

APPRAISING YOUR COIN COLLECTION



Kevin Flynn

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Introduction

One of the most frequently asked questions by coin collectors is “How much is it worth?” The author has met many people over the last twenty years who had inherited coins, been given coins by someone else, collected coins when they were younger, and even found coins. The majority wanted to know what the value of the coins were. Some wanted their coins appraised for insurance reasons, others were contemplating selling their collection and wanted to know how much money they could receive.

Many of the inherited coins were from grandparents who had collected casually from pocket change during the time when silver was used for dimes, quarters, and half dollar. Most of these collections have quantities of silver coins including Roosevelt dimes, Washington quarters, Kennedy half dollars, Franklin half dollars, and Walking Liberty half dollars. Most also include a few Morgan and Peace dollars, Buffalo nickels, and Indian cents. The more serious collectors during this period bought proof sets, some people, especially those who tended to hoard would purchase 15 to 20 proof sets a year. The majority of the coins in these collections have no value beyond their melt value for silver and a slight premium for other coins. But there are sometimes the “What If” type coins. Coins that are worth a large premium because of factors such as rarity, high demand and interest level, high grade, type of variety, or rare date.

The majority of people who had inherited or were given coins did not bother to research their coins. They did not know the rare date or mint marks of the series or know how to grade their coins. Some people collected themselves, but do not know about die varieties and how some could make a coin that was normally worth \$50 be actually worth several thousand dollars, or how a small difference in grade can be worth a lot of money. Once they were given examples of how much the rare dates or rarities were worth, their interest piqued immediately. It is the same instinct as searching for treasures, seeking the elusive and valuable. Part of the hunt is for profit, seeking something that will make you rich, the other part is the adventure, the thrill, the possibility. Not knowing if you will be the one to discover it, but worth the effort for the chance.

By taking no action in learning what your coins are worth, you could be throwing away thousands of dollars. As an example, an individual had several original 1969-S Lincoln cent rolls in their original wrappers. He sold them to two different stores for \$2 per roll. A collector who purchased the rolls was surprised when they found a rare 1969-S doubled die obverse in uncirculated condition, worth over \$100,000. A second specimen was discovered in another of the rolls. With these two cents, you could purchase a new house or put your

kids through college. In a rare example of extreme luck and timing, a unique 1870-S Liberty Seated half-dime was claimed to have been found in 1978 and purchased as a common type coin. This coin brought 1.4 million the last time it sold in 2009. With the possibility of extra money for your coins, isn't it worth knowing what to look for?

In 1943, in order to save copper for the war effort, the U.S. Mint struck cents on steel planchets. In 1944, they switched to a bronze planchet. Rumors started almost immediately of 1943 dated copper cents and millions of Americans were drawn into the frenzy of searching their pocket change in hopes of finding one of these elusive coins. There were rumors that Ford Motor Company would give a car if one was found. There were many ads offering high reward for this fantasy coin. The first specimen was found in 1956 by Marvin Beyer, who found it in his receipts from his paper route. About 20 of these coins have been found to date, including a unique 1943-D specimen that sold for over 1 million dollars.

Other coins that command a premium include die varieties. These are variations created during the process in creating the working dies. There are also literally thousands of die varieties, including doubled dies, repunched dates, over dates, over mint marks, misplaced dates, and clashed dies. The more dramatic of these usually command a much higher premium. There are also other types of varieties, for example, in 1999, the Mint struck some Lincoln cents at the Philadelphia Mint with a wide space between the bottom of the AM in AMERICA, and the majority of them closer together. The Wider AM can bring \$500 or more. For several different years, proof coins were struck without the 'S' mint mark to designate they were struck at the San Francisco Mint. These are worth a significant premium. The problem here is that for many of these, it takes some experience and knowledge to know what to look for.

It is imperative that you learn whether you have any of these valuable coins. The primary question is whether you should pay someone to appraise your collection, or spend the time to understand how to grade, identify those coins that are valuable. When you have your collection appraised, you are paying someone with the experience and knowledge to examine your collection and ascertain its value, and hopefully identify those coins that are worth a premium. They should also be able to suggest how to optimize selling your coins, such as having some coins certified by third party grading services and where best to sell to obtain the best value. For example, Heritage Auctions might be best to sell more valuable coins as your coins can be seen by more collectors. There are certain simple precautions you should take when having your collection appraised, such as making a basic list of your coins and staying with your collection. If appraising your coins yourself, it is important to obtain the right

tools and resources in order to learn about your coins. This includes a loupe to view your coins, proper lighting, and reference books to learn what to look for. You also need to understand the basics on how to view, handle, store, and grade coins. The more coins you examine, the better your skill will become. There are many options in where and how to sell your coins that are covered in this book.

