

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
63	58	?	56

Plate A and B are a dark green (39-0-7) and gray ultramarine (29-2-6) color. They were printed on two papers: x) yellowish gray, y) white. Michel notes 142,950 stamps (1906 sheets) and Becker notes 253,575 stamps (3381 sheets) issued for Plates A and B of Mi 63 on April 7, 1922.

Philatelist

The sheet numbers were:

Mi 63 (Plate A + B) = P 2 306.17, P 2 406.17, P 2 506.17, P 2 606.17,
P 2 906.17, P 3 006.17.

Additional information and varieties

Mi 63 I = distance between Pfennig and long bar is 2.1 not 1.7 mm, Fields 66-70.

B 63 m₁ = the "g" of Pfennig flattened, Field 25.

B 63 m₂ = the "g" of Pfennig broken through, Fields 13, 18, 48.

B 63 m₃ = the "M₁" of MEMEL damaged, Fields 12, 28.

B 63 m₄ = the E₁ of MEMEL damaged, Fields 29, 31.

B 63 m₅ = the "E₂" of MEMEL damaged, Fields 13, 26, 46.

B 63 n₁ = "8" of 80 open top and bottom, Fields 4, 14.

B 63 n₂ = "8" of 80 open top and right side, Fields 9, 19.

B 63 n₃ = "0" of 80 open at top, Fields 54, 59, 64.

B 63 o₁ = double bars inside surface thickened, Field 30.

Collector / Specialist

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
72	C8	103	PA8

40 Pf on 40 c.

Plate B is a dark gray-red (17-2-7) and turquoise gray (2-35-6) color.

Philatelist

The Mi 72 (Plate BII) sheet numbers were:

F 2009.31, F 2109.31, F 2209.31, F 2309.31, F 3009.31, F 4010.31, F5010.31.

Additional information and varieties

1,600 sheets (of 75) issued = 120,000 stamps. Plate B was issued on May 12, 1922.

Mi 72 I = spacing between "Pfennig" and the long bar is 2.1 and not 1.7 mm, Fields 66-70.

Mi 72 II = the "F" of Flugpost is 3.7 or 4.0 mm wide.

Mi 72 III = the "g" of Flugpost has a spike on top, Field 18.

B 72 m₁ = the "g" of "Pfennig" is flat on bottom, Field 25.

B 72 n₁ = "4" in 40 has a tapered foot on left, Field 26.

B 72 o₁ = long bar slants down diagonally at the left, Field 3.

B 72 o₂ = long bar has a notch hole 1.5 mm from the left, Field 13.

B 72 o₃ = long bar has a notch top left end, Field 18.

B 72 o₄ = long bar upper right end falls from 1.0–1.5 mm, Field 20.

B 72 o₅ = double bars damaged on the left, Fields 28, 38.

B 72 o₆ = double bar is hollow, Field 30.

B 72 o₇ = long bar has a sharp 1.2 mm at upper right, Field 41.

B 72 o₈ = long bar top has a spike 3.5 mm from left end, Field 44.

B 72 o₉ = long bar bottom has a slanted v-notch at left, Field 51.

B 72 o₁₀ = long bar has a notch 8.5 mm from the left end, Field 61.

B 72 q₁ = 4—0 narrow, 1.2 mm not 1.3 mm, Fields 46-48.

B 72 q₂ = 4—0 wide, 1.5 mm not 1.3 mm, Field 49.

B 72 q₃ = 4—0 wide, 1.4 mm not 1.3 mm, Field 50.

The Michel 79 / Scott C-18 mix-up

During the overprinting process, an estimated 100 sheets (7500 stamps) of Mi 37 “MEMEL” were included with the Mi 68 “MEMEL 3 Mark” issue. The following translation from page 52 of Ernst Becker’s Memel Spezial Katalog (1939) may provide an explanation.

“The history of the origination of Michel 79 according to Senf’s Illustrierte Briefmarken Journal: Some of the sheets of 3 Mark stamps (Mi 68) with italic overprint that were provided to the printer had one border significantly narrower than the normal sheets. When overprinting these sheets the over print Flugpost shifted up to the perforated area between the stamps. Consequently, the printer exchanged the sheets with narrow margins for ones with the correct sized border. During this exchange some incorrect sheets (Mi 37) were provided. These sheets had upright letters (MEMEL) instead of the italic lettering of the sheets already printed. This mistake was not noticed during the exchange, (overprinting), nor sale. Thus, in this way, a rarity reached the market and genuineness of this stamp in doubt”. (---) added by E.R. Marshall for clarity.

