

BEGINNER'S EXHIBITING TECHNIQUES

By P Mohanachandran Nair

MATERIALS NEEDED

- 1. Your Exhibit Items**
- 2. Album Sheets**
- 3. Ruler, Pencil and Eraser**
- 4. Stamp Hinges**
- 5. Clear Stamp Mounts**
- 6. Corner Mounts**
- 7. Page Protectors**
- 8. Pen/Typewriter/Computer** (for text)
- 9. Catalogues/Books on your Exhibit Subject** (for reference)

1. Your Exhibit Items

What are elements you are going to include in the exhibit
OR What you have collected so far

It may be
stamps,
covers,
miniature sheets,
maxim cards etc. etc.

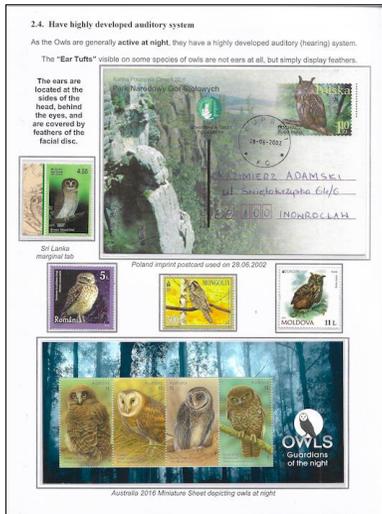


2. Album Sheets

You can use any of five sizes of thick paper in white / off white or buff colour



