

**YOUR HANDY-DANDY GUIDE  
TO MONEY STAMPING**

"I DON'T MIND BEING  
A GRAIN OF SAND...  
AS LONG AS I'M PART  
OF A LANDSLIDE."

# WELCOME TO **THE** **STAMPEDE**

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We're glad to have you with us because there's a whole lot of bills out there to stamp and we can use all the help we can get. Fortunately, we're part of a movement that includes 100's of organizations and millions of people.

The nice thing about stamping money is that it's fun, it's easy, you can do it anytime, anywhere (especially if you've got one of our nifty executive model pocket stamps), alone, or with friends or family.



NIFTY executive model spring loaded folding POCKET STAMP

The other wonderful thing about stamping money out of politics is that, although the act of adorning dollars is slightly subversive (but totally legal), IT IS MAINSTREAM. 90% of Americans, both Republicans and Democrats, realize that campaign contributions are really – as John McCain says – “legalized bribery.”

They understand that instead of one person one vote, it’s become one dollar one vote. And since corporations and the .1% have just about all the money, that’s who the politicians are catering to—and everybody else gets screwed. That’s why people of all political persuasions want to *Get Money Out of Politics*.

That’s all well and good. We know what the problem is. And everybody gripes and groans. But up until now there hasn’t been much of an effort to address the root of the problem.

## HOW WE GOT INTO THIS REVOLTING PREDICAMENT

The root of the problem is a series of misguided Supreme Court decisions which declared that:

**MONEY IS FREE SPEECH  
AND  
CORPORATIONS ARE PEOPLE**

Now you and I know that’s just not true (and most of these were split decisions that ended up being decided by one vote).

The straw that finally broke the camel’s back was the “Citizens United” decision in 2010 that essentially said, “Well, if corporations are people and money is free speech, then

corporations can spend as much money as they want influencing elections.”

That ruling was so outlandish, so destructive, so un-American that a grass roots movement sprang up to finally get to the root of the problem and overturn those Supreme Court decisions. There’s even a new organization called *RootStrikers.org* that’s part of the movement to get money out.

### HOW WE CAN GET OUT OF IT

The only way to overturn the Supreme Court is to amend the Constitution—not such an easy task.

In the meantime, there is local, state and national legislation which the **Stampede** supports. But already 17 states have voted in favor of amending the Constitution to get money out. 150 members of Congress have signed on to an amendment. Former Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens

has endorsed the Amendment and 55 U.S. Senators have voted in favor of it. An amendment needs a supermajority, so it didn’t pass *this time*. We didn’t expect it to, but just getting a vote in the Senate is a major milestone for any amendment.

The way to mount a successful amendment campaign is to demonstrate overwhelming grass roots support—and that’s where the **Stampede** comes in.

### THE **STAMPEDE** IS DESIGNED TO DEMONSTRATE

- **ONGOING**
- **ACCELERATING**
- **OVERWHELMING**

### PUBLIC SUPPORT OVER THE LONG HAUL.

Usually the only way most people can make their voice heard on a particular issue is to sign a petition which might eventually get seen once by the target official. The **Stampede**, on the other hand, is **A PETITION ON STEROIDS**. When you stamp a bill it is literally making your money talk.

In fact, **IT'S SCREAMING**. Because when that bill goes into circulation and changes hands it will be seen by 875 people. And that's just one bill. Don't you think you can stamp 3 bills a day? I mean you don't have to stamp just your own bills—there's your kids, your spouse, your friends, your classmates, your co-workers... yes, you can stamp 3 bills a day. With the **Stampede's** sophisticated state of the art stamping machinery it takes less than a minute.

**So if you stamp 3 bills per day for a year your message will be seen by about a million people in the next 2½ years.** That's a lot of people, but that's just 1 person.

There are now over 30,000 Stampedeers and about 100 new people are joining everyday. By the end of 2015, there will be over 60,000 of us.

