

## CHICAGO SUPER TYPES

PRIOR TO PRINTING THE EIGHTH EDITION OF THE PSS TOWN AND TYPE CATALOG A DECISION WAS MADE TO COMBINE A NUMBER OF CHICAGO TYPES TO SIMPLIFY COLLECTING. MANY SPECIALISTS MAY WANT TO CONTINUE COLLECTING AS BEFORE. THESE PAGES ASSIST IN SEPARATING THE DEVICES WITHIN EACH SUPER TYPE.

FOR MANY YEARS, CHICAGO LOCAL TYPES WERE DISTINGUISHED BY THE SPACE BETWEEN THE LINES AND BY THE SHAPE OF THE BOTTOM OF THE LETTER G WHICH WAS THE ONLY LETTER SHOWING A CONSISTANT DIFFERENCE. TWO COMPANIES APPARENTLY PROVIDED THE CHICAGO HAND STAMPS. ONE USED A "G" WITH A SQUARED BOTTOM. THE OTHER USED A "G" WITH A ROUNDED BOTTOM. THE ROUND BOTTOM G IS ALSO SLIGHTLY NARROWER THAN THE SQUARE BOTTOM G.



L - 6 SQUARE BOTTOM G

L - 9 ROUND BOTTOM G

ADDITIONAL MEASUREMENTS OF THE SPACE BETWEEN WORDS AND THE LENGTH OF THE WORDS SEPARATE THE MANY DEVICES. THERE ARE STILL MULTIPLE DEVICES WITHIN MANY TYPES. MULTIPLES MAY BE FOUND WHICH SHOW 1, 2, 3, 5, 10 OR 25 SUBJECT DEVICES EXIST FOR SOME TYPES.

SEVEN SUPER TYPES WERE CREATED BASED ON THE STAMP, LINE SPACING, AND GAP BETWEEN THE TOWN AND THE STATE. THE SHAPE OF THE G WAS IGNORED.

SUPER TYPE	STAMP	LINE SPACING	BEWTWEEN WORDS
ST-1	DEFINITIVE	11-13.5 MM	2-2.5 MM
ST-2	DEFINITIVE	11-13.5 MM	1-1.5 MM
ST-3	PARCEL POST	11-13.5 MM	2-2.5 MM
ST-4	PARCEL POST	11-13.5 MM	1-1.5 MM
ST-5	DEFINITIVE	14-16 MM	2-2.5 MM
ST-6	DEFINITIVE	14-16 MM	1-1.5 MM
ST-7	PARCEL POST	14-16 MM	2-2.5 MM

**ST - 1** 11 – 13.5 MM BETWEEN LINES      WORDS 2 TO 2.5 MM APART

Type	G	Lines Apart	Words Apart	Chicago Length	Illinois Length	# of Devices	height Letters	Stamp Issues
L - 26	G	12.5-13	2	13	13.5	2	4	1918 - 1935
L - 30	<b>G</b>	13.5	2.5	13	13-13.5	2	4	1912 - 1936
L - 32	<b>G</b>	12.5-13	2	14	14	2	4.25	1922 - 1936
S - 82	G	12.5	2	14	14	2	4	1926 - 1934
S - 83	G	12-12.5	2.5	13	13	2	4	1922 - 1935