Off White colour page 31 x 29 cm



White colour page in vertical A4 size

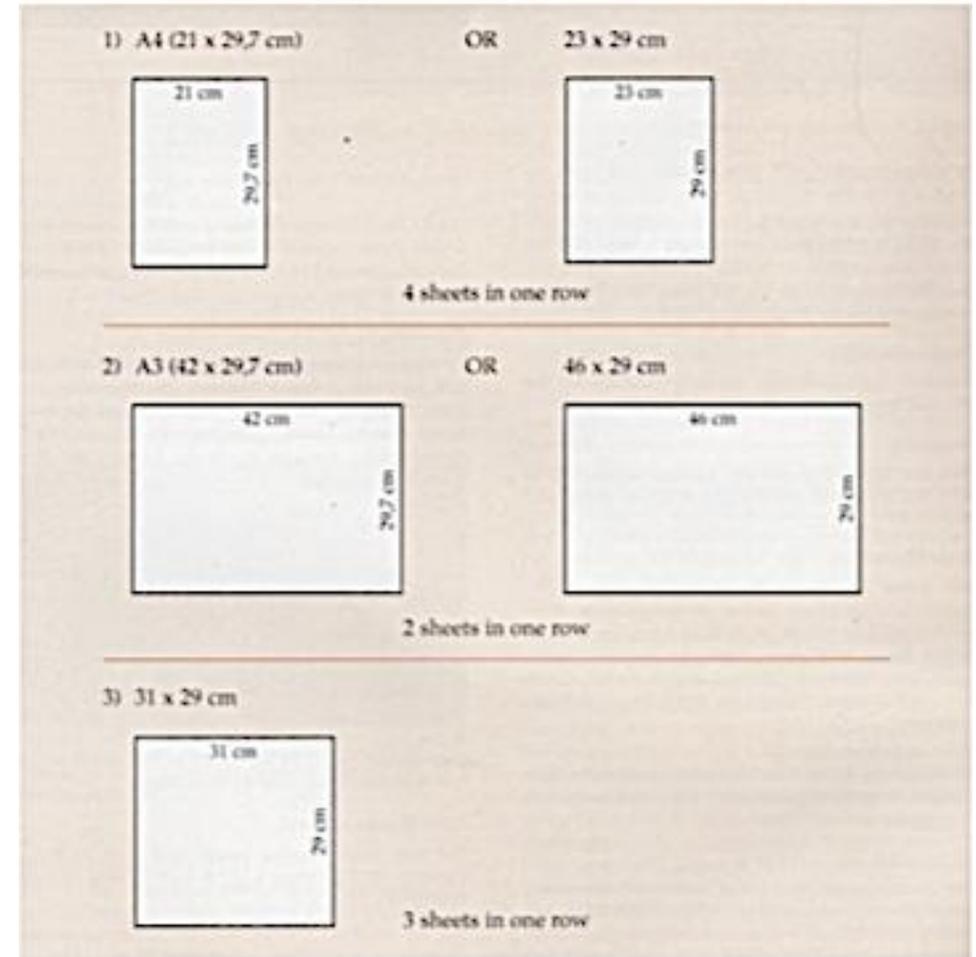


Buff colour page in Landscape A3 size

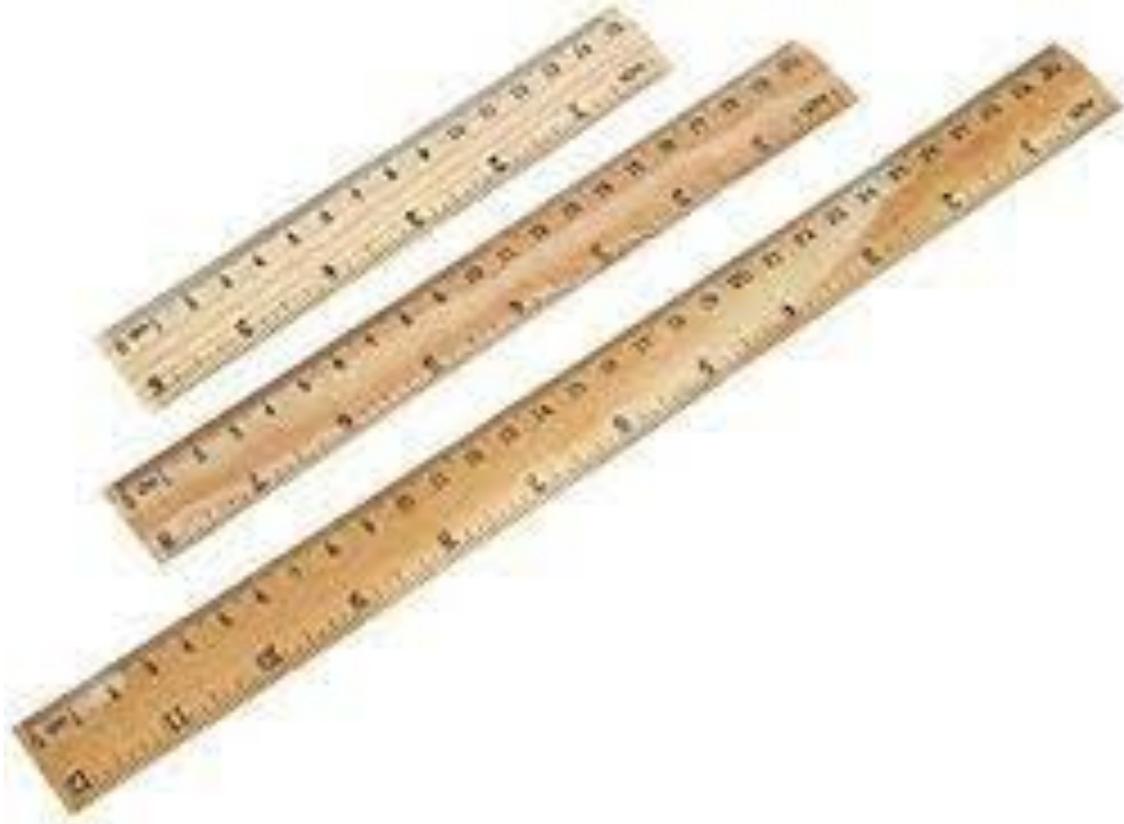
Recommended Exhibit Sheet Sizes

As approved and recommended during the FIP Board meeting in Seoul on August 13 – 14, 2014

- 1) (21 x 29.7) cm or (23 x 29) cm – 4 sheets in one row
- 2) (42 x 29.7) cm or (46 x 29) cm – 2 sheets in one row
- 3) (31 x 29) cm – 3 sheets in one row

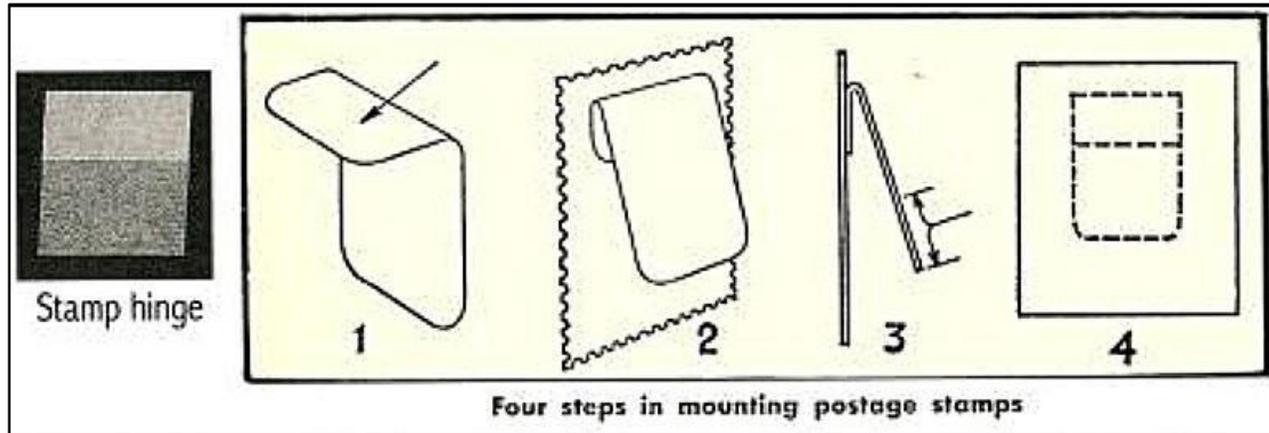


3. Ruler Pencil and Eraser



for measuring margins/placing items straight on your pages and marking it with pencil and then erase.

