

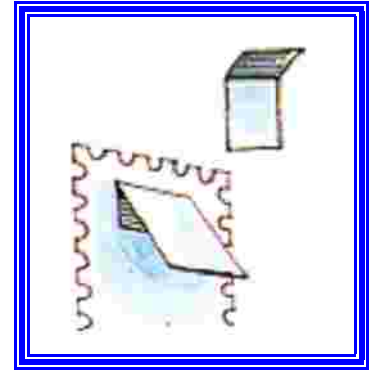


# HINGES

Put stamps in your albums with a hinge or a mount. Don't use tape or glue as you will possibly damage the stamps when you try to remove them from your album.

**Hinges** are small, thin, folded pieces of translucent paper or plastic with special gum on the one side.

To use a hinge, moisten the short end of the hinge lightly and press it to the back of the stamp, placing the fold about 1/8 inch from the top of the stamp. Then lightly moisten the larger portion of the hinge and attach it to your album page pressing down to secure it.



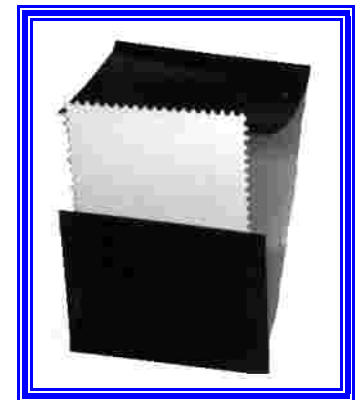
Many collectors prefer to use mounts for mint stamps, as part of the gum will come off of the stamp if the hinge is removed.

# STAMP MOUNTS

You should put mint stamps in your albums using a mount. You probably do not want to use hinges for mint stamps, as these will decrease a mint stamps value.

When creating an exhibit page, you may also want to use stamp mounts, as they make a nicer presentation.

**Stamps mounts** are specially made pockets that are used to mount stamps into albums. The first thing to do when choosing a mount is to pick the correct size. You want a stamp mount that your stamp fits snugly into, but not so small that it will bend the stamp. Once choosing the correct size stamp mount, you may need to cut the mount the fit the stamp.



After you have the stamp mount prepared for your album (or exhibit page), you want to remove the stamp from the mount. Moisten the **top** of the mount, and place it where you want the stamp to be. After placing the stamp mount, you will be able to insert the stamp by using the opening at the bottom of the stamp mount.