G BOTTOM SQUARE

WORDS 13 - 13.5 MM LONG = L - 30

WORDS 14 MM LONG = L - 32

G BOTTOM ROUND

WORDS 14 MM LONG = S - 82

WORDS SHORTER

WORDS 2.5 MM APART, 13 MM LONG = S - 83

WORDS 2 MM APART , ILLINOIS 13.5 MM LONG = L - 26



L - 26



L - 30



L - 32



S - 82



S-83

**ST - 2 11 TO 13.5 MM BETWEEN LINES      WORDS .76 TO 1.75 MM APART**

Type	G	Lines Apart	Words Apart	Chicago Length	Illinois Length	# Of Devices	height letters	bar length	Stamp Issue
L - 6 (11)	<b>G</b>	12-12.5	1.25	14-14.5	13.5-14	1	4	15-25	1-5 1893-1914
L - 9	G	12-12.5	1	12.5-13	12.5-13	2 + 5	4	-- --	1922-1936
L - 22	G	13.5	1.5	13.5	13.5	unk	3.5	83% blue ink	1917 - 1922
L - 31 (11)	G	11.5-12.5	1.5-1.75	13-13.5	13-13.5	1, 2, 5	3.75	-- --	1922 - 1934
L - 33 (11)	G	11.5-12	.75-1	12.5	12	5	3.5-3.75	-- --	1923 - 1933
L - 34	<b>G</b>	12	.75	13	<b>13</b>	5	4.25	-- --	1922 - 1936
L - 35	<b>G</b>	12	.75-1	13	<b>12</b>	5	4	-- --	1923 - 1936
S - 85	<b>G</b>	12.5-13	1.5	14-14.5	14	1	4	16-17	0-2 <b>PP only</b>
S - 89	G	12	1	13-13.5	13-13.5	1	3	38	1902 - 1917
S - 91	G*	12.5-13	.75	14	14	2	3-3.5	<b>Thick lines</b>	<b>1926 - 1936</b>

**G BOTTOM SQUARE**

WORDS 13.5-14.5 MM LONG = L - 6 ONLY ON 1893-1914 STAMPS

WORDS 14 - 14.5 MM LONG = S - 85 ONLY ON PARCEL POST STAMPS

WORDS SHORTER

ILLINOIS 13 MM LONG = L 34

ILLINOIS 12 MM LONG = L 35



S - 85

**G BOTTOM ROUND**

LINES .75 TO 1 MM THICK = S - 91 (WORDS 14 MM LONG)

LINES .25 MM THICK

WORDS 1.5 - 1.75 MM APART

LINES 11.5 - 12.5 MM PART = L - 31

LINES 13.5 MM APART = L - 22

WORDS .75 TO 1 MM APART

ILLINOIS 12.5 - 13 MM LONG = L - 9 ONLY 1922-1926 STAMPS\* L - 22

ILLINOIS 13 - 13.5 MM LONG = S - 89 PRE 1917\*

ILLINOIS 12 MM LONG = L - 33



**\*S - 89 ON DEFINITIVES is Included in L - 9. It appears that all pre - 1916 stamps were cancelled with the device made to fit the parcel post stamps. MANY DOUBLES EXIST.**



L - 6

L - 9

L - 31

L - 33

L - 34

L - 35

S - 91

**ST - 3** LINES 11 TO 13.5 MM APART WORDS 2-2.5 MM APART.  
SPACED FOR PARCEL POST STAMPS

Chicago handstamp Identification table				subjects in				if bar	
Type	G	Lines Apart	Words Apart	Chicago Length	Illinois Length	Device height letters	in length	bar /end bar	end word
L - 12	<b>G</b>	13-14	2-2.5	14.5-15	14	1	4	29-30	7-8 Parcel Post only



ST - 3 BARS 29 - 30 MM LONG,

**ST - 4** LINES 12-13 MM APART WORDS 1 - 1.5 MM APART. SPACED FOR PARCEL POST STAMPS

Chicago handstamp Identification table				subjects					
Type	G	Lines Apart	Words Apart	Chicago Length	Illinois Length	in Device height letters	in length	bar length	
S - 86 (11)	<b>G</b>	13	1-1.5	14.5	13.5	1	4.5	40	9-15 spaced for PP
S - 89	G	12	1	13-13.5	13-13.5	1	3	38	13 (1) all pre 1917
S - 96	<b>G</b>	13	1.25	15	14	1	4.5	29-31	8 spaced for PP

SQUARE BOTTOM G

BARS 40 MM LONG (MAY APPEAR AS LINES) = S - 86 PARCEL POST ONLY

BARS 29-31 MM LONG = S \* 96

ROUND BOTTOM G = S - 89

**S - 89 is Included in L - 9 by previous editors. It appears that all pre - 1916 stamps were cancelled with the device made to fit the parcel post stamps.**