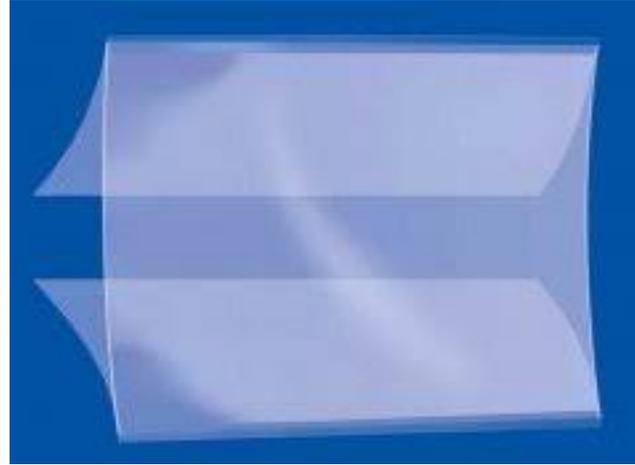
4. Stamp Hinges



for attaching cancelled (used) stamps to exhibit pages



5. Clear Stamp Mounts



for attaching mint (gummed) stamps to exhibit pages

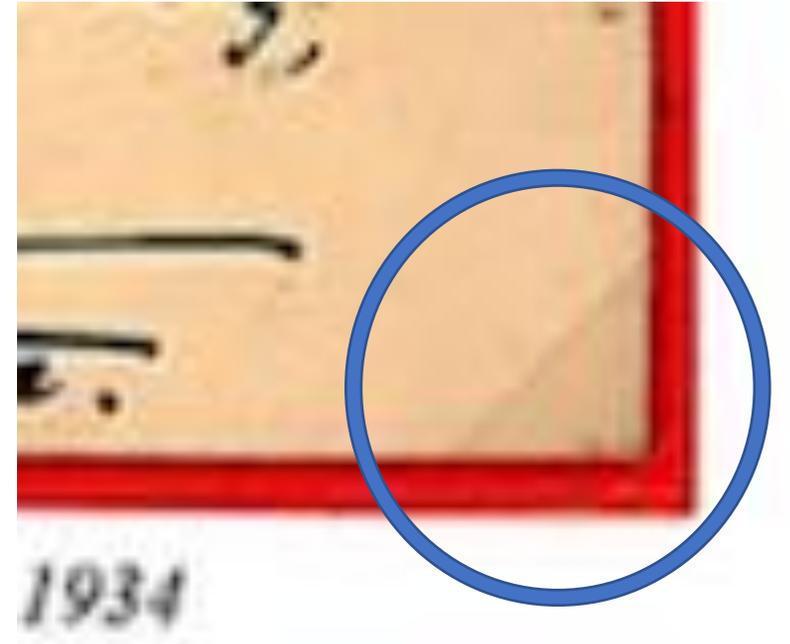
6. Corner Mounts



Previously used photo corners
Non transparent



Transparent corner mounts



for attaching covers to exhibit pages

7. Page Protectors



to hold the exhibit

WHICH ONE IS YOUR SUBJECT OF EXHIBIT?

1. Traditional
2. Thematic
3. Postal History
4. Postal Stationery

Subject should be not too big and not too small.

Smaller in-depth is better than bigger superficial

Study the rules regarding each subjects.

The rules and regulations are available in FIP site.



Traditional



Thematic



Postal History



Postal Stationery

1. Traditional

This is an exhibit on stamps and covers that were issued by

1. a specific country (Eg: India After Independence, British India)
2. a group of countries (Eg: British Colonies)
3. a type of stamp (Eg: Definitive, Commemorative, Airmail, Refugee Relief etc.)

The write-up portion of the exhibit should have why the stamps were issued?

What purpose they served?

The printing process to produce the stamp etc.

You should show all the stamps as per your subject and plan either mint or used.

Its proofs and specimen if available

You will need to find out any varieties

The exhibit also should include postally used stamps on cover

The exhibit should be narrowed. Avoid vast periods.