It is always better to organized your collection and separate out those coins which are worth a much greater premium. Collections have been appraised where silver coins of different denomination were mixed in with non-silver pocket change. When silver was used for dimes, quarters, and half dollars before 1965, it was not uncommon for people to simply store all of their pocket change in jars and cans. Some series are in greater demand and worth more money than others, even though they contain the same amount of silver. Walking Liberty half dollars normally command a greater premium than Franklin half dollars and the 1964 Kennedy half dollars. Mercury dimes command a higher premium that Roosevelt dimes through 1964. It is better to first separate out your coins into series and for those series that were struck in both silver and other alloys, it is important to separate them to get an accurate count and maximize your potential profit. In addition, with the coins organized by series, it makes it much easier to remember what date and mint marks are rare and what dates have valuable die varieties to search for.

Whether you should have your coins appraised depends on a number of factors, such as how many coins there are, do you have the patience to look through them, do you enjoy looking at small details to name a few. It is always better to gain firsthand knowledge of your coins, even if you are getting them appraised for several reasons. But on the other side of the coin so to speak, what if you miss a valuable coin.

Inheritance

Most people who inherit coins from a family member, relative, or friend have no idea what is in the collection, what they are worth, or how to sell them. Even wives, who have watched their husband for years enjoy attending to their coins, sometimes do not have a clue what to do with them if their husband has died.

Even worse is when another party has access to the collection and part of the collection disappears. One widow who requested an appraisal of her deceased husband's silver coins, said that she knew that her husband had collected gold coins throughout his life. After he died, when she opened the safe-deposit-box, there were no gold coins. His sister also had access to the safe-deposit-box, and it is not known if she took the gold coins. There was no inventory list, or list of coins that went into or taken from the box.

If your spouse, parent, relative, or someone you are close to collects coins, and you believe you might inherit them someday or that you are the executor of the estate, then it is important while they are alive to ask them where the coins are, if there is an inventory list with values associated with the coins, and if there is a trusted point of contact that might be useful in the event that you might have to sell them.

Even if your kids have never had interest in coin collecting, as they have become adults, you might show them some of your coins, explained some elementary differences, for example, bullion silver as compared to 90% silver coins. You can also create a detailed inventory list with values associated with the coins, and points of contact of trusted dealers and friends that the coins could be sold to.

On the other side of the coin so to speak, imagine being the collector, spending years enjoying and assembling your valuable collection, leaving it to your spouse, who subsequently sells it for far less than it was worth because you did not inform them what they were worth and who to sell to, would you be turning over in your grave?

One individual left his coins to his niece as part of the estate. Most of the coins were stored in bags and were easily found. It was not until they were moving furniture out that they discovered the true treasure. The dining room table seemed like an ordinary table. When an attempt was made to move it, it seemed heavy. The legs of the table appeared thicker than what might be expected. The legs were hollowed out and contained gold coins. These coins were not listed in any will or other document. These could have been easily overlooked. If the table was sold to someone who picked it up, these rare coins would have been gone

from the family.

The newspaper had an article of a gentleman in Florida who had died in his house. He had no living relatives close by, and he was not discovered for several months after he died in his house. The Clerk from the local municipality was going through the house and discovered a cache of gold coins that were stored in military like metal cans in the back of the garage. The gold coins were valued at over seven million dollars. The gentleman and his mother had assembled the collection quietly during the 1950s and 1960s when gold was much cheaper. Luckily the Clerk was honest and the coins were given to a distant cousin.

There are also some collectors who burry their coins in their back yard. They might choose to tell no one so that no one would look for them. But, if they were killed in an accident, were getting older and developed alzheimer's disease, if the valuables were not listed, how would their family know where and how to retrieve them?

Have you watched storage wars, a few of which have shown valuable coins and precious metals have been found in storage lockers. You see the jubilant new owners who have scored big in their hunt for treasure, but at the same time imagine the loss of the family who placed it there for hiding, temporary storage.

The point of these examples is the importance of leaving instructions with your will of any valuable property and who it should go to.

Leave or Sell Your Coins

One question that has been asked is how do you choose who to leave your coins to in your will? If you have collected and enjoyed your coins, then it is also desirable that you leave them to someone who will get equal enjoyment out of them.

If you have children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or other family members who share your passion and enjoyment of collecting, they are obvious candidates. While writing the book, *Coin Collecting for the Next Generation*, the connection between most people who brought their kids or grandkids to coin shows was pure. It was a hobby that could be shared and passed down through generations.

The majority of coins left through a Will these days are inherited by individuals who know or care nothing about coins. They would prefer to have the money for the value of the coins. They would probably be less inclined to research the coins to determine their current or potential value, or where best to sell them. They would be more likely to sell them for much less than they could realize.

If there are no clear individuals that you would choose to leave your coins with and believe that they would either keep the coins and continue your collection, or do the research and sell them for their full potential value, then the better option may be to sell the coins yourself and enjoy, or leave the money in your will to those you choose.

Who has more knowledge about a collection than the person who assembled it. You probably have been to coin shows, stores, auctions, and understand where the best prices can be realized. You are also the best person to insure that valuable coins of your collection receive the maximum exposure in the proper venue.

As a collector, imagine the satisfaction you will receive when you see how much your coins have brought. In addition, imagine the happiness that your heirs will be when receiving money instead of coins.

