

SUPERHEROES: FROM COMIC BOOKS TO STAMPS

Type, Purpose, and Scope

This single-frame topical exhibit focuses on the stamps, not covers or stationery, that depict comic book superheroes. Mostly U.S. stamps are shown, but some from Canada and Jersey are also included. There have been relatively few, so collecting them is not expensive or difficult, but they are colorful and rich in meaning. The primary superhero covered is Superman, the essence of a superhero character, who first appeared in *Action Comics #1* issued in April 1938.

Plan / Outline

- Comic Book Information
- General Superhero Stamps
- Superman Stamps
- Batman Stamps
- Wonder Woman Stamps
- Bogus/Fake Stamps
- References

Background Information

This exhibit is based on an article by the exhibitor that was published in the January 2017 issue of *The American Philatelist*, pages 54 to 60.

Highlights

There are two items that are special in this exhibit. The first is the USPS Commemorative *Action Comics #1* with Scott 3815f cancelled first day of issue (showing Superman Arrives 1938 from the 1930s Celebrate the Century pane) still in its original sealed condition. The second is the Celebrate the Century 1930s *Super Heroes Stamp Album*. They both appear on separate pages with black outline. While not unique or rare, they are hard to find, especially a complete set of all 10 stamp albums, one for each decade and pane.