2. Thematic

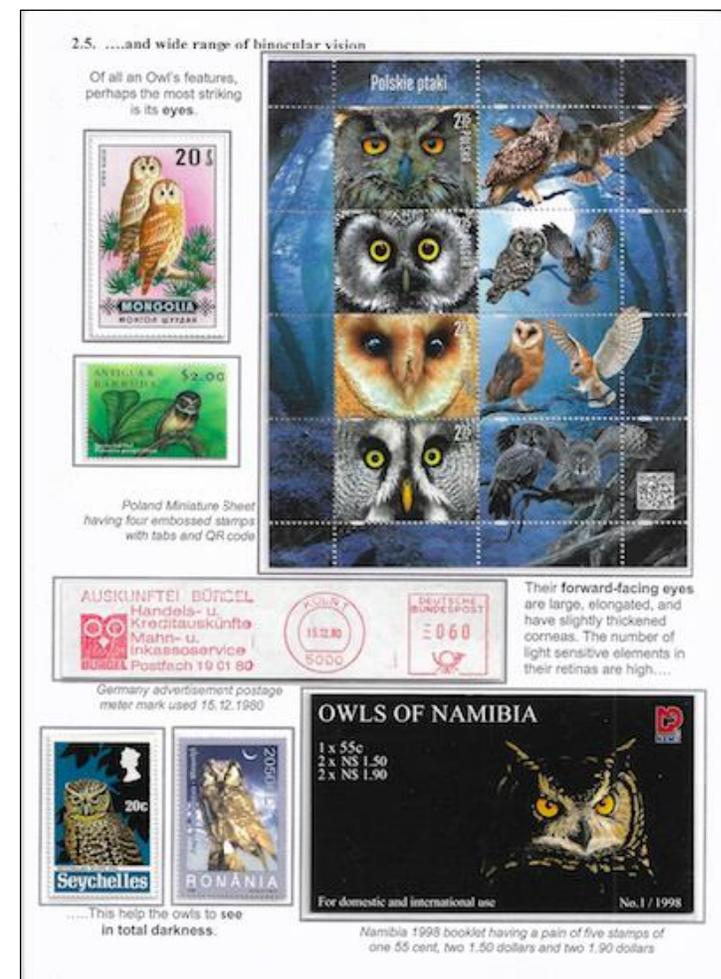
Thematic exhibit contains stamps and philatelic materials about a specific topic or theme

The write-up portion should concentrate on the subject portrayed on the exhibit items.

The exhibit should have story illustrated with philatelic materials. The story should flow through the pages and the materials should be pasted near to the text where it belongs to.

Don't choose a broad subject. Pick a specific subject, so you can make the exhibit complete as possible.

Eg: Parrots instead of Birds, Trains instead of Transportation, Tigers instead of Wild Animals, Runs, Throws and Jumps instead of Olympic Games etc.



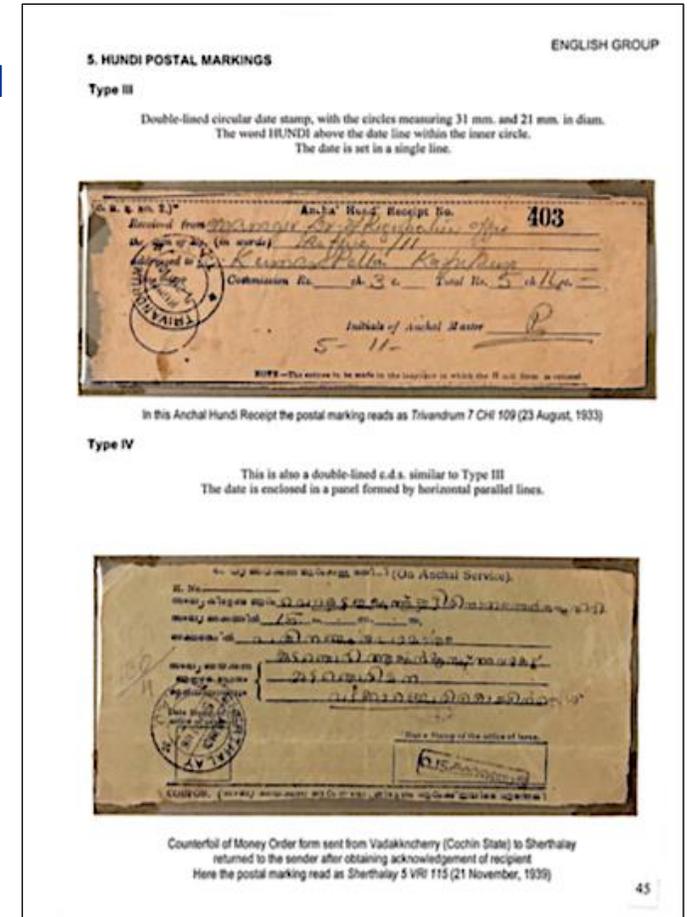
3. Postal History

A Postal History exhibit comprises used covers and letters, used postal stationery, used postage stamps and other postal documents selected, described and arranged according to a balanced plan aimed to develop any aspect of postal history.

