



# WORLD WAR II AT HOME

## STAMPING OUT THE ENEMY: U.S. POSTAL WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

### WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

Stamps civilians and military personnel collected in a war bond stamp book that helped the government raise money towards the war effort. Funds were used for any and all war expenses such as manufacturing, food, artillery, medical supplies, and more.

Governments across the globe have needed to raise additional funds for expenses caused by war throughout history. This was no different during World War II. The government essentially received several funds from United States citizens ranging in small amounts to much larger amounts that would be paid back later with interest. These were called **war savings bonds**. Traditionally, large dollar bond amounts (\$50 to \$1000) were purchased. Purchasing war bonds was viewed as a way for American citizens to support the war effort.

However, in the 1940's, the average civilian did not have extra money to purchase these large bond amounts. In response, **war savings stamps** were created by the United States Post Office. These postal stamps were in smaller denominations (10 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents, \$1, and \$5) that could be collected in a **war bond stamp book**. Once a person collected enough stamps they could purchase a larger war bond (\$25, \$50, or \$100). Each book held a single type of stamp.



A propaganda poster for buying savings stamps.



A 25-cent stamp book and 25-cent stamp.



Other 1942 war savings stamps.

# U.S. POSTAL WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

War savings stamps and war bond stamp book key.



10-cent stamps filled a \$5.00 book Total of 50 stamps



50-cent stamps filled a \$50.00 book Total of 100 stamps



25-cent stamps filled a \$18.75 book Total of 75 stamps



\$1.00 stamps filled a \$100.00 book Total of 100 stamps



\$5.00 stamps filled a \$100.00 book Total of 20 stamps

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## SAVINGS STAMP MATH

Solve the following math problems using war bond stamps. Write your responses in the spaces provided. Use numbers and \$ or ¢ symbols. Don't forget, each stamp is worth a different amount of money (listed on the bottom left of the stamp)!

1. How much money is each stamp worth?



a. \_\_\_\_\_



b. \_\_\_\_\_



c. \_\_\_\_\_

2. You have the following stamps. How much money do you have?



a. \_\_\_\_\_



b. \_\_\_\_\_



c. \_\_\_\_\_

3. You need \$100 to complete your \$5 stamp book. You already have fifteen stamps. How many more stamps do you need to complete your book?

4. You have thirty 25-cent stamps in your war bond stamp book. You need a total of \$18.75. How much money do you have? How much more do you need to complete your book?

# WORLD WAR II AT HOME

## WAR STAMP MATH ANSWER KEY

Solve the following math problems using war bond stamps. Write your responses in the spaces provided. Use numbers and \$ or ¢ symbols. Don't forget, each stamp is worth a different amount of money (listed on the bottom left of the stamp)!

1. How much money is each stamp worth?



a. 50¢



b. \$1.00



c. 10¢

2. You have the following stamps. How much money do you have?



a. \$1.00



b. \$15.00



c. 40¢

3. You need \$100 to complete your \$5 stamp book. You already have fifteen stamps. How many more stamps do you need to complete your book?

5 stamps

4. You have thirty 25-cent stamps in your war bond stamp book. You need a total of \$18.75. (a.) How much money do you have? (b.) How much more do you need to complete your book?

a. \$7.50

b. \$11.25