Another consideration is the tax laws as presented in a later section. If you sell your collection and have a gain, then you are suppose to pay capital gain taxes. If you leave your coins as part of your estate, then the 'buy' value is the value when it is inherited. If your heirs choose to sell the coins, any gain will be the price sold for minus the buy value, therefore the gain will normally be much smaller than if you sold them. Establishing a value of the collection through an appraisal is important for determining the new buy value for your heirs.

Appraisal versus Selling

One quick note before beginning. This book presents many examples whereas individuals sold their coins for much less than they were worth. This does not mean or imply that every dealer or appraiser will undervalue or not be honest when purchasing your collection. There are many honest dealers out there, sometimes it takes time to find the best ones.

If you are having your coins appraised, you are requesting a determination of the value of the coins in the collection. If there is valuable die varieties or coins worth a premium because of their state, condition, or something else that would cause them to have a great value, the appraiser should inform you of this as part of the appraisal, that is what you are specifically paying them for. This of course assumes that the appraiser would have the knowledge to know what to look for.

A typical appraisal might cost between \$50 and \$100 an hour. It is important when getting an appraisal to get an estimate of how long it might take, what it will cost, and what will you receive as part of the appraisal. The appraiser will want to see the collection first before giving an estimate. A good appraiser will generate a itemized list of your coins with their values. Others might just provide an over value. When I appraise a collection, I make a list of the coins when viewing them, making notes of coins that are worth a premium, then create an excel work sheet with the itemized list with their values.

One easy method to help start is to create an itemized list of your coins yourself. You can provide the appraiser this list before, and ask for his estimate of time and cost based upon this. Breaking down your collection is covered in a later chapter.

If an appraiser has the option to purchase the collection, some might not be forthcoming if valuable coins are found so that they are able to purchase the collection cheaper. If considering selling to the appraiser, one option is to inform the appraiser that it is your intentions to have the collection or itemized list shown to different dealers to get their opinion or offer also. When appraising a coin collection, if purchasing the collection, then the appraisal fee is sometimes waived as evaluating the collection is what would have needed to have been done anyway in order to determine the value.

How do you determine the level of knowledge of an appraiser? What is their experience in grading coins, knowing which dates and mint marks are rare, and if they understand what to look for in die varieties. When appraising a

collection, I normally have the owner present and explain what I am looking for. For example, when checking modern proof sets, it is important to check for the “No S” mint mark proofs on certain years that are extremely valuable. As reputation is important and as many appraisals are recommended by word of mouth, most appraisers understand that if they do a great job, that could generate future opportunities.

If offering coins for sale, most times it is up to you as the seller to determine the value. The buyer is not normally obligated to inform you of an increased value based on their knowledge. Some buyers will, but the majority would most likely not. It is the same principle in selling a used car or a painting. A potential buyer is going to ask for a price. If the seller presents a price too low, how many buyers would offer more money than was asked? Some dealers might start at a lower offer to maximize their profit potential. A collector might see a large premium and sell, not realizing that they might have received twice as much if they knew what their coins were worth.

Examples of coins that were purchased for much less than they value. One dealer purchased an 1887 Indian cent doubled die obverse in nice uncirculated condition. The dealer was offering it for sale for \$2,500, which was very reasonable for this variety in high grade. They stated that they paid \$25 for the coin as part of an estate they purchased on the way to the show. Another dealer who had recently purchased a 1916 Buffalo nickel doubled die obverse in MS64 for \$4,000, with the coin easily worth \$100,000 at the time.

A friend’s great-grandfather collected coins their entire life. After he died, he left his collection to his son, who had his coins appraised. The appraiser offered him the face value of the coins in the collection, much less than actual value of these rare coins. They accepted the offer and sold them, not understanding what the actual value was and how much they could have made.

This is not to say that dealers offering to purchase a collection are doing something wrong or illegal. They are using their knowledge to get the most for the coins they are buying. As the seller, you need to be knowledgeable on your collection.

For some coins, a small difference in the grade can easily result in a large difference in value. For example, a 1883-S Morgan Dollar graded MS64 is worth about \$5,000, whereas an MS65 graded specimen can bring about \$40,000, almost 10 times for one point in grading difference. If a coin has a potential to bring a large premium, isn’t it better to optimize the value you receive for your coin rather than letting someone else get it?

One way to optimize the potential price realized is to attend a local coin show that has many dealers attending. For example, there is a large coin show in Baltimore, Maryland three times a year that has up to 300 dealers there. Pick one or two coins that are valuable and you understand what the coin should bring. If you show your entire collection to each dealer, this will take much more time. Show it around to different dealers requesting a price. Determine which dealer provide the best price, but also was informative in their communication with you. Then show the remaining coins to this dealer.

A bucket of bufflao nickels was sold to a dealer for a set price per coin. Two months later, the dealer sold the coins to a different dealer for three times that amount. Its a good idea when selling your coins to check with multiple dealers and also learn which dealers will pay the most. It is a good idea to establish a relationship with a coin dealer or company in your area that you feel comfortable with and trust.