Such exhibits generally emphasise rates, routes, regulations, markings, usages, and other postal aspects, services, functions, and activities related to the history of the development of Postal Services.

Three classes of Postal History exhibits are recognized.

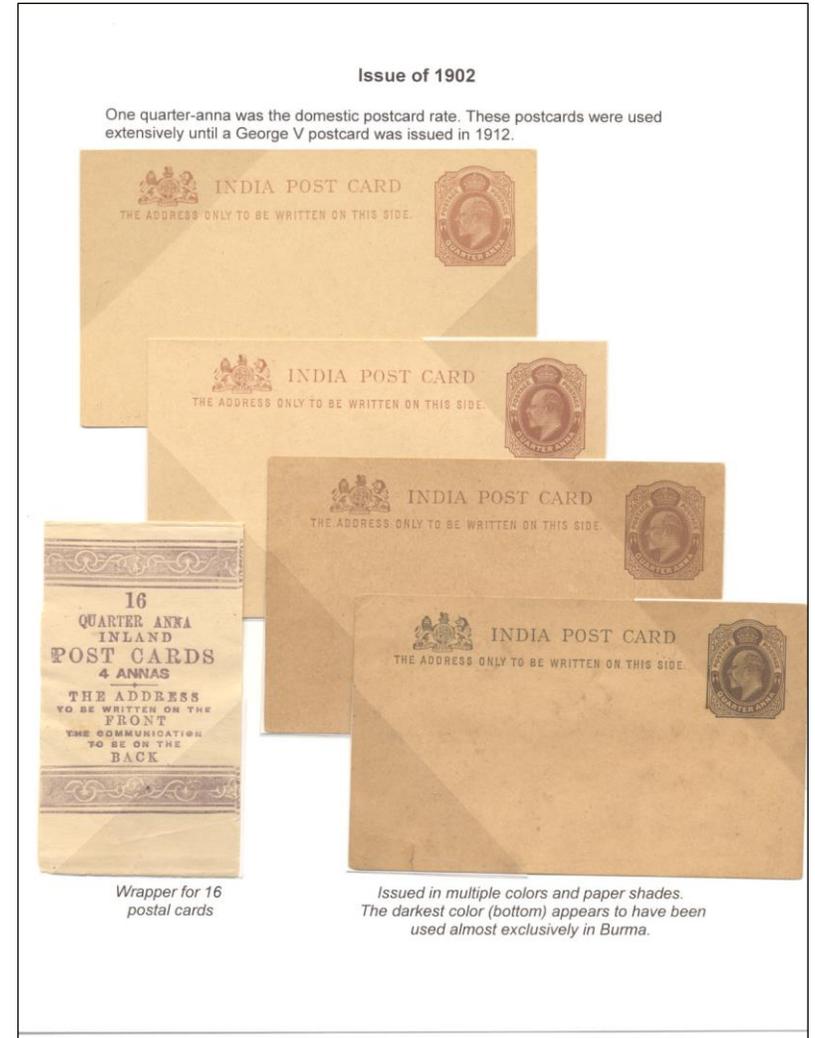
1. Postal History exhibits relating to postal services and systems.
2. Marcophily exhibits- relates to the study and classification of postal markings
3. Historical, Social and Special Study exhibits - relates to postal history studies in the broadest sense.



4. Postal Stationery

Postal Stationery comprises postal matter which either bears an officially authorised **pre-printed stamp** or device or inscription indicating that a specific **face value of postage** or related service has been prepaid

A Postal Stationery exhibit should be arranged using appropriately chosen unused and/or postally used items of postal stationery from a particular country or associated group of territories.



CONDITION OF MATERIALS COLLECTED

Give most importance to condition of the stamps and covers

It should be clean and lightly cancelled

Perforations are intact

The stamps image should appear in the exact centre of the perforated area.

If a very rare item is only known in poor condition show it and explain.

