

Acceptance & Submission Guidelines

STAMPS



Stamps

Premium Positioning

At **Catawiki**, we share your passion for stamps.



At Catawiki we auction stamps of **premium quality**.

We want to **help** you build your collection from beginning to end by proposing lots of the **highest quality, interest and authenticity**.

By selecting stamps from early periods to more recent issues, we aim to help collectors build their collections in the right way.

We make these stamps readily available for our users on our **safe** and **reliable** platform.

We **ensure** that they are of **premium quality** and are presented in the best and most professional way possible.

Product Guidelines

Buyers at Catawiki look for interesting and collectable stamps that are not easy to find on the market.



For our auctions, we seek classical and modern stamps in single, set or collection format. We're looking for:

- single items (single stamps, single letters, single blocks, etc.) and complete sets of stamps of the highest quality with a minimum estimated value of €50
- single stamps, sets of stamps, collections and batches from 1840 (earliest issue) to the current date with a minimum estimated value of €75
- rare stamps
- postal history letters
- accessories: philatelic books, official catalogues, sets of albums, stock books and accessories/material to expertise stamps with a value above €75

- **Classical stamps (1840 to 1945) of premium quality**
 - **For lots with an estimated value of €50-75:** we only accept single items and complete sets of stamps in good quality.
 - The experts will only accept faults on stamps if they are due to the material used to issue the stamp, if the stamp is known to be very difficult to find without a fault, or when the official catalogue of the country values them with faults.
 - **For lots with an estimated value above €75:** we accept good quality single stamps, sets of stamps, selections of stamps, collections and batches (every type of lot).
 - The experts might accept faults depending on the value and the rarity of the stamps that have missing gum (while expected), a couple of small points of stain, one or two short perforations, a tiny thin or a small fold.
 - We only accept repaired stamps with a certificate (only for stamps with an estimated minimum value of €200 - although we do not accept reserve prices except for rare repaired stamps).



- **Modern stamps (after 1945) of premium quality**
 - **For lots with an estimated value of €50-75:** we only accept high quality single items and complete sets of stamps.
 - **For lots with an estimated value above €75:** we only accept high quality single stamps, set of stamps, selection of stamps, collections, and batches.

For **all modern stamps**: The experts will only accept faults on stamps if they are natural faults due to the material used to issue the stamp, if the stamp is known to be very difficult to find without a fault, or when the official catalogue of the country values them with faults.



- **Rare stamps of premium quality**

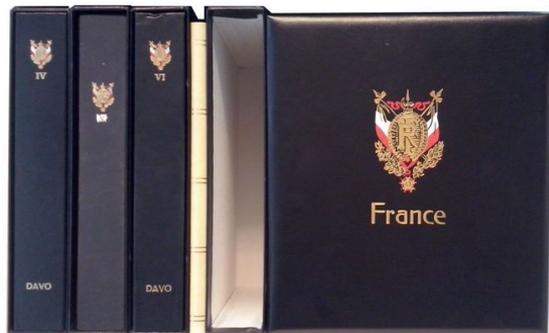
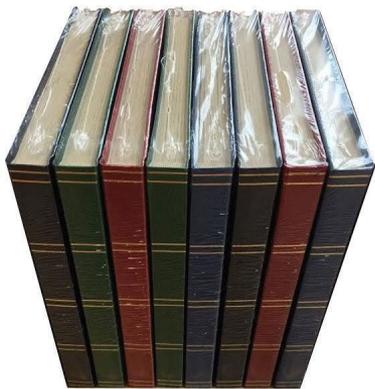
- The experts might accept faults depending on the value and the rarity of the stamp. The rarer the stamp is, the more the expert might accept more serious faults (fold, small or cut margin, short or missing perforation, no gum while expected, stain on the gum).



- **Postal history of premium quality with a minimum estimated value of €50**

- The experts might accept small faults on the stamps or covers, whatever the value of the item is, as long as the fault is not touching the characteristic (cancellation, origin, destination, combination of stamps, stamps) that give the value to the letter.





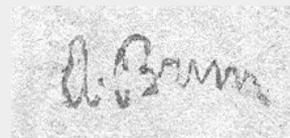
- **Stamp accessories of premium quality with a minimum estimated value of €75**
 - set of albums
 - stock books
 - accessories/material to expertise stamps
- **Philatelic books with a minimum estimated value of €75**
 - all philatelic books about the study of stamps and postal history
 - official catalogues

Authenticity/Certification Requirements

Buyers are more likely to bid on your lot if they know it is certified as being authentic. This is why we ask for **certificates from trusted third-party experts** if there is a doubt about the authenticity.



- If there are any doubts about the authenticity of the object, the expert will ask for certification.
- If the stamp comes with a certificate, the expert will first check the coherence between the item and the description on the certificate. In case of incoherence, the expert will ask for another certificate.
- If there are any doubts about authenticity/forgery of a signature or certificate, the expert will ask for a new signature/certificate.



Submission Guidelines

Potential buyers are more likely to bid on lots with clear photos, and with a good description displaying all relevant information.

Lot Description

To encourage potential buyers to bid on your lot, you should include a detailed description of your object(s). This should be thorough and honest, and follow the guidelines on the next page.



If you are using our website to upload your lots, tips will appear to give you guidance about what information we need to know about your lot. The fields that you fill in help to present the information in a way that's easy for the buyer to read.

Please submit the title of your lot following the format below.

In the title include:

- the name of the country or the area
- year (oldest stamp)/year (youngest stamp)
- a short description (such as: issue name of the stamp, stamp subject, catalogue name)
- if applicable, the reference number with the name of the catalogue used
- example: Switzerland 1913/1944 - Pro Juventute, complete series
- example: France 1927 - Strasbourg Philatelic Exhibition block-sheetlet - Yvert no. 2



In the subtitle include:

- the condition of the stamps present in the lot
- example: mint hinged, mint never hinged, used

In the description include:

- an honest description of your lot stating all the possible faults
- the catalogue value (recommended) - this is important information for some bidders, in this case, the name and the year of the catalogue used is compulsory



Submission Guidelines

Including high quality photographs is key to catching buyers' eyes, ensuring they bid on your lot.



Photographs and scans

To allow our experts, as well as our bidders, to get an accurate impression of a lot, we require:

- a minimum of two high quality photographs with a neutral background, showing the **front** and **back** of the stamps
- clear photographs of the entirety of the stamps, letters, blocks, gum, perforation, etc.
- clear photographs with sufficient light

The more photographs the better. For instance, it is highly recommended to show photographs of all the stamps in a collection or in a batch of stamps.

For lots with more than one stamp, please have an overview image showing all the items in the lot. In case of multiple albums, an overview of all the albums as a first picture is required, and then single pictures of the most valuable stamps within it.

Stamp photography and scan tips:

- Individual stamps should be photographed or scanned and well organised on a philatelic card or an album page.
- For better presentation, scans are recommended for single stamps and sets.
- Please refrain from showing any prices, references to websites, phone numbers or addresses of stores in the photos.
- Pay attention to the lighting. If you don't have a professional lighting setup, consider placing your lot close to a window in order to use daylight as the lighting source for your photos.
- Use the macro option on your camera, be sure the stamp is in focus, and take the picture.