

REVERSES

PART 1

Please note that, similar to my page on 'Obverses', the following refers only to **\$5 National cards, although some (virtually national) A cards have been used as examples below**. It would be expected that Custom cards and Overseas cards would have their own specific individual reverses.

Note again that I have not displayed my collection in 'Prefix Order' form. While I have every prefix, it would be impossible for me to re-arrange the whole thing in prefix order. Thus I am working off my early notes, and when I note any change to the reverse of a card I am **not indicating that this was necessarily the first prefix at which such change occurred**: sometimes it was, sometimes it wasn't.

Unlike my page on 'Obverses', I have not given a range for each type; mostly what appears below is the first prefix I have noted for each version of the \$5 card. I have limited myself to 16: there may be more, especially in the earliest cards. I do not claim this listing to be comprehensive.

- 1) Prefix 27. Let's call this the baseline or 'first standard'
- 2) Prefix 115. The 'a' of the second line of type is dropped to the third line and the font for \$5 is different
- 3)
- 4) Prefix 313. Let's call this new reverse the new standard. It's commonly called '**Type 1 Reverse**' in the literature.
- 5) Prefix 449. 'Non Refundable' has been added. Strangely it happened long after the \$10 and \$20 cards were changed.
- 6) Prefix 536. 'TM Trademark Telstra Corporation' has been added.
- 7) Prefix 606. The third dot point of the main text has been changed.
- 8) Prefix 871. This is one of only 4 prefixes where the N is separated from the numbers
- 9) Prefix 884. Now it's 'Telstra', which makes sense.
- 10) Prefix 910. The last line of text has been indented 2mm.
- 11) Prefix 956. The high thick font \$5 is introduced. Commonly called '**Type 2 Reverse**' in the literature.

- 12) Prefix 993. The indent in (9) above has been jettisoned
- 13) Prefix 1185. 'TM Trademark Telstra Corporation' has been moved well to the right and now occupies two lines of print.
- 14) Prefix 1279. 'TM Trademark Telstra Corporation' is back where it started on a Type 1 reverse, and 'Telstra' is in a much larger font. Also 'TM' has gone from the black bar after 'Phonecard'
- 15) Prefix 1309. 'TM Trademark Telstra Corporation' is gone (forever?) on the Type 2 reverse, as is the 'TM' noted above. (And this, for some reason, is a 'P' card)
- 16) Prefix 1323. The 'TM' has now gone from the Type 1 reverse with the smaller font 'Telstra'
- 17) Prefix 1465. 'Non Refundable' has been replaced by 'Unless defective card not refundable for cash'. At last Telstra has brought its 'refund policy' in line with Australian Consumer Law; and to me this is the only reverse alteration, apart from the change from 'Telecom' to 'Telstra' that seems justified in having been made.

This is not quite the end of it. A closer look will reveal examples of different reverses within the same face card (not just the 'Timezones'); and better still, different reverses within the same prefix (again, not just the 'Timezones' or the 'Superleagues').

Enough for now.

Kevin Harris