THE PLAN

Develop a plan for your exhibit

It should be efficient and well structured

It should have chapters and sub chapters

Presence of the introductory page is necessary

Consistency with the **PLAN** and **TITLE**

A good stamp exhibit has a **BEGINNING** a **MIDDLE** and an **ENDING**

It is helpful to prepare a list of all your items in outline form



Eg: for a **thematic** exhibit on Horses
your outline might look like

	Introduction & Plan		1
A.	Horse Breeds		20
	1. Arabian	6	
	2. Morgan	5	
	3. Quarter Horse	4	
	4.	5	
B.	Horses in Art		19
	1. Paintings	8	
	2. Sculpture	7	
	3.	4	
C.	Horses at Work		18
	1. Pulling carts	7	
	2. Pulling plows	3	
	3. War horses	5	
	4. Police Horses	3	
D.	Horses in Sports		22
	1. Horse races	10	
	2. In Olympics	8	
	3. Other sports	4	
	Total Pages		80

ELEMENTS OF EXHIBITS

STAMPS – Definitive, commemorative, coil, revenue, fiscal etc. in mint or used different varieties/errors

BOOKLETS OR ITS PANE

COMMERCIALY USED COVER

CANCELLATIONS – Different types and shapes, pictorial cancellations etc.

METER MARKS

USED FDCs – Only the stamp and cancellation portion is to be showed. Avoid left side picture of the FDCs

POSTAL STATIONERY – All types of stationery imprinted with face value.

WATERMARKS

PERFINS

There are hundreds of elements available for philatelic exhibit

DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN

ORIGINAL DESIGN DRAWINGS

PROOFS

DIE PROOFS

SPECIMEN

COLOUR TRIALS ETC.

PAGE ARRANGEMENTS

Before going to page arrangement you should consider the size of your materials and thus you should decide the size of pages you are going to exhibits (Eg. A4, A3, or square)

Place your stamps, covers, and other items in a **blank, desired size** album sheet **according to the plan.**

Avoid duplication. Show items **directly related to the subject.**

And then move them around **to make pleasing layouts and arrangements** and mark them with pencil.

Try to include at least **two elements** on a page.

It will tell you if a page will be **too full or too empty** or unappealing.

It will give you an idea about how much space is available for your **write up.**

Try to **avoid overlapping** of materials.

THE WRITE-UP

A write up in an exhibit is what are you going to say about your story and the items.

There are two types of text: **1. Story Line text** and **2. Philatelic text.**

Your text should be **as brief as possible.** While explaining the important details of the story and include only what is of the greatest importance to your philatelic material.

As you look at your preview pages, you can see the places where your write-ups can go.

Do not repeat the title of the exhibit in every page

But the chapter heading should be written on respective pages.

Eg: C. Horses At Work

3. War Horses

Use different suitable font types for your story and description of the materials.

The write-ups can either be handwritten (neatly), typed or computer generated.

C. Horses at work
3. War Horses

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THE LAYOUT

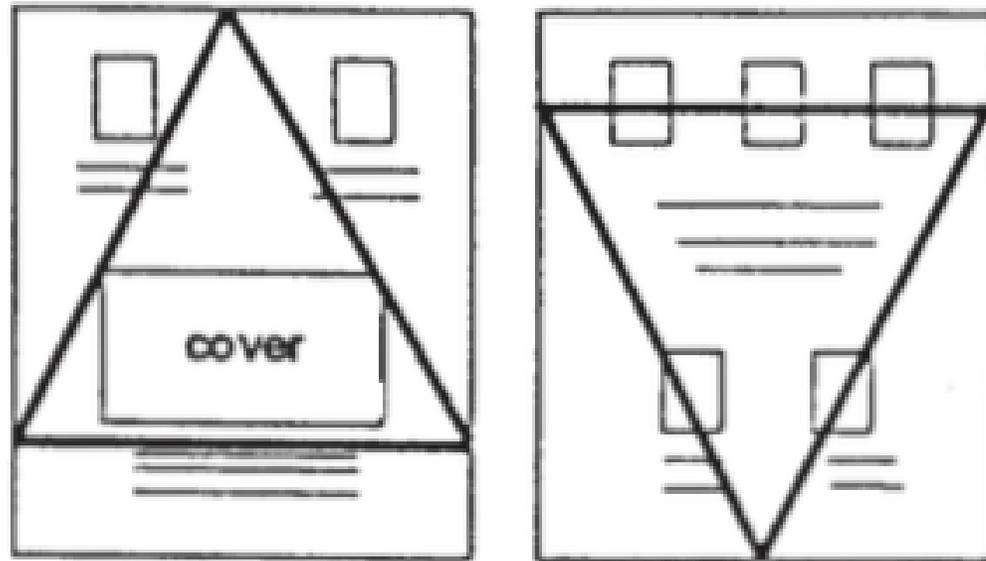
Keep ample even margins on each page. Minimum 1½ cm.

Do not use pictures, maps or decorations on page. It should be simple and legible.