## **IT'S A MOVEMENT**

We're not in this alone. There are many groups around the country that are mounting amendment resolutions and legislative campaigns at the municipal and state levels. If you'd like to get information about how to get involved where you live, contact Move to Amend ([movetoamend.org](http://movetoamend.org)), Public Citizen ([citizen.org](http://citizen.org)), People For the American Way ([pfaw.org](http://pfaw.org)), Rootstrikers ([Rootstrikers.org](http://Rootstrikers.org)), Represent.Us ([Represent.us](http://Represent.us)) and Wolf PAC ([Wolf-PAC.com](http://Wolf-PAC.com)). For a complete listing of all the organizations that support this effort and all the elected representatives who have signed on in support visit [UnitedForThePeople.org](http://UnitedForThePeople.org)

The cumulative effect of 10's and then 100's of people stamping millions and millions of bills sends a lasting message that our

politicians cannot ignore. It's a protest. A cry for justice and if we stamp enough bills, it's a demonstration of overwhelming support THAT CANNOT BE DENIED.

But in order to make sure that message gets out there you've got to do two things:

## 1. START STAMPING RIGHT

Stamping money sounds pretty easy. And it is. But in order to make sure your stamped bills get noticed, don't fade, and stay in circulation you need to follow a few simple rules.

- The first is **USE THE RIGHT INK**. There's loads of different types of ink pads on the market. We don't care who you buy them from, but use the brand on our website (Pallette). And use **RED** ink. This ink is waterproof, works well on paper money and doesn't bleed. The ink pad is raised so that you can fully ink your larger stamps by moving the stamp around on the ink pad.

- **STAMP THE RIGHT DENOMINATIONS.** 1's, 5's, 10's, 50's circulate fast and get seen more times a year, yielding quicker bang for your stamped buck. 20's circulate considerably less frequently. 100's circulate really slowly.
- **STAMP IN THE RIGHT PLACE.** Our latest information is that currency scanners focus on the middle third of the bill (see illustration below). If the scanner picks up too much "soil" the bill is kicked out and removed from circulation so don't stamp there. Also, do not stamp over the round "seals" and try to avoid the serial #'s as much as possible. It's also good to avoid the metallic ink and watermarks which are printed on higher denomination bills.



- **STAMP ON BOTH THE FRONT AND BACK.**  
This increases the chances that people will notice your message.
- **UNDERSTAND THE BASICS OF THE ART OF STAMPING.**  
It's not about hitting the stamp willy-nilly. It's about:
  - Finding a smooth surface to stamp on.
  - Positioning the stamp in the proper place on the bill.
  - Pushing down hard (except for new pre-inked stamps) and shifting the pressure to different parts of the stamp while holding it in place.

### ***HELPFUL HINTS***

#### **FOR SELF-INKING AND PRE-INKED STAMPS:**

1. Put a mark or 2 on the outside of the stamp case that lines up with the edge of the type on the die.

2. Find a spot on the bill that you can use to position the outside of the stamp case so that the stamp comes out in exactly the right place.

Examples:

- Alongside a particular letter in "United States"
  - At the edge of the round seal
  - At a particular place on the eagle in the center of the seal
3. After a while, you will be able to get the stamp in the right place more quickly and easily.
  4. Pocket stamps are easier to position free hand because they are smaller and the outside of the case doesn't obscure your view as much.

## FOR ACRYLIC STAMPS:

1. See through acrylic stamps are, of course, the easiest to position because you can see exactly where they will print on the bill.

## FOR TRADITIONAL WOODEN STAMPS:

1. Good old fashioned traditional wooden stamps are easier to position because there's no outer case and you can see the raised letters on the die.

Here's some photos of positioning. Feel free to improvise, but abide by the above mentioned "Stamp in the Right Place" guidelines.

## USING A SELF-INKING STAMP



## USING A SELF-INKING STAMP (ctd.)



## USING A DESK MODEL PRE-INKED STAMP

These stamps have a tendency to over-ink, especially when new. The benefit is that the ink is waterproof. It's helpful to stamp off any accumulated ink on a piece of scrap paper before you begin a stamping session. When the stamp is new or newly re-inked, stamp very gently with them and just briefly have the stamp kiss the money ever so gently. As the ink starts getting used up, you can start pressing down harder. There is also an interesting phenomenon known as “feathering” whereby the ink migrates and spreads on the money for the next 24-72 hours after the bill is stamped.



