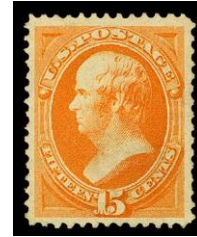


Requirement 4b. Stamp Condition

- A stamp's value is based on its condition.
 - is the image centered?
 - what is the size and intensity of the cancellation?
 - are there any rips or tears?
 - are there hinge marks?
 - any color fading?
 - any discoloration?



- Is the image centered?



Yes



No

The four margins around the image should be equal.

- **What is the size and intensity of the cancellation?**
- Lightly canceled- the main design of the stamp is readily visible through the cancel mark
- Heavily canceled- the cancel mark obscures or covers most of the stamp's design

Light



Heavy

- **Are there any rips or tears?**



They may not all be obvious from the front.

- **Are there any hinge marks?**



No



Yes

- Is there any color fading?



Yes



No

- **Is there any discoloration?**



Tape was used
on this tape.



The red envelope
bled onto the
stamp when it was
soaked.