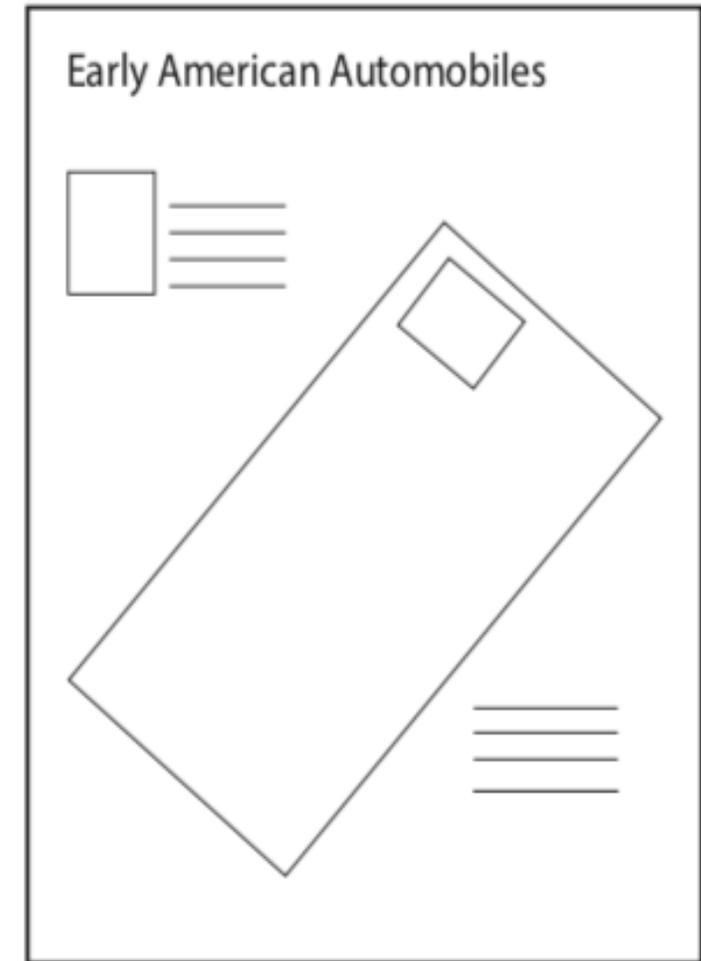
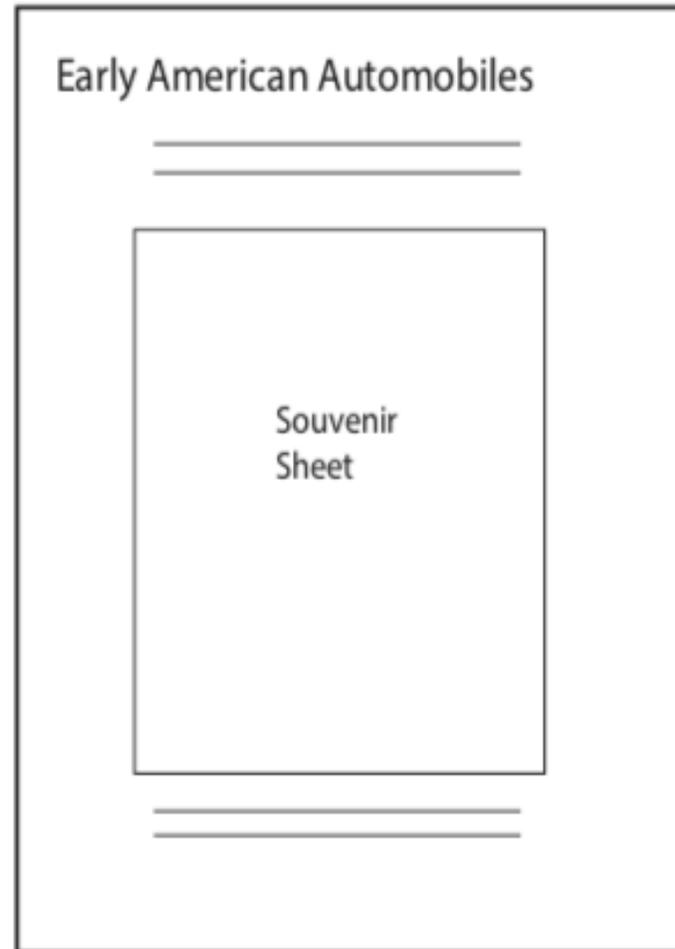
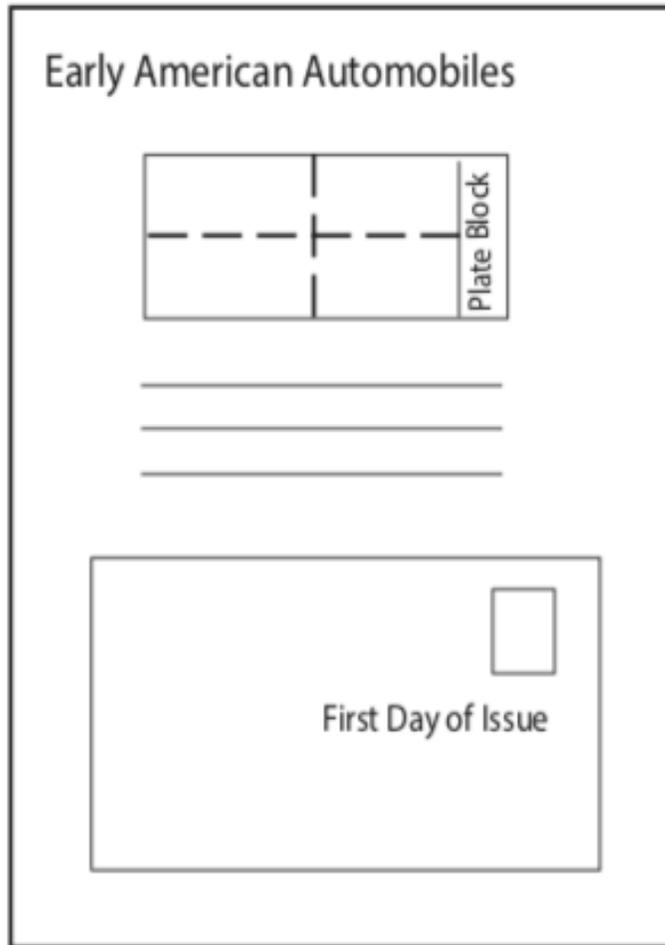
Page balance can be better obtained by keeping in mind the pyramid effect. This can also work to advantage by reversing the effect. There are however no set rules.