Collector / Specialist



3 Mark on 60 c.

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
79	C18	109	PA14

Mi 90 (Plate C) is bright brownish carmine (19-10-5) and greenish yellow (5-38-6) color.

Philatelist

The Mi 90 (Plate C) sheet numbers were: I 1506.22, I 1906.22.

Additional information and varieties

There were 7,500 stamps (100 sheets) issued for Plate C of Mi 69 on April 22, 1922.

Mi 79 I = the long bar is 25 mm instead of 28 mm, Field 48 (partial).

Mi 79 II = the “F” of Flugpost is 3.7 or 4.0 mm wide.

Mi 79 III = the “g” of Flugpost has a spike on top, Field 18.

B 79 o₁ = long bar pointed at right, Field 75.

CHAPTER 10

Third French Issue (Mi 84-97)

This issue reached the post office windows September 12, 1922. They were printed in Paris at the government printing establishment.

Collector / Specialist



35 Pf on 35 c.

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
84	58	68	65

The Mi 84 was dark red violet (27-17-6) were printed on white paper.

Philatelist

The following sheet numbers are known:

C 23 012.18, C 24 012.18, C 26 012.18, C 30 012.18, N 28 012.18.

The Millésime number is "1".

Additional information and varieties

Mi 84 was an issue of 2,650 sheets (397,500 stamps).

Mi 84 I = distance MEMEL—35 is 3.5 mm not 2.7 mm, Fields 121-125.

Mi 84 II = the 35 is strongly shifted to the left, Field 16.

Mi 84 III = right bar is vertically broken, Field 99.

B 84 m₁ = the "M₂" of MEMEL has an internal dot, Field 144.

B 84 m₂ = "M₂ + E₂" of MEMEL have damage, Field 85.

B 84 m₃ = the "E₂" of MEMEL has damage, Fields 66, 75, 95.

B 84 m₄ = the "E₂" of MEMEL has a notch at the bottom, Field 149.

B 84 m₅ = the "L" of MEMEL rounded at bottom, Fields 5, 15, 25.

B 84 m₆ = the "P" of Pfennig has damage, Fields 1, 11, 81.

Y&Tert & Tellier puts an "A" after their catalog number when the distance between the value and Mark is 3.5 mm.

Collector / Specialist



40 Pf on 40 c.

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
98	C20	115	PA20

Plate B/ F₁ is a dark gray-red (17-2-7) and Turkish gray (2-35-6) color. These stamps have a black overprint.

Philatelist

The sheet numbers for Mi 98 were:

D 2706.22, D 2806.22, D 107.22.

Additional information and varieties

1,600 sheets (of 75) issued (120,000 stamps).

Plate B/F₁ was issued on October 17, 1922.

Mi 98 I = spacing between "Pfennig" and the long bar is 2.1 and not 1.7 mm, Fields 66-70.

Mi 98 II = spacing between double bars and "F" in FLUGPOST is 0.5 not 1.1 mm, Field 45.

Mi 98 III = spacing between double bars and "F" in FLUGPOST is 1.9 not 1.1 mm, Fields 18, 23.

Mi 98 IV = long bar is only 27.3 not 28.2 mm, Field 72.

B 98 m₁ = the "P" of Pfennig is open at top, Field 45.

B 98 n₁ = "4" of 40 has damage to foot, Field 26.

B 98 n₂ = "4" of 40 is sloped at upper left, Field 71.

Collector / Specialist

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
99	C21	116	PA21

1 Mark on 40 c.

Plate B/F₂ is a dark gray-red (17-2-7) and Turkish gray (2-35-6) color. These stamps have a black overprint.

Philatelist

The Plate B sheet numbers for Mi 99 were:

D 2 806.22, D 107.22, D 307.22.

Additional information and varieties

1,600 sheets (of 75) issued (120,000 stamps).

Plate B/F₂ was issued on October 17, 1922.

Mi 99 I = spacing 1—M is 5.4 and not 3.9 mm, Field 52.

Mi 99 II = spacing 1—M is 3.1 and not 3.9 mm, Field 29. [Y&T PA 21A]

Mi 99 III = spacing 1—M is 4.7 and not 3.9 mm, Field 9.

Mi 99 IV = spacing between double bars and “F” in FLUGPOST is 0.4 not 1.1 mm, Field 45.

Mi 99 V = spacing between double bars and “F” in FLUGPOST is 1.5 not 1.1 mm, Fields 32, 51.

Mi 99 VI = “1” is shifted left under the center of the double bars, Field 22.