## USING A PRE-INKED STAMP (ctd.)



# USING SELF-INKING POCKET STAMPS

Pocket stamps are somewhat fragile. In order to put less strain on the stamp, use your two fingers from your other hand to help push down. Like this...



Pocket stamps are easy to position simply because you can see the rubber dye. Here's some photos of recommended positioning.



# USING POCKET STAMPS (ctd.)



## ACRYLIC SEE-THRU STAMPS

Depending on the bill scanners they go through, these stamps may cause the bills to be rejected & destroyed but they are fun to use. They can only be used on \$1 bills. We're not sure how concerned the system is about \$1 bills.

MONEY STAMP

"STAMP M---Y OUT OF POLITICS"



SPEECH BUBBLE STAMP

"STAMP MONEY OUT OF POLITICS"



SPEECH BUBBLE STAMP

"CORPORATIONS ARE NOT PEOPLE"



So now you know how to stamp your bills and there's no reason why your stamped currency should not live out its entire average 2½ year lifespan without falling victim to the dreaded Federal Reserve Bank scanners and being cut down at an early age.

## AUTOMATIC BILL ACCEPTORS

Different automatic bill acceptors act differently. Our experience is that acceptors will accept most bills if stamped on the ends in accordance with the foregoing guidelines. Lower denomination bills are more readily accepted than higher denominations.

## HOW TO DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

We said average 2½ year lifespan. That's because \$1 bills actually have a lifespan of 5 years. But for purposes of all our calculations we assume that the average bill you get to stamp is half way through its lifespan. HOWEVER lots of times if you're nice and you ask your bank for fresh new bills they will give

them to you. If you do that, not only do you get extra credit from **Stampede** HQ and a good mark on your permanent record, but your bills will actually have a 5 year lifespan and your impact is doubled.

Now that you know where to stamp your bills the only thing that could go wrong is that you fail to abide by the watchword of our movement: *TKITKOS*

## 2. TKITKOS

Some think it is an Indian word. Some think it's African. Some think it's a poor transliteration for the sound of the ancient shofar. But they are all wrong. TKITKOS actually stands for The Key Is To Keep On Stamping. You

know how it is, you get a new toy, you play with it a lot and then it ends up in the drawer. That would be a horrible fate. For our country, for your drawer, and for you.



Here's why it would be bad for our country: If you don't *Keep On Stamping* we're never gonna get enough people to see the message for enough times to create the overwhelming demand to amend the constitution and get our country back on the right track.

Here's why not using your stamp and sticking it in your drawer would be not such a good idea for your drawer: The **Stampede** has worked diligently with a team of R&D scientists and developed a special state of the art proprietary compound called shtampröten which is embedded in your new **Stampede** stamp. When your stamp is left undisturbed in your drawer for a long period of time, this new compound turns into a disgusting green slime that oozes over the entire contents of your drawer and makes everything in it unusable.

And here's why not using your stamp is bad for you: GUILT. The knowledge that here you have this powerful and fun to use tool which you (or a friend) paid hard earned money for; and

instead of having the productive joy of stamping money out of politics you're just leaving it in your drawer to ooze.

Your new **Stampede** stamp is **NOT** a play thing to be cast off as soon as the next new thing comes along. Its value is in continual use—we're talking lifestyle change here.

I know. That's big. But the **Stampede** is big. Amending the Constitution is big. Keeping that thing from oozing in your drawer and getting all over your shit is big too.

## **YES THE KEY IS TO KEEP ON STAMPING. SO HOW DO YOU DO THAT?**

First, make sure you're on the list. If you didn't personally buy your stamp online, we don't have your email address. Your full-service **Stampede** service department sends out weekly emails (more or less), that we hope serve to update you on the movement, provide stamping tips, as well as motivate, inspire, and remind you to keep on stamping. So

go to: *StampStampede.org* and enter your email address in the upper right corner of the homepage.

Second—Join the community. There is a **Stampede** Facebook group page, which is a great place to go for questions, hints, advice, ideas, chat, support, what have you. You can join the group by going to: [facebook.com/groups/StampStampede](https://facebook.com/groups/StampStampede) and click on "Join Group" or visit our official Facebook page at: [facebook.com/StampStampede](https://facebook.com/StampStampede).