Staying with your Collection

Whether having your coins appraised or have an estimate done, it is best not to leave your collection out of your sight. There are several reasons for this, you can learn about coins, how to grade them, rarity, and other factors by observing your coins being viewed.

But there is also a safety factor, you want to ensure your coins are handled and stored properly if necessary. If the viewer is holding the coins wrong, either by laying the coin on their hand, touching the obverse or reverse, they could get oil on the coin and cause damage to them. It is best if the coins are viewed over a soft material in case they are dropped.

If your coins are out of your sight, is it possible that they are switched, whereas the appraiser switches your coin with one of theirs of a lower grade or value. If you do not have photographs, how would you prove it? If you bring a box of coins to an appraiser that are not itemized, how would you know or prove that one or more coins are taken.

When doing a coin appraisal, I work interactively with the collector. I tell them of my objectives, primarily to search for coins that are worth a premium. Some appraisers like to work quietly and focus on the task of determining the value of the collection. Simply make yourself invisible by reading a book or something to focus your attention and not distracting the appraiser.

When appraising an estate with multiple parties, including lawyers attending the opening of a safe-deposit-box or other secured area, I normally insist that no-one touch any coins until I am completed the inventory and pictures of the collection. This is made clear up front before the appraisal and enforced during the appraisal. This helps insure the property is properly documented before being split amongst the parties.

Where to do an appraisal? You would not want a public location that someone might target you for a later robbery. There have been several instances where dealers have been followed home from a large coin show, and the coins left in their car robbed when they stopped for dinner or when they arrived home. When doing an appraisal, I normally go to the person's house or have them come to my house, depending in part on the size of the collection, convenience, and timing. This way it is a secure location, controlled environment, and a place where you can relax while appraising the collection and speaking to the collector.

Obviously you should take steps of precaution before meeting someone. Most

times, I do appraisals through word of mouth, thereby, the individual who is getting the appraisal knows someone who has already worked with me. Even as the appraiser, I still take cautionary steps. First communicating through email, then normally with a phone call. We might meet in a public place first without any coins, before returning to their or my house.

I have done appraisals in people's houses, whereas the person's spouse or someone else was present. Some people feel more comfortable with someone else around. Normally as the appraisal goes along, the second person goes back to their routine. You should not feel intimidated or awkward during this process, and if needed, take steps to stop it. I met someone at my mother-in-laws house as it was halfway between our houses. He was an older gentleman who I knew was an ex-cop and would probably be carrying a gun. My mother-in-law introduced herself and said immediately, "*I hope no guns are coming into my house.*" Afterwhich, I clarified and made sure he was not armed or we would have to continue somewhere else. If I do an appraisal at someone's house and they are armed or I see guns lying around, I tell them nicely that I feel uncomfortable and will be leaving. I have never encountered this problem going into someone's house, but am prepared as a cautionary measure if needed.

This scenario is irrelevant when you have a good relationship with a dealer and there is an implied trust. There are some dealers that I would easily send coins to through the mail or leave with them over time as we have been doing business for years.

As an appraiser, one of the best moments is when a coin is discovered that is worth a significant premium and seeing the look of excitement on the owner's face. Some people have a renewed interest in collecting after learning more about their coins during the appraisal.

Selling Your Coins

If you sell your coins to a dealer, you may expect the dealer to pay 15 to 20 percent less than the value of the coins. Most dealers have overhead costs such as the cost of a table at a show, advertising, some have a store, travel, and so on.

You always have the option to sell them yourself, so long as you understand that you need to take the time to research the coin to determine what it is, including United States coin or foreign, date and mint mark, grade, metal content, and potential value. In addition, there are other factors that can make your coins valuable, such as being a rare die variety, which will be discussed in more detail later. The majority of collections that I have appraised did not have any rare coins or die varieties that were worth a significant premium, but a few did. Do you want to take a chance in more money?

Several options for where and how to sell coins are covered in the next few sections from selling them on Craigslist, eBay, numismatic papers, local auctions, national auctions, coin or precious metal stores, or at a coin show to name some of the primary methods.

How ever you sell them, you need to do your research on their values first. In Pennsylvania, there are many store fronts that advertise “We Buy Gold” and “Cash For Gold.” Some of them will offer to purchase your silver or gold for 50% off their full price.

A friend of mine sold his gold watch and received \$500 from a store in a local mall I had some 90% silver coins to sell so I went to the same individual. At the time, the melt value of these coins was \$12 per coin. The individual offered me \$6 per coin, which he would be making 100% profit. I asked him why the low value, he responded that he had to make a profit. Several other dealers I went to offered me from \$7 to \$9 per coin. I took the same coin and went to a coin dealer I knew and received \$11.50. It is important to show around to find the best price. Some people are happy to receive cash for their coins or precious metals, but do you think they would be happy if they knew they could have received twice as much?

