The pennies are counted, put into bags, and sent to banks around the United States.

A machine uses a model of the relief to carve the drawing into a hard steel stamp.

The coin starts off as a blank piece of metal with no pictures on it.

The cut blanks go through a washer and dryer.

The artist carves the pictures into a sculpture called a relief.

The mint asks an artist to draw pictures for the coin’s front and back.

A machine pushes up a rim around the edge of the blank.

The cut blank is heated until it is soft.

The blank is struck with the artist’s steel stamp.

A worker checks the penny under a magnifying glass.