

# A STUDY OF CTC-S4-A AN COUPONS. A VARIETY COLLECTOR HAVEN OR NIGHTMARE?

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Over the last couple of weekends, I started a study of the CTC S4 series, starting with the 3¢ AN prefix because I have the most of these to compare.

This study was done on about 130 AN prefix notes. With a much smaller number of XN prefix notes about 30 only a couple of 2, 4 & 7 serif varieties found. When I checked through the remaining denominations of series CTC S4 the short serif 2 & 7 and a few of the crosslet 4 varieties seemed to be most popular. Having only 10 or so of each prefix this is not an accurate survey of the series.

One single number variety that I found, I did not see through all the notes I have, was the number 1 on CTC S4-E, serial number EN8953173, the 1 has no serif on the left hand side.

There must have been a lot of different printing heads or individual wheels used to print the serial numbers for this series. There are short and tall numbers as well as thick and thin font numbers, an interesting study all & all. The following is my findings. As I have no means to reproduce the actual numbers I have drawn them by hand.

Prefix    **N** square    **N** rounded

## Numbers

- #1    1 curved serif    1 straight serif    1 bent serif
- #2    2 long serif    2 short serif    2 no serif    2 hooked serif
- #3    3 normal    → 3 center bar raised
- #4    4    4    4    4    4    4    4
- #5    5 normal    ↘ 5 crunched bottom
- #6    6 normal    ↙ 6 flat top
- #7    ↖    ↖    ↖    ↖    7    7    7    7    7  
 blunt long serif    sharp long serif    blunt short serif    sharp short serif    very short serif    no serif    curved serif    thin serif    con-cave serif
- #9    9 normal    9 flat bottom