B 99 m₁ = the “M₁” in Memel broken at upper right, Field 68.

B 99 q₁ = spacing between double bars and “F” in FLUGPOST is 0.9 not 1.1 mm, Fields 28, 49.

B 99 q₂ = spacing between double bars and “F” in FLUGPOST is 1.3 not 1.1 mm, Field 71.

B 99 q₃ = spacing 1—M is 4.3 and not 3.9 mm, Fields 4, 6, 22.

Collector / Specialist

Mark on 20 Pf. On 20 c.

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
109	45	126	80

Mi 109 is a gray- (11-2-6) to lilac brown (11-23-6) color.

Philatelist

The sheet numbers of the Mi 109 were:

A 26 011.27, A 28 011.27, A 29 011.27, A 30 12.27.

Additional information and varieties

The Mi 109 issue consisted of 2,660 sheets (399,000 stamps).

Mi 109 had the Millésimes number “1.”

Mi 109 I = spacing Memel—20 is 3.5 mm not 2.7 mm, Fields 121-125.

Mi 109 II = right bar vertically broken, Field 99.

Mi 109 III = “20” strongly shifted to left, Field 16.

B 109 m₁ = the “e” of pfennig with a dot in the lower arc, Field 21.

B 109 m₂ = the “r” of Mark has a separation of stem and ball, Field 27.

B 109 m₃ = the “M” of Mark at the top left a breakthrough, Field 29.

B 109 m₄ = the “M” in Mark broken at upper right, Fields 46, 116, 124, 125, 126.

B 109 n₁ = at the top left, a deep groove on the inner side of the “2” of 20, Field 3.

B 109 n₂ = top left of “2” of 20 with a wide breakthrough, Field 26.

B 109 n₃ = bottom left of “2” rounded/blunt, Fields 36, 103 and 111.

B 109 n₄ = “0” open at bottom, Fields 44, 56.

B 109 n₅ = “2” of 20 with a breakthrough in mid left side, Field 54.

Third <i>Italic</i> (Schrägdruck) Issue Damage to Long Bars		9 LB
Some of the damage is also found on the Third Airmail and Second <i>Italic</i> (Schrägdruck) Issues. Partially based on data published by K. Arntz, Memel Rundschau 14, pages 54-59, December 1934. Feedback on other values showing these varieties would be greatly appreciated		7-96 E _{RM}
5 - all values ↓ 	6 - all values ↔ 7 mm ↔ 13 mm 	
10 - all values 4 mm ↔ 7 mm 	12 - all values ↓ 	
15 - all values 7 mm ↔ 	17 - all values 9 mm ↔ 	
21 - all values ↔ 15 mm ↔ 1.5 mm 	25 - all values ↔ 2 mm 	
28 - all values ↔ 4 mm 	29 - 10, 30, 100 Mark, +? 7 mm ↔ 	
39, 41, and ? - 10, 30 100 Mark, +? ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ 	44 - all values ↓ 	
53 - 10, 20, 40 Mark, +? ↑ 	66 - all values 5 mm ↔ 	
67 - all values ↔ 5 mm 	75 - all values ↔ 1.5 mm 	

CHAPTER 14

Fourth Intermediate French Issue (Mi 119-120)

Within a month after the 4th French Issue a supplementary issue, more 40 and 80 Mark stamps were necessary. It is presumed that changes in the postal rates made this necessary.

Collector / Specialist



Mark over 40 Pfennig on 40 c.

Mi	Sc	SG	Y&T
119	95	128	84

Mi 119 is dark gray red (17-2-7) and Turkish gray (2-35-6) color.

Philatelist

The sheet numbers for Mi 119 were:

F 1709.31, F 1909.31, F 2209.31, F 2309.31, F 2409.31,
F 3009.31, F 3010.31, F 4010.31, F 5010.31, F 7010.31.

Additional information and varieties

The 1,838 sheets issued are equivalent to 137,850 stamps issued in January 17, 1923.

Mi 119 I = spacing Pfennig—long bar is 2.1 not 1.7 mm, Fields 66 to 70.

Mi 119 II = long bar is 27.3 not 28.2 mm in length, Field 72.

B 119 n₁ = “4” has slanted top at the bottom, Field 26.

B 119 p₁ = spacing 4—0 is narrow, 1.2 not 1.3 mm, Fields 46 to 48.

B 119 p₂ = spacing 4—0 is wider, 1.4 not 1.3 mm, Field 50.

B 119 p₃ = spacing 4—0 is wider, 1.5 not 1.3 mm, Field 49.

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