

Palestine Overprints Identifier

This guide is intended to assist those who are beginning their adventure in the study of the overprints on the stamps of Palestine. You will be given a series of 5 questions to ask yourself while examining your stamp. The questions should be answered in order for best results. References are made to the photo examples at left. Have fun!



Example #1
Jerusalem I



Example #2
Jerusalem II



Example #3
Jer II narrow setting



Example #4
Jerusalem III



Example #5
London I



Example #6
London II

1. Does the English line "Palestine" have serifs on the letters?

- a) If there are serifs on the English then your stamp is either Jerusalem I, II or III. (Example #1-4)
- b) If there are no serifs on the English your stamp is either a London I or II. (Example #5-6)

2. If the answer to question 1 was "a" (serifs), is the Arabic line of the overprint short (8mm) or long (10mm)?

- c) If short, then you have a stamp from Jerusalem I set which is Sc 15-25, Bale or SG 16-29. (Example #1)
- d) If the Arabic is 10mm long, your stamp is either Jerusalem II or III. (Example #2,3,4)

3. If the answer to question 1 was "b" (no serifs), are the English letters in the overprint elongated and pointed or flatter and rounded?

- e) If elongated and pointed, then your stamp is from the London I set which is Sc 37-47, Bale or SG 60-70. (Example #5)
- f) If flatter and rounded, then your stamp is from the London II set which is Sc 71-89, Bale or SG 48-62. (Example #6)

4. If the answer to question 2 is "d" (serifs on letters, 10mm Arabic), are the dashes between the two Hebrew letters on the far left above the other letters, or even with the other Hebrew letters?

- g) If the dashes are raised above the other Hebrew letters, your stamp is a Jerusalem II, which is Sc 15a-22a, Bale or SG 30-43. The Hebrew line is also thicker and more rounded. The 9 pi, 10pi, 20pi values do not exist with this overprint. (Example #2,3)
- h) If the dashes are even with the other Hebrew letters, then your stamp is a Jerusalem III overprint, Sc 15c-25c, Bale or SG 47-59. The Hebrew line on this overprint is also generally serified and more delicate than Jerusalem II. (Example #4)

5. If your answer to question 4 was "g" (raised dashes) and your stamp is a 1mil, 3mil or 5mil value, is the distance between the Hebrew and English narrow (6mm) or wide (7+mm)?

- i) If wide (7+mil), then your stamp is a normal Jerusalem II overprint which is Sc 15a-22a, Bale or SG 30-43. (Example #2)
- j) If narrow (6mm), then your stamp is a "narrow setting" which is Sc 15b-19b, Bale or SG 44-6. (Example #3)

HGP

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