When you read something in the paper or on TV about some political scandal or some really screwed up thing some politician or congress did—political "donations" were probably at the root of it. Don't get mad. Stamp. Or if you do get mad, stamp. It's cathartic. And fun.

**#GET  
MONEY  
OUT**

**Now** it's time to get stamping. But first walk over to your fridge and put the enclosed "Have You Stamped Your Bills Today?" magnet on it. Then get out some good food or drink to reward yourself for being a good stamper and reading all the way to the end. Then find all the money you can and stamp on.



## PETE SEEGER PARABLE ABOUT THE "TEASPOON BRIGADES."

Pete Seeger used to tell this story about walking by a playground and seeing a huge seesaw. The end that was down had a huge boulder on it and the end that was up had a bucket on it. There were lots of little people running around with teaspoons, taking sand from this big pile, climbing up a ladder and putting the teaspoons of sand in the bucket. But the bucket had holes in it and the sand was leaking out as fast as it was going in. So Pete grabbed one of the people with the teaspoons and said, "Can't you see? The sand is leaking out as fast as it's going in. You're never gonna get that seesaw to switch around." And the guy with the teaspoon said, "Oh no, you don't understand. There's more of us with teaspoons all the time and one of these days we're gonna be putting the sand in faster than it's leaking out and the whole thing is gonna go zoop!—in the other direction. Then people are gonna say "How did it happen so quickly?" And we're gonna answer "Us and our little teaspoons"

## HERE'S SOME TRIED AND TRUE IDEAS FROM OTHER STAMPEDERS:



AT PARTIES... IT'S A CONVERSATION PIECE AND ICE BREAKER.



WHEN YOU'RE WAITING FOR YOUR FOOD AT A RESTAURANT.



MAKE IT A PART OF YOUR DAILY RITUAL. LIKE RIGHT BEFORE OR AFTER YOU BRUSH YOUR TEETH.



WHEN YOU WANT TO IMPRESS A HOT DATE.



WHEN YOU'RE ON A BORING CONFERENCE CALL.



WHEN YOU'RE WATCHING TV.

## THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO STAMPING TECHNOLOGY

In general, there are 3 different categories of Stamps.

**Uninked Stamps**—These include traditional wooden handled stamps and clear acrylic stamps.

The advantage of traditional wooden handled stamps is that they have a wonderful ergonomic feel in your hand and the action of stamping with them is very satisfying. Also these stamps use a foam pad between the rubber dye and the wood block which makes for a better impression on the money with less attention to detail necessary. They are iconic classics.

The advantage of acrylic stamps is that they are clear and you can see thru them. This makes it very easy to position the stamp in exactly the right spot on the money.

Both require a separate ink pad. We don't care where you buy it, but use red Palette brand ink pads. They work best on paper money. And they are waterproof.

**Self-Inking Stamps**—These stamps incorporate an ink pad inside the stamp. The ink pads are re-inkable and replaceable. The disadvantage of these stamps is that the ink is water-based (not waterproof) and they are somewhat harder to position on the bill. They are good for stamping 10's of bills in one sitting.

*Self Inking Desk* stamps automatically re-ink after each impression.

*Pocket Stamps* are also self-inking. They are portable. They fold up very small. They're easy to put in your pocket. They're easier to position on the money than the desk model self-inking stamp. Also they are very cool and they impress people when you pull one out of your pocket and they pop into action with a spring action, not unlike a switchblade. They do not self ink

automatically. In order to get them to self ink, you need to retract the mechanism—easy to do with a flick of your thumb. They are not as robust as desk model self-inking stamps. When you stamp with them, it's good to use your thumb and forefinger over the die to provide extra pressure without breaking delicate parts.

**Pre-Inked Stamps**—These are the stamps that high volume professional stampers use. They use a special rubber that has ink impregnated in it. They stamp more impressions before re-inking. They have very good detail. The ink is waterproof. Their disadvantage is that they tend to over ink when new. It's helpful to stamp off any accumulated ink on a piece of scrap paper before you begin a stamping session. You must learn to stamp very gently with them and just briefly have the stamp kiss the money ever so gently especially at first. As the stamp wears in and uses up some ink, you can start applying more pressure.