It is also a good idea to first call by phone, but then to go meet the dealer. I know several dealers that would offer a better price to individuals they knew and have established a relationship with.

A Twenty Dollar Gold coin has a legal tender of \$20, but the bullion value of the gold is currently worth around \$1,250 an ounce. If you went into a bank

and handed them a Twenty Dollar Gold coin, they are required to give you in exchange the legal tender value of the money. Most bank tellers would probably suggest that you take you gold coin to a coin dealer to obtain more money.

A friend's mother inherited her uncle's rare coin collection and other rarities. Some of the coins were purchased by a dealer 20 to 30 years ago, whose name was on the holder the coins were in. The mother took some of the gold coins to the dealer and offered them for sale. The dealer offered to pay the same value that he sold the coins for, much less than their current value. To put into perspective, in 1994, gold was worth approximately \$300 per ounce. Today it is worth \$1,250 an ounce. These coins were sold at one-quarter of their bullion value. Luckily, the mother only sold a few gold coins to him and learned her lesson. Next time she will do a little more research before selling.

Obviously the more knowledgeable you are on grading coins, knowing what are the valuable date and mint marks, die varieties, and other factors that go into establishing a premium for a coin, they more you will be able to realize for your coins.

You can establish a basic understanding of these factors and still optimize your potential. In knowing what the key dates or die varieties for a series are helps you focus on those coins with the greatest potential. For example, on the Mercury dimes, they key dates are the 1916-D, 1921, and 1921-D. The key die variety is the 1942/1 and 1942/1-D overdates. The key dates and die varieties for each series is listed in the back of this book.

Where to Sell Your Coins

When selling coins yourself, there are several options. Craigslist is not an option that would be advisable for most. Anyone can offer to buy or sell coins on Craigslist, which includes thieves and con-artists. Sellers normally list coins for much more than they are worth, seeking the uneducated to generate a greater profit. Most buyers attempt to negotiate over and over again, hoping you will provide a price under the coin's value.

The one good control is that when selling, the potential buyer contacts you through a Craigslist account, and they do not see your email address unless you choose to contact them. This helps in screening those people you believe are serious and want to purchase under your conditions.

Before posting coins for sale on Craigslist, first research what a fair price would be. List the price and specifically state that this is the bottom line, and that any requests to negotiate a lower price will not be replied to. When people write and in their first email request a lower price, they should be deleted, as they could not follow simple instructions that were important. Roughly 90% of the responses are those who seek lower prices or something else that is not part of the transaction. Normally cash is the preferred method of payment, this helps avoid potential problems with bad checks or money orders. A public place to meet is also mandatory, and never at your or some else's house. Once you feel comfortable with the email conversation, you might next request a phone number and speak to them on the phone. Some people have a second person with them as a witness or security in case of a problem. You can also start with a small sale, then if this is successful, proceed with a larger quantity of coins. Again, this is not suggested, but if you choose to test the waters, so to speak, be careful, and only proceed with the transaction if you are comfortable and confident.

For selling coins, as there is no cost associated with listing a coin for sale, Craigslist is also a good venue to start with a slightly higher price, this also gives a little room to negotiate. Probably the best type of coins to attempt to sell on Craigslist is silver bullion. This is more likely because most people easily lookup the price of silver coins, and there are many people seeking silver coins and bullion as a long term investment. This is especially true when the price of silver is very low, there are very few people selling, which creates a better market for those who are selling.

The majority of people use eBay in attempting to sell their coins. This environment allows you to list a coin, have an open sale with bidding to decide the price, use a minimum price, buy it now option, make an offer option, without leaving your

name and address so that everyone knows who you are and where you live. An account is relatively easy to set up, and there are several options in being paid. A P.O. Box is always recommended to anyone who writes you about your coins or as a return address. Photos and a good description of the coin will help the prices realized. There are usually other coins that might be similar to yours, so you can see if your expected result is similar. Of course, on any sale, you will be required to pay a percentage to eBay. eBay might be a good resource for selling coins in general, especially as there are many people looking on eBay to purchase items such as coins. But if you have specific coins, for example, a nice Liberty Seated dime, then it might be advisable to go to where true collectors of what you are selling might see these and make an offer.

There are general coin specific web sites such as www.pcgs.com, that have “Buy, Sell, Trade” sections that are free to become a member and offer coins for sale, without requiring a percentage of the sale. There are also sites for specific series such as the Morgan Dollars that present a location to sell coins. These sites usually have a simple sign-up procedure, and most people on the site use pseudo names to protect their identity and location. The benefit of these forums is that your audience are coin collectors, most of which have been around and will be reasonable. You can also sometimes read their interactions with other collectors.

There are also numismatic papers such as Coin World and Numismatic News. Some of these offer a small free ad, but the majority will charge for an ad to sell coins. Again, the primary benefit is that you are focussing your sale to coin collectors in this environment. As with most other transactions, it is better to get a P.O. Box and have all coins and such shipped through there. I normally request checks or money orders and verify that they clear before shipping a product, but there is also the option of PayPal that is easy and very secure to use.

