Stamps add a decorative touch to our post, are reflections of their times, and can even be used to make a donation to charity. The German Finance Ministry issues around 50 of these little works of art every year. German stamps can be used to do a good deed since 1949. Every year, the German Finance Ministry issues 11 special “plus stamps” which cost a little extra in addition to the postage fee. The extra charge goes to charity. You can immediately tell these stamps are for a good cause by the “plus” symbol featured on each stamp. “Do a good deed – help out with stamps”. The sign guarantees that every cent is well spent and goes straight to the people who depend on our solidarity.

Each stamp indicates what type of charity the proceeds go to – social welfare, youth welfare, sports, environmental protection, or promoting philately. Social welfare stamps were introduced in Germany as early as 1949. German “plus stamps” now generate around €10 million for a good cause every year.

German stamps can be used to do a good deed since 1949. Every year, the German Finance Ministry issues special “plus stamps” which cost a little extra in addition to the postage fee. The extra charge goes to charity.
**Special stamp programme 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue date</th>
<th>Stamp</th>
<th>Value**</th>
<th>Issue date</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2 January  | “Treasures of German museums” series: Caspar David Friedrich – The Solitary Tree  
“Baby animals” series: Racoon  
100th anniversary of women’s suffrage:  
The harbour porpoise: endangered German cetacean | 145  
90  
70  
45 | 4 April | “Design made in Germany” series:  
100th anniversary of the Bauhaus ☘  
“Germany’s most beautiful panoramas” series: Rothenburg ob der Tauber  
150th anniversary of the German Alpine Club  
100th anniversary of German adult education centres: EMS| 70  
20  
145  
70  
45 |
| 7 February | Series to promote social welfare services:  
Supports the Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Freien Wohlfahrtspflege e. V.:  
Grims’ fairy tales: The Brave Little Tailor  
At the workshop  
The giants  
The wedding  
“Celestial phenomena” series:  
Mirage of the Sun  
Rainbow fragment  
150th anniversary of Else Lasker Schüler’s birthday | 70 + 30  
85 + 40  
145 + 55 | 2 May | “Showcasing sports” series:  
Supports the Stiftung Deutsche Sporthilfe (German Sport Support Foundation):  
Iconic moments from the Olympic Games: N.N.  
N.N.  
N.N.  
“Europe” series:  
Native birds: Yellowhammer  
Huldrych Zwingli – the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in Switzerland and southern Germany (joint issue with Switzerland) | 70  
15  
70  
150 |
| 1 March | 100th anniversary of Hannelore Schmidt’s birthday  
100th anniversary of Hamburg University  
Axel Scheffler: The Gruffalo  
Concert hall in Blaibach | 45  
260  
70  
145 | 6 June | “Lighthouses” series:  
Camen lighthouse  
“Microworlds” series:  
Palladium  
25th anniversary of the Haus der Geschichte der Bundesrepublik Deutschland | 70  
85  
260 | 4 July | “Astrophysics” series:  
The Rosetta Mission and black hole / quasar  
“Microworlds” series:  
Microphone  
50th anniversary of the first moon landing  
Federal and local police forces | 45  
90  
145  
70  
145 |
| 2 May | “Showcasing sports” series:  
Supports the Stiftung Deutsche Sporthilfe (German Sport Support Foundation):  
Iconic moments from the Olympic Games: N.N.  
N.N.  
N.N.  
“Europe” series:  
Native birds: Yellowhammer  
Huldrych Zwingli – the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in Switzerland and southern Germany (joint issue with Switzerland) | 70  
15  
70  
150 |
| 2 August | “Showing young people” series:  
Supports the Stiftung Deutsche Jugendmarken e.V. (foundation that uses stamp proceeds to promote youth welfare projects):  
Bats  
N.N.  
N.N.  
100th anniversary of the Weimar Constitution | 70  
15  
70  
145 |
| 5 September | “Stamp Day” series:  
Supports the Stiftung Philatelia und Postgeschichte (Foundation for Philately and Postal History)  
250th anniversary of Alexander von Humboldt’s birthday  
200th anniversary of Clara Schuman’s birthday:  
50th anniversary of the chip card | 145 + 55  
145  
85 |
| 10 October | Christmas series:  
Supports the Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Freien Wohlfahrtspflege e. V.:  
Church windows  
“Optical illusions” series:  
N.N.  
N.N.  
1210 – St. Francis and the sultan | 70 + 30  
70  
45 |
| 2 November | “Upstanding advocates of democracy” series:  
Fritz Bauer  
“Children’s little heroes” series:  
Beat-Club  
Christmas / winter | 85  
90  
70 |
| 5 December | “Children’s little heroes” series:  
Hudi  
Pippi Longstocking  
200th anniversary of Theodor Fontane’s birthday | 45  
70  
150 |

**Graphic design for the special stamps pictured above, from left to right: Stefan Guzy, Berlin, Photo: Architekten Rödiger; Irmgard Hesse, Munich, Photo: © Solvin Zankl, Kiel; Andreas Hoch, Baltmannsweiler; Andreas Ahrens, Hannover, portrait of Hannelore Schmidt: © Kurt Rohwedder, Bild | Michael Kunter, Berlin**

= There will also be a commemorative coin on this theme.  
** Subject to change.