

Put some ZIP into your US Collection

The Zone Improvement Program expanded the use of Postal Zones. In 1963, ZIP codes automate mail delivery, and are now integral parts of our lives. Early ZIP adoption was sped along by a cartoon character, **Mr. ZIP**, which first appeared on the selvedge of stamps in 1964 and continued through 1985. Reminders appeared on the edge of stamps through 1993. Mr. ZIP markings and slogans are traditionally collected as blocks, but I choose to collect *single stamps* with appropriate selvedge.

1964 – 1977 The initial period of Mr. ZIP Marginal Markings were focused on commemoratives, airmail stamps, and 2 special delivery stamps. Definitives and a few commemoratives used just text markings.

↑ Note cancel: "USE ZONE NUMBER"

Walking
106 issues,
generally
vertical
format ↓

Waving
183 issues,
generally on
horizontal
format
stamps ↓

Standing, 2 issues:
← 1964 [1 stamp]
1972 [2 stamps] ↓



← **Imprint only 2**
singular, 7 plural

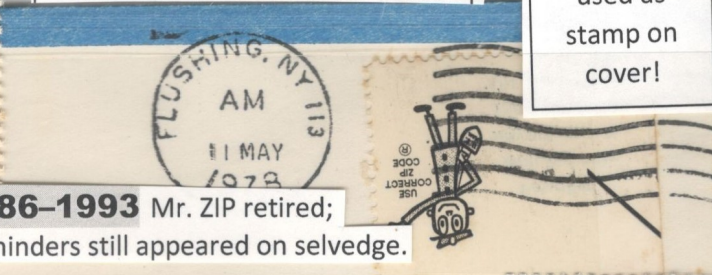
131 Waving Mr. Zip with Use Correct ZIP Code®. Usually a horizontal stamp format ↓



1978 – 1985 A second series of selvedge markings kept Mr. ZIP, but the slogan was now a registered trademark ® of the USPS, and the message changed. Mr. ZIP last seen on 22c Poinsettia stamp

← **139 Walking Mr. Zip with Use Correct ZIP Code®.** Vertical format

↓ **Mr. ZIP used as stamp on cover!**



1986–1993 Mr. ZIP retired; Reminders still appeared on selvedge.



with "36 USC 380"
22 stamps: [USPS sponsorship of US Olympics] 1991-92.



Other formats! Booklet Pane with Label ↑
Booklet Cover with Mr. ZIP 8c Airmail stamps ↙
Contact me: DFCULBERT [at] GMAIL.COM

27 stamps
ALL CAPS.
– 1978-93



176 Stamps
ZIP reminders–
1986-93
29c AIDS was last