Coin shows offer a good forum to show several dealers your coins, but you might expect offers that are 15% lower than the value. Of course, the dealer has to cover their expenses such as the table, transportation and such.

If you have rare and expensive coins, an auction house is probably the best opportunity to present your coin to many people who will competitively bid on your coins. Selecting and selling your coins through auction is covered in the next section.

Local coin stores normally provide a good opportunity to sell to a coin dealer who has an established store. When going into a store for the first time with a dealer I do not know, I start with a small transition to test the water. For example,

one dealer had some old Red Books I was interested in, I requested a price, they said \$10. I looked in the book and it said \$2. Also, when I was requesting to see coins in the case, they became quickly annoyed as I was not purchasing coins quick enough. They would prefer to sit back in their chair and watch TV and talk on the phone. Needless to say, I never went back.

The majority of dealers with stores will be patient and help you understand more about your coins, or coins that you wish to purchase. One simple test is to request purchasing silver bullion coins or bars. After they give you a price, ask them what they would pay for this if you brought it in to sell. This way you can see what type of margin they are working on. If you have friends who collect coins, they also might recommend someone they trust. Over the years, people who I have sold coins to usually want to know who they could sell to if I was not around. There are several coin store around my location, there is one that I trust more than anyone else, who I always suggest to other collectors. It cannot be understated that reputation is important to most coin dealers.

You also can choose to become a coin dealer yourself and sell coins at a local show. Make sure that you have the proper permits for your state or county. For example, in New Jersey, they require a Sales and Use Tax Certificate, so that you can collect and pay taxes on merchandise sold.

Auctions

Selling in an auction can be beneficial as you have multiple individuals seeing and bidding on the coins. It is important that you choose an auction house that provides the best coverage for your coins. The more people that can examine them, the higher probability that any valuable coins will be identified by multiple people and the best possible price will be realized. View coins sold of the same date, mint mark, condition and grade as your coins. This will help you get an idea of what the prices realized are. Also, look at the number of coins similar to your that were auctioned and not sold.

When selling coins that were uncertified by a third party grading service and worth under \$100, or 90% silver coins and silver bullion, local auctions are a viable option. You might expect to pay a 10% seller's fee with the buyer paying a 10% buyer's fee on the price realized. If you have a minimum price attached to selling an item, you want to make sure that if the price is not passed and the coin sold, that you are not paying the seller and buyer's fee to get your coin back. The best method for find a good auction company is to attend auctions and see how many people attend and what prices are being realized.

Coin auctions can be found in sites such as www.auctionzip.com. Auctions around Philadelphia were normally well attended and had competitive bidding, usually realizing a higher value than expected. In speaking with collectors there, many people were from New York. Some had come into money when natural gas was uncovered in certain counties. People were seeking places to hide their money, and coins and precious metals were a good alternative.

When driving out to Pittsburgh, I stopped at an auction 50 miles below Harrisburg, way out in the farm country. I thought it would not be well attended, thereby allowing me to purchase coins cheaper. The auction was packed full and prices were well above the expected value. One auction down in Maryland was not well attended, and coins realized prices below the expected value. One problem was that many coins were cleaned, and this needed to be considered when bidding.

Auctions that combine coins and other items usually realize less money and sometimes you have to wait for the non-coin items to sell.

By attending these auctions, you get to see the coins, making notes on coins that are similar to yours, and get a good idea of the prices they should realize. You can also speak to the organizers to determine what the fee is for selling coins, and if you can set a minimum bid price without having to pay a fee if the coin is not sold. Some auction companies want a larger quantity of coins to sell, when

requesting considerations such as setting a minimum bid.

Auctions that have pictures have an obvious advantage in that people can see the coins and are not buying sight unseen. They will feel more comfortable in spending more money for the coins. This will also give buyers an equal opportunity to view the coin for rare die states or die varieties which are worth a greater premium. The more people who identify this rarity, the higher the prices realized will be.

For coins with a higher value, you should choose an auction company that is nationally recognized and viewable through the internet. The author primarily uses Heritage Auctions (www.ha.com). They have an auction archive with over a million coin sales. You can easily learn what the prices realized for a particular coin is bringing, how frequently similar type coins being auctioned, how many coins were not sold, and much more. Heritage is the largest coin auction house in the world.

The down side of selling your coins through an auction is that most auction companies have both a sellers fee and a buyers fee. That is primarily how they make their profit. Learn what the conditions are on buying or selling coins.

When selling coins through an auction, learn what coins would sell best in an auction, and what type of auction is best for your coins.

What to Keep, What to Sell

Some collectors want to sell part of their collection and retain part. They want to know which coins are best to keep. This is based upon your objective of keeping coins.

Different coins for different reasons. Silver and gold bullion coins are used as a hedge against the dollar. If the dollar is doing well, then stocks normally are on the positive side, which helps investments such as your 401K. If the dollar is doing poorly, this usually has a negative effect on the stocks, and a positive effect on silver and gold. When the dollar was doing poorly in 2011, stocks were down, and gold was up to \$1,900. With the economy questionable, and many indications that middle class jobs are not returning and that we may be returning to a depression, having a hedge against the dollar helps round out your investment.