There is also an interesting phenomenon known as “feathering” whereby the oil based ink used in these stamps migrates and spreads on the money for the next 24-72 hours after the bill is stamped. This could lead to a blurred mess later on.

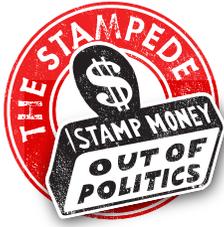
*Pre-Inked* stamps are available in two different designs –

*Pre-Inked Desk Model* – larger, with a separate cover

*Pre-Inked Pocket Stamp* – small enough to fit in your pocket. Hinged cover becomes the handle...Ben's new favorite stamp!

*“That's because the ink is waterproof, it's highly portable and easy to position. You don't need to manually retract the mechanism to re-ink like self-inking pocket stamps. And it's sturdier but not as flashy as self-inking.”*





# STAMP YOUR BILLS TO REACH **MILLIONS**

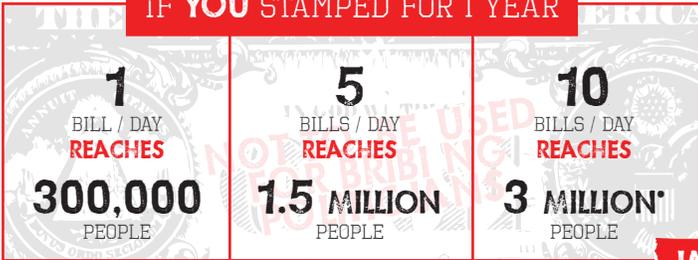
NO MATTER WHICH ISSUE YOU CARE ABOUT - THE ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION, POVERTY, THE MORTGAGE CRISIS, STUDENT DEBT, WALL STREET BANKS - THE ROOT CAUSE OF THE PROBLEM CAN BE TRACED BACK

TO CORPORATIONS AND THE WEALTHY BRIBING POLITICIANS WITH ENORMOUS SUMS OF MONEY. YOU CAN HELP DEMONSTRATE CONSTANT OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FOR AN AMENDMENT BY STAMPING YOUR CURRENCY.

## IMPACT OF STAMPING



## IF YOU STAMPED FOR 1 YEAR



\*THAT'S MORE THAN THE POPULATION OF IOWA



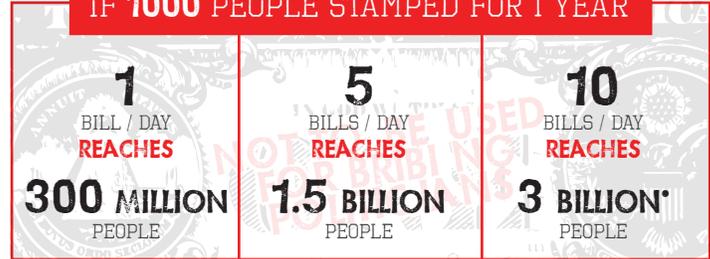
## IF 100 PEOPLE STAMPED FOR 1 YEAR



\*THAT'S MORE THAN THE POPULATION OF THE USA



## IF 1000 PEOPLE STAMPED FOR 1 YEAR



## AND NOW, THE NUMBERS...

THE FEDERAL RESERVE ESTIMATES THAT THE AVERAGE BILL LASTS 48 HOURS. THAT IS 1,750 DAYS. WE FIGURE THE TYPICAL BILL YOU WILL BE STAMPING WILL BE HALFWAY THROUGH ITS LIFE, OR HAVE 875 DAYS LEFT. WE THEN ASSUME THAT THE TYPICAL BILL IS PASSED AROUND ONCE A DAY OR 875 MORE IN ITS LIFE.

“ Let no one be discouraged by the belief there is nothing one person can do against the enormous array of the world’s ills, misery, ignorance, and violence. Few will have the greatness to bend history, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events. And in the total of all those acts will be written the history of a generation.”

- ROBERT F. KENNEDY

“ This is a system of legalized bribery and legalized extortion”

- SEN. JOHN McCAIN

