

# Stamps in Stitches

It all started in 2000, when Switzerland issued the world's first "embroidered" stamp.



This stamp was produced by Bischoff Textil AG in the St. Gallen area of Switzerland, which is known for its' embroidery industry, and was unveiled at NABA 2000 (the Swiss National Stamp Exhibition) held in St. Gallen in June 2000.



The same company produced a number of embroidered stamps commemorating the Centenary of the Teddy Bear for the nations of St. Vincent, Sierra Leone, Grenada, Carriacou & Petite Martinique (part of the Grenadines of Grenada) and The Gambia.

Italy also issued an embroidered stamp in 2004 with the subject of lacemaking.



Not to be outdone, Austria issued its own embroidered stamp in 2005 featuring an Edelweiss (an endangered flower in the Swiss & Austrian Alps) by a company located in the city of Lustenau in Vorarlberg, a major embroidery region in Austria.