**PSS CATALOG EIGHTH EDITION CONSIDERS ONLY PARCEL POST STAMPS AS PART OF THIS TYPE.**



S - 86



S - 89



S - 96

**ST - 5** LINES 14 - 16 MM APART. 2-2.5 MM BETWEEN WORDS

L - 22 L - 24 L - 25 S - 92 S - 101 S - 102

**Chicago handstamp Identification table**

subjects

Type	G	Lines Apart	Words Apart	Chicago Length	Illinois Length	in Device	letters Height	Bar Length	Stamp Issue
L - 7 (11)	<b>G</b>	14.5-15	1.75-2.5	14-14.5	13-13.5	1 + 2	4	17-21	1898 - 1938
<b>L - B</b>	G	15	<b>2.5</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>12.5</b>	?	3.75		1894 - 1938
L - 8 (11)	G	14.5-15	2-2.5	13-13.5	13-13.5	1 + 2	3.5	16-21	1908 - 1930
L - 8 Devices have errors									
L - 16	G	15.5	4-4.5	13	13	unk	3.5	--	1917 - 1926
L - 24	G	<b>16-16.5</b>	2.5-3	13	13-13.5	unk	3.5	--	1908-1923
L - 25 (11)	G	14.5-15	2.5	12.5-13	12	2 + 5	3-3.5	--	1916 - 1936
L - 92 (11)	G	14.5-15.5	1.5-2	14-15	13.75-14	1 + 2	4-4.5	error ACO	1902 - 1923
S - 101	G	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	15	14.5	2	3.75	letters spaced	1914
S - 102	G	15	2.5	12	12	1	3.75	22	1930-35

S-102 Top Row Letters 3 MM High, Bottom Row 4 MM

SQUARE BOTTOM G = L - 7

ROUND BOTTOM G

LINES 16 MM OR MORE APART

ILLINOIS 14.5 MM LONG = S 101

ILLINOIS 13 -13.5 MM LONG = L 24

LINES CLOSER TOGETHER

WORDS 4.5 MM APART = L - 16

WORDS CLOSER TOGETHER

WORDS LESS THAN 2 MM APART = S 92

WORDS 2 - 3 MM APART

WORDS 12 MM LONG = S 102

WORDS 13-13.5 MM LONG = L - 8 SPELLING ERRORS

CHICAGO 13.5 MM LONG, ILLINOIS 12.5 MM LONG = L - 8

WORDS SHORTER

CHICAGO 12.5 - 13 MM LONG, ILLINOIS 12 MM LONG = L - 25



S - 101



L-7

L - 8

L - 16

L - 24

L - 25

S - 92

S - 102

**ST - 6** LINES 14 - 16 MM APART      1 - 1.5 MM BETWEEN WORDS

**Chicago handstamp Identification table**

Type	G	Lines Apart	Words Apart	Chicago Length	Illinois Length	in Device	Letter Height	stamp issues
L-20 (11)	G	14.5-15	1.75-2	12.5-13	12-12.5	2,3,5	3.75	1916 - 1937
S-90	<b>G</b>	15.5	1.5-1.75	15-15.5	14-14.5	3+	4.5	1912 - 1926
S-95	G*	14.5	1.5-1.75	13-13.5	12-12.5	5	3.5	1923 - 1936
S-100	<b>G</b>	13.5	1	13	13	2+?	3.75	Bicent

subjects

**SQUARE G**

LINES 15.5 MM APART 1.5-1.75 MM BETWEEN WORDS = S 95

LINES 13.5 MM APART 1 MM BETWEEN WORDS = S - 100

**ROUND G**

LEG OF G TOUCHES UPRIGHT = S - 90

LEG OF G DOES NOT TOUCH UPRIGHT = L - 20

SHOULD BE COMBINED WITH L - 20

TOO MANY COPIES BLURRED



L - 20



L - 90



L - 95



L - 100

**ST - 7** PARCEL POST 14-16 MM BETWEEN LINES 2-2.5 MM BETWEEN WORDS

**Chicago handstamp Identification table**

Type	G	Lines Apart	Words Apart	Chicago Length	Illinois Length	in Device	height letters	bar length	stamp issues
S - 87	<b>G</b>	14	2.25	14	13	1?	4	42?	PP, PP Due, LA Purch.
S - 88	G	14.5	2	14	13	1?	3.75-4	--	PP, PP Due
S - 97	<b>G</b>	15	2.25	13.5	13	1	4	32	Parcel Post
S - 98	G	14-15	2.5	13.5-14.5	13-13.5	1	3.5+	28-32	Parcel Post

subjects

**SQUARE G**

LINES 14 MM APART = S 87

LINES 15 MM APART = S 97

**ROUND G**

BAR ACROSS STAMP 40 MM PLUS = L - 88

BAR 28-32 MM LONG = L - 98

MULTIPLE DEVICES WITH BAR LENGTHS THAT VARY. MERGE S-87 AND S - 97: S - 88 AND S - 98.



S - 87



S - 88



S - 97



S - 98

**G** = SQUARE BOTTOM G

G = ROUND BOTTOM G

**G\*** = CROSS BAR OF G TOUCHES LEFT UPRIGHT

**S - XX** = TYPES CREATED BY DAVE SMITH AFTER A STUDY OF OVER 16,000 CHICAGO HAND STAMP PRECANCELS.

MEASUREMENTS ARE IN MILLIMETERS