

Xerography Forgeries.

Introduction

Xerography is the technology used by laser printers and photocopiers. The U.S. Patent for the process was issued in 1942 and therefore any of our Transjordan overprints on Hejaz stamps where the overprint was applied using this technology, are not going to be genuine.

With lasers printers being widely available, it is possible for every stamp in the world to be copied in this manner; it is therefore pointless producing a list of such Transjordan stamps.

Illustrated below is a stamp sold on eBay but returned to the seller who agree it was a forgery and refunded the purchase price. It is sad to relate that two years after that transaction, the seller once more offered the same stamp on eBay. Caveat Emptor!



This stamp is a genuine imperforate 1/8p King Ali stamp with a single overprint at centre. To this has been added by xerography another overprint misplaced both horizontally and vertically.

Distinguishing features

The printing process can usually be determined by examining the overprint with a 30x magnifying glass. The edges of the design will show dots of ink in places where no ink should be. The dots are small and round and there will usually be many of them.

The genuine Transjordan overprints were applied using the following printing methods:

Relief (typography)

Ink is applied to the raised portions of the printing plate which is then pressed against the paper. This pressure will often indent the paper so that the design can be seen raised on the gummed side of the stamp, and may also squash the ink towards the edge of the design. Handstamps are a version of typography using a hand-held device rather than a printing plate. They could (and perhaps should) be regarded as a single cliché plate. This is important in Transjordan philately where the terms overprint, typography and handstamp occasionally get mixed up.

Lithography

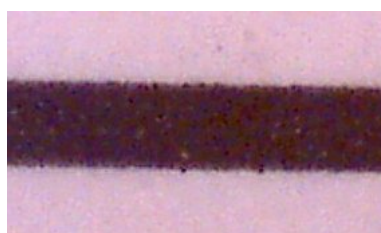
This process prints from a flat plate treated to allow the ink to adhere to the parts of the design requiring colour. The print produced appears flat. This was used only for the 1925 King Ali overprints, but has been used on forgeries.

Examples

The images below show a straight line printed by different methods:



Xerography



Lithography



Relief