Avoid page framing

Do not write your name or address in the face of an exhibit page



THE LAYOUT



Large covers are usually displayed diagonally.

WINDOWING

Windowing is a technique used by exhibitors to conserve page space and display only emphasized portion of a cover.

There are three basic types: slits, corners, and full windows, as illustrated here.



© Tom Fortunato

The dashed lines represent cuts into the exhibit page, allowing material to be mounted from behind and slid through the opening. Thematic exhibits use this technique extensively.

TITLE PAGE

It is best to complete your title page **last**.

Because at this time you will know the exact content and sequence of your pages giving you a better idea as to what the exhibit is really about.

Title page describes what is going to be shown.

Plan of the exhibit can be included in this page, **if space permits**.

This page must include a **brief background** (not a Long history), **the scope, treatment, development** of your exhibit.

Also show how it is **presented**.

You can include a map or a good philatelic item (eye catching) in this page.

You are free to add colour fonts or pictures in this page.

Give **bibliography** you followed (for the judges)

HEART OF THE WEST: SAN FRANCISCO AS A POSTAL HUB FROM 1849 TO 1869

This exhibit examines the postal routes that connected San Francisco with the rest of the world in the 1849 to 1869 period. The 1848 California Gold Rush established San Francisco as the principal city on the American west coast, and San Francisco's large natural harbor made it an excellent terminus for Pacific Ocean steamships. These factors quickly solidified San Francisco as the central point for postal operations in the American West. The period covered by this exhibit begins when San Francisco began formal postal operations in March 1849, and concludes in June 1869, shortly after the completion of the transcontinental railroad.

Postal Routes Connecting With San Francisco

- Transcontinental water routes** connected the east and west coasts of North America by Atlantic coast steamships running between New York and Latin America, and by Pacific coast steamships running between San Francisco and Latin America. These were joined by short overland routes via Panama, Nicaragua and Mexico.
- Transcontinental overland routes** across the North American continent.
- Pacific Ocean routes** connected San Francisco with foreign ports in the Far East, Pacific Rim, Hawaii, British Columbia and South America.
- Regional West Coast routes** connected San Francisco with nearby regions. Local mail within San Francisco is not included in the scope of this exhibit.

Pacific Ocean Routes
*Far East & Hawaii
*British Columbia
*South America

Transcontinental Overland Routes
*Chesapeake
*Burrhead & OMC
*Pony Express



Regional West Coast Routes
*Port Office
*Gold Miners' Express
*Expresses to Nevada Territory

Transcontinental Water Routes
*Via Panama
*Via Nicaragua
*Via Mexico

Presentation
The exhibit is organized by route. Eastbound and westbound mail is shown for each route, with chronological subdivisions within each route grouping reflecting changing rate structures.

CONCLUSION

Your name, address, phone number and page number must write on a slip of paper and affix behind each exhibit page.

Creating a stamp exhibit is both challenging and fun.

It can be entered in competition over and over again with continuing additions and improvements

Your goal is to receive the first place in competitions.

See other high awarded exhibits and grasp the tips they used

Also hear the judges what they say about your work.

Thank You

P. Mohanachandran Nair

Questions?