



Home

Information

Collecting

Essential Supplies

Stamp Albums

Stamp Catalogs

Stamp Condition

Stamp Forgeries

Buying Stamps

Selling Stamps

Philatelic Terms

Philatelic Links

Humor

Collecting

Austria - Empire

British - Africa

China - PRC

Danzig

Germany - States

Germany - Empire

Germany - Colonies

Germany - Weimar

Germany - Plebis.

Germany - 3rd Reich

Germany - G. Occ.

Germany - A. Occ.

Germany - BRD

Germany - W. Berlin

Germany - DDR

Great Britain

Liechtenstein

Middle East

Postmarks

Russia

Saar

Switzerland

Topical - Thematic

USA - Classics

Communications

Contact Form

Blog

FAQ

Search This Site

Subscribe To Site Updates

RSS

Follow

MY Yahoo!

MY MSN

Bloglines

Third Reich

Commemorative Issues - 1934

In 1934, the new government of the Third Reich began issuing commemorative themed stamps in earnest. Even back in the early 20th Century, the stamps of Germany were very popular with collectors Worldwide, and orders for them came from almost every country on the planet. The Nazi's quickly learned of the propaganda value of their postage stamps, not only to show the wonders of their country, but also to spread their political, social, and cultural views. The Third Reich utilized this medium to its fullest extent, throughout the remaining years of the regime.



The set of stamps above commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the German colonial empire. The issue and the personalities depicted are thoroughly described on the main page of the German Colonies section of this website.



The set of two stamps, above left, shows the sun and swastika rising above Nuremberg Castle. The stamps were issued to publicize the Nazi Congress, held at Nuremberg.

The set of stamps, above right, depict hands holding Saar, symbolizing that "Saar Belongs to Germany" and the German eagle holding a swastika. The set was issued to publicize the upcoming Saar Plebiscite. **Think there was a little psychological persuasion going on here?**



President Hindenburg died in August 1934, and the last traces of the old Weimar Republic quickly faded away. The Hindenburg Memorial Issue, shown above, was issued at the beginning of September.

The 3 Pf., 5 Pf., 6 Pf., 8 Pf., 12 Pf., and 25 Pf. stamps of the Hindenburg definitive stamp series were overprinted in black, between the stamp designs, as a sign of **mourning**.

Stamps or envelopes, with black borders, are a traditional sign of mourning.



The set above was issued to commemorate the 175th birthday of Friedrich von Schiller (1759-1805).

Schiller was a poet, philosopher, playwright, and historian. Working in Weimar, he often collaborated with his friend, Johann Wolfgang Goethe. This period is referred to as the "Weimar Classicism".



The set of nine semi-postal stamps, shown above, were issued for "Nothilfe", or "aid to the needy". The surtax amount on the stamps went to charitable organizations.

The theme of these stamps is "German occupations", and, by denomination, from lowest to highest, they depict -- a businessman, blacksmith, mason, miner, architect, farmer, chemist, sculptor, and judge.

With many countries, surcharged postage stamps, or what we call semi-postal stamps, were issued annually, and usually depicted cultural or nationalistic themes. The money raised from the surtaxes usually went to children's funds, funds for the needy, or to pay for other national programs.

**Third Reich 1934 Stamps
available at eBay**

Click on the link at the end of the listings above, to view ALL of the lots in this category that are on eBay.

[Return to Third Reich from Commemorative Issues - 1934](#)

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