

EUROPA 1992 ISSUE

By J. Farrugia

Date of Issue	February 20, 1992
Values	10c and 35c
Stamp Size	44mm x 31mm
Designer	Harry Borg
Printers	Printex Limited
Process	Lithography
Perforation	13.9 x 14
Watermark	Maltese Crosses Sideways
Paper	Chalk Surfaced
Gum	P.V.A.

Colours

This set was produced in multicolours using the same four different colours for each value.

Designs

The 10c stamp shows Columbus's three ships and a compass.

The 35c stamp depicts Christopher Colombus and a pair of dividers

The 10c and 35c stamps are horizontal in format and a Pane of ten stamps, of each value, is divided into twelve spaces, three rows of four. Two different designs can be seen in the first spaces of the top and middle rows, in each Pane, of the two values. In these two spaces of the 10c value Panes, a compass, Europa 1992, the CEPT symbol and the words "500 Sena, Sejba Ta' l-Amerika" are shown. In the same spaces of the 35c value Panes, a globe showing North and South America, Europa 1992, the CEPT symbol and again the words "500 Sena, Sejba Ta' l-Amerika" can be seen. The wording means: "500 Years, Discovery of America".

The value of a whole Pane of stamps is seen in the middle of the top margin of each Pane, of both values, printed in black.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter, are seen in the right hand margin of each Pane, of both values, next to the last stamp of the bottom row. The colours from top to bottom correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers, from left to right, in all Panes, of both values.

The Printed Sheet of each value, consisted of six Panes of ten stamps, A to F.

Plate/Pane Numbers

These are seen under the first stamp, of the bottom row, in each Pane, of both values

10c = 1A x 4 up to and including 1F x 4

35c = 1A x 4 up to and including 1F x 4

Perforation of Margins

The top margins of Panes A and B, of both values, are imperforate, whilst the other three margins of these same Panes and the four margins of Panes C, D, E and F are all perforated. Other printing marks could have been seen, in the top left hand corner of Panes A, in the top right hand corner of Panes B, in the bottom left hand corner of Panes E and in the bottom right hand corner of Panes F, of both values.

PANE "A" WMK →	PANE "B" WMK →
PANE "C" WMK →	PANE "D" WMK →
PANE "E" WMK →	PANE "F" WMK →

From a study of details given, the Printed Sheet of each value, before cutting into Panes, would look as shown in the accompanying figure. Looking at the Printed sheet as shown, stamps of both values would be seen the right way up, hence why watermark is sideways in both values.

Perforator ran from top to bottom.

Imprint Blocks

The Imprint "PRINTEX LIMITED MALTA" is seen under the last stamp of the bottom row, in each Pane, of both values. Letters are 1mm high and printed in black. An Imprint block of four will also include the colour checks. A special handstamp incorporating a motif was used for cancellation on the first day of issue.

This set remained on sale up to February 9, 1993. First day sales amounted to Lm98,900 by 12.45pm.

Note: Detailed information about the 1991 Definitive postage set will be given in a future issue of the magazine, when all the information is available.