

The Machin Corner Part Three

Single Issue Machins

Not all Machins have had a long and productive life. Some proved to be wildly unpopular and others were caught up in the shifting sands of price increases. So there are 51 Machins for which there was only one type issued, Stamps that do not have multiple iterations of paper, phosphor, perforation etc, usually these are sheet stamps with one exception, the 42p Sage Green which was only issued in a booklet.

Breaking the list down there are stamps that have a fractional value. These were not commonly used and were withdrawn when the halfpenny was withdrawn as legal tender in December of 1984 for economic reasons (7 values).

Eight values issued in 2020 had short lives as all Machins were replaced with the new format that included a barcode, a practise carried over into the issues for King Charles III.

Looking at the list some of these stamps were intended for first class usage such as the 10p Terracotta and Orange Brown which proved to be difficult to use and was soon replaced with a lighter colour/shade. Most of the stamps were used for auxiliary purposes paying non standard rates such as airmail and other usage. Also noted is the re-use of colour, sometimes within a three year window. This caused confusion and mistakes to occur in the field even if the value tablets were different. The re-use of colour went against the grain of selecting colours that could easily be identified with the corresponding use.

Value	Colour	Year of Issue
9½ p	Deep Lilac	1976
10p	Terracotta and Orange Brown	1971
10½ p	Yellow	1976
10½ p	Greyish Blue	1976
11½ p	Rust Brown	1979
13p	Grey Green	1979
13½ p	Red Brown	1980
14p	Salmon Pink	2006
15p	Shocking Pink	2008
19½ p	Grey Green	1982
20½ p	Ultramarine	1983
24p	Terracotta	1989
27p	Mauve	1990
28p	Sand	1988

28p	Slate Blue	1991	
34p	Slate Blue	1989	
34p	Purple	1991	
37p	Olive Green	2006	
42p	Sage Green	2002	Booklet only
44p	Stone	1999	
44p	Ultramarine	2006	
45p	Amethyst	2000	
49p	Rust	2006	
56p	Lime Green	2006	
72p	Red	2006	
81p	Sea Green	2006	
£1.10	Lime Green	2011	
£1.42	Garnet Red	2020	
£1.47	Dove Grey	2014	

£1.52	Orchid Mauve	2015
£1.57	Tarragon Green	2017
£1.60	Amber Yellow	2019
£1.65	Sage Green	2011
£1.68	Tarragon Green	2020
£1.90	Amethyst	2012
£2.15	Marine Turquoise	2014
£2.27	Harvest Gold	2017
£2.30	Gooseberry Green	2019
£2.42	Purple Heather	2020
£2.45	Spruce Green	2015
£2.65	Purple Heather	2018
£2.80	Spruce Green	2019
£2.97	Rose Pink	2020
£3.15	Aqua Green	2015

£3.25	Aqua Green	2020
£3.30	Rose Pink	2015
£3.45	Dark Pine Green	2019
£3.60	Bright Orange	2019
£3.66	Harvest Gold	2020
£3.82	Holly Green	2020
£4.20	Plum Purple	2020

Even though numerous attempts at using yellow and yellow shades have been made, they have turned out to be problematic in use. Today these shades are avoided and by looking at the date column you can see that over time colours became richer and deeper with lighter colours ebbing away.

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