

DC-4 SkyMaster Plane In-flight Image Used on U.S. Airmail Stamps & Stationery

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This exhibit chronicles the in-flight image of the DC-4 SkyMaster plane that was used in the design of one of the longest running series of Airmail Stamps and Stationery ever issued in the postal history of the United States. It appeared on numerous types of postal material issued in a twelve year period between 1946 & 1958.

Over 7.2 billion Stamps and millions of Embossed Stationery Envelopes and Air Letters were issued making the iconic image one of the most recognized airmail designs of all time.

The DC-4 SkyMaster Plane symbolized reliability and speed, the epitome of those qualities at the time.

*First Ever U.S. Postal Issue



Large 5¢ DC-4 SkyMaster stamp was issued September 25, 1946.

Small 5¢ DC-4 SkyMaster stamp was issued March 26, 1947.

* Small 5¢ DC-4 SkyMaster Coil stamp was issued January 15, 1948. First ever U.S. Airmail coil stamp issued.

Small 6¢ DC-4 SkyMaster stamp was issued January 18, 1949.

Small 6¢ DC-4 SkyMaster Coil stamp was issued August 25, 1949.

Small 6¢ DC-4 SkyMaster Booklet stamp was issued November 18, 1949.



5¢ DC-4 SkyMaster Embossed Stationery Envelope Issued September 25, 1946.



* 10¢ DC-4 SkyMaster First Ever U.S. Air Letter Issued April 29, 1947.
3 addition 10¢ DC-4 SkyMaster Air Letters were issued. One on July 25, 1951, another one on January 22, 1953 and final one on January 5, 1955. The Air Letter design stayed the same, but several wording changes were made to support international rules for Air Letters.



5¢ Modes of Mail Transportation Embossed Stationery Envelope Issued May 21, 1947.



6¢ DC-4 SkyMaster Embossed Stationery Envelope Issued September 22, 1950.



7¢ Blue DC-4 SkyMaster Embossed Stationery Envelope Issued July 31, 1958.

U.S. Canal Zone 6¢ Blue DC-4 SkyMaster Embossed Stationery Envelope Issued January 3, 1949.



U.S. Canal Zone 7¢ DC-4 SkyMaster Embossed Stationery Envelope Issued November 1, 1958.



Stationery Envelopes & Air Letter Reduction Approximately 70%