

Feature Release



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CHRISTMAS?
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Christmas Gifts - 1-

If you're stuck for gift ideas this Christmas, why not think of stamps? There's a Christmas present for everyone in the new collection of special Christmas gifts from Royal Mail, with prices starting from as little as £2.25.



Royal Mail, which issues its 1994 Christmas stamps on November 1, has developed a wide range of complementary gifts.

Ideal in the run up to Christmas is a special Presentation Pack of the new Christmas stamps, which this year feature children's Nativity plays, particularly appropriate as this is the International Year of the Family. Costing £2.25, the pack contains a complete set of mint Christmas stamps, mounted in an attractive advent-styled brochure, which can be personalised by inserting favourite personal photographs to make the build-up to Christmas even more enjoyable.

To commemorate 1994, Royal Mail's Special Stamps Year Book is a beautifully issued hard-back book tracing the background to every set of stamps issued in 1994, including the highly popular D-Day, Golf and Summertime stamps. Now in its 11th edition, the Year Book is among the most popular hard-back annuals in the UK and costs £22.50, which includes a complete mint set of all the year's special stamps, worth £12.87. Alternatively, there is a prestige leather bound edition, retailing at £75.00.

An ideal gift is the Royal Mail Gift Pack, containing a Christmas stamps Presentation Pack, a First Day Cover and a set of postcard enlargements of this year's charming Christmas stamps. It costs £6.50 and is available from branches of WH Smith and Martins, as well as many post offices.

Each of the 1994 Christmas stamps has also been mounted in its own Crown quality optical glass pyramid, capturing and displaying the beauty of the stamps to perfection. Priced at £24.95, these make ideal ornaments or paperweights.

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Two brand new books from Royal Mail launched specially for this Christmas are the Introduction to Definitive Stamps and The Story of Greetings Stamps. Both priced at £9.95 [or £15.00 for the two], the first beautifully illustrates the evolution of stamps from the Penny Black to the variety of definitive stamps that are available today, while the second tells the story of the evolution of Greetings Stamps. First launched in 1989, Greetings Stamps have become popular among all Royal Mail customers.

Well-wishers can also add a special touch to their Christmas mail by using the new Christmas stamps, or can even send a special Christmas card featuring one of the stamp designs. A pack of ten cards plus envelopes cost £3.99.

Finally, the brilliant artwork for one of Royal Mail's most popular stamp issues ever has now been reproduced on a set of five superb Collectors Plates. The fine detail of Terence Cuneo's original oil paintings of famous trains have been faithfully reproduced on Wedgwood bone china plates, with each plate being individually numbered as part of a strictly limited edition. They can be brought singly for £19.95, or in a full set of five for £99.75.

All Royal Mail Christmas stamps and special gifts are available from all main post offices and Post Shops, as well as the British Philatelic Bureau. Please write to: British Philatelic Bureau, Freepost, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh, EH3 5TT [please quote reference number: 94 PRA].

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