When considering 90% silver coins, such as dimes, quarters, and half dollars dated 1964 and prior, older series and coins should command a greater premium over their bullion value as there is an additional value associated with their numismatic value. A Mercury dime will normally be in greater demand and command a greater premium than a Roosevelt dime. A Walking Liberty half dollar will command a greater premium than a Franklin or Kennedy Half Dollar. If choosing which coins to sell, newer coins should be sold first. As stated in the last paragraph, if the bullion value of silver or gold is low, it might be better to keep your 90% silver coins until the price rises.

Diversity within a series should also be weighed. Collectors take pride in completing a series with each date and mint mark available. If the goal is to save those coins that will be worth more, complete sets will sometimes bring more money than selling the coins individually. Plus this adds to your own accomplishment of completing a set. Set aside one of each date and mint mark with the highest grade for each.

Modern coins currently have no premium for them. New rolls of cents, nickels, dimes, and quarters from 1970 onward can be purchased for almost their face value. It is unlikely that these coins would develop a significant premium during our life time, but imagine what they might sell for in 100 years. Imagine if you great-grand-parents purchase new rolls in 1900 and passed them down through generations. These are coins that we can leave to our children with instructions to not sell them.

Normally the coins with the best return over the long term are those that have

the rarity, grade, and demand. For example, in the Two cent series, only 100 proof coins were struck in 1864. In 1994, these coins could be purchased for approximately \$600. Today they are worth around \$2,800. You can get an idea what your rare coins might worth by check auction sites that list prices realized such as Heritage Auctions.

The majority of coin collectors have a favorite series. When selling their collection, some have chosen to keep parts of their collection that has a special meaning. This way they can continue to enjoy was has brought them happiness during their life.

If optimizing your return for selling your collection is your objective, you need to contemplate those factors which help determine your coins values. If the value of silver and gold is high, it is a good idea to sell them, if low, it makes more sense to hold them. Researching the prices realized for coins of the same grade, will help present those coins which prices are stagnant and have little potential for rising as compared to those that are in demand. The majority of non-silver modern proofs sets such as those from the 1970s and 1980s normally have no premium as they were struck in high mintages, unless of course they contain rare die varieties. It is better to sell those coins that have no potential for increasing in value. The exception being those coins that are now worth just their face value that you intend to pass down through your family.

One final note on this subject, if you find an individual who is passionate on collecting the type of coins that you are selling, it is always better to sell, this maybe for coins you wished to keep for yourself. Coins are worth what someone is willing to pay for them. If you find a buyer who is willing to pay the type of premium that is more than what your research tells you the coins are worth, opportunities do not often come like this every day.

Local Laws for Selling Precious Metals

Some states have different laws regarding Coin Dealers who purchase precious metals and coins. For example, when selling any coins and precious metals in the township of Marlton in New Jersey, Dealers at Coin Shops are suppose to make copy your driver's license, make an itemized list of the coins, and provide it to the local police department. They are not supposed to sell these items until at least three days. This is done to help prevent and deter theft. The same is done in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Of course, as the coins you are selling are you property, this should not be a problem. But at the same time, I would not want police knocking on my door asking where I got my coins that I sold. Take that scenario that you are selling gold and silver coins in one of these cities that requires copies to be provided to local police. In a similar time period, another individual reported a theft of their precious metals. They might use as a starting point any sales of precious metals to dealers within their jurisdiction.

This is something not to be fearful of, but just information you might want be aware of. If curious if there are laws in your local cities are applicable to precious metals you wish to sell, simply ask your local coin dealer and they should be able to inform you.

Most coin stores will take your name and address and request to see you driver's license. This is a precaution that occurs in most stores. If the coins turn out to be stolen property, then the dealer may loose the coins to the rightful owner without reimbursement. There only recourse is to pursue the seller to recover their losses. Establishing an ongoing relationship with a dealer is a good way to create a basis of trust. Once a dealer gets to know you, they might not require their strict guideline of validation.

One note of caution is making sure that your name, address, and what you are selling is secure. The worst scenario is if thieves are able to obtain this information from a dealer's computer or other papers and rob your residence. Simply asking the dealer how they handle this information may put you at ease.

Taxes from Profits Selling Coins

An important distinction is whether you collect coins for a business or as a hobby. There are nine factors the IRS uses to determine which classification should be used, such as “Whether you carry on the activity in a business like manner.” The IRS presumes that an activity is carried on for profit if it makes a profit during at least three of the last five tax years. There are different rules, tax rates, and deductibles applicable to each.

Coins collected as a business or investment.

If you make a profit from selling your coins or precious metals, it is considered a capital gain. This requires IRS Form 8949 (Sales and Other Dispositions of Capital Gains). It is irrelevant whether or not you received a 1099 (B). You are required to report the sales or exchange of a capital asset not reported on another schedule when you have a gain from the conversion of capital assets not held for business purposes. Schedule D is used to figure out the overall gain or loss from transactions reported on Form 8949.

Precious metals include gold, silver, coins, and stamps. If you own previous metals for more than one year it is considered a long-term capital gain and the gain is subject to the 28% tax rate. If you owned your previous metal for less than a year, the gain is subject to the ordinary income rate, the same as your wages would be subject to.

If you paid a transaction fee to purchase the coin, then this would be subtracted from the gain amount. Other expenses that may be deductible include grading fees, travel to coin shows, storage costs such as a safe to protect your coins to list a few. Deductions are listed in your Schedule D.

In scenario #1, if you purchased an ounce of gold coin at \$400 in 2005 and sold the coin in 2011 for \$1,900, then you would be liable for \$1,500 in gain and taxed at 28%.

In scenario #2, If you simply collected coins in circulation, then the cost is the same as the face value of the coins. If you saved \$100 in 90% silver coins from circulation and sold them for \$2,000, then your gain is \$1,900. The cost received as gifts is the same as the cost to the person who gave them to you.

One exception to paying taxes on precious metals sold is that the gain from rare coins sold can be offset by rare coins purchased in the Like-Kind Exchanges

rules. Bullion sold by bullion purchased, silver for silver, gold for gold under the same rules. There are specific rules and time frames that apply. It is best to seek the advice of a tax attorney to see how best

Coins collected as a hobby.

If a hobby, losses from an activity may not be used to offset other income. Income from profits on coins sold must be reported on Line 21 of your 1040, (Other Income).

Deductions are much more limited when for coins are collected for a hobby are claimed as part of your Schedule A.

Taxes on coins inherited.

The rules governing Federal estate taxes are well established. State taxes for inheritance are normally based upon the applicable laws of that state.

If coins are inherited through an estate, then the base/cost price is established by the value of the coins at the time the coins are inherited. This is a good reason to have the coins appraised at this time. Income tax is not paid until the coins are sold. If the value of a coin is \$1,000 at the time it is inherited, and sold for \$1,100, then the gain is only \$100.

If considering whether to sell your coins and leave money to your heirs rather than your coins, there is an advantage if you leave your coins as part of your estate. If you paid \$2,000 for your collection and sold it for \$20,000, then you are liable for \$18,000 in gain. If you leave your collection as part of your estate and it is appraised at \$20,000 and sold by your heirs for \$20,000, then your heirs are not responsible for paying taxes on any gains.

Finding coins.

In 2013, a couple in California stumbled across a tine can buried in their back yard. When unearthed it was found to contain gold coins. Several more cans were uncovered, all laden with mostly uncirculated gold coins. There were about 1,400 rare gold coins found, with the total value at about ten million dollars. Roughly have of this treasure trove will probably be claimed by Uncle Sam in federal and state taxes. According to the IRS, if you find lost or abandoned, it is taxable at the fair market value in the first year it is in your undisputed possession. It would most likely be subject at 39.6 percent, which is the highest federal tax rate. State taxes would also be applicable. Had they been discreet and not publicized

their find, could they have sold or given away these coins without suspicion? The primary point here is that before you advertise or publicize what you own or are selling, you need to fully understand the ramifications.

It is important to understand what tax liability you will have when selling coins your inherited or were given. If not sure, consult a tax attorney. What was presented herein are only some of the rules, which may also be modified over time. It is important to read the applicable laws and codes.

Coin Terminology

Obverse

Reverse



Obverse - Front of the coin.

Reverse - Back of the coin.

Date - The year the coin was struck.

Mintmark - Tells us which Mint a coin was struck, for example: P stands for Philadelphia, D for Denver, and S for San Francisco.

Design - The main image on the coin. For example, on the Lincoln cent, the main image on the obverse would be the image of President Lincoln. On the reverse, it would be the Lincoln Memorial.

Device - Same as the main design on the coin.

Legend - The words “UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,” which are required to be on all coins struck at the United States Mint.

Motto - The words “E PLURIBUS UNUM,” which are required to be on all coins today. This is Latin for “*ONE OUT OF MANY*.”

Rim - This is the outer raised portion of the coin. It helps protect the design from wear.

Edge - The side of the coin.

Field - The flat surface of the coin.

Designer's Initials - Initials of the person who created the design.

Denomination - The value assigned to the coins. Also known as the face value and also the legal tender.

Handling and Examining Coins

It is very important to always handle coins with care. If coins are handled incorrectly, they can be ruined forever. A few simple rules will help keep your coins in the best condition. Handle your coins as little as possible. If you have to pick up your coin, hold it only by the edges. **Never touch the front (obverse) or back (reverse) of the coin.** Even putting your coin in the palm of your hand can damage a coin. Our skin has oil, plus if there is any dirt on your hands, it can get on the coin. Never handle coins when your hands are dirty. Try to wash your hands before handling coins and make sure they are dry. You could also wear cotton gloves to be completely safe.

Do not eat or drink while examining your coins. