

Collector Caveat

The postage labels that are sold by the US Postal Service “APC” and “SSSMC” kiosks or the “Mail&Go” kiosks are all printed on thermally reactive paper.

To test what happens when this paper is repeatedly subjected to heat and light, is shown below.



Stamps as of May 18, 2012

On June 2, 2012, just 15 days later!

During the 15 day time period, the stamps on the right were subjected to direct sunlight by being placed against an inside double-pane window facing west.

There was sunshine during 14 of the 15 days, with average daytime temperatures around 90°F.

This accelerated testing shows that while just two or three days do not make much of a difference, but repeated sunlight & heat exposure for just two weeks damages these stamps severely!

A caution for all collectors: store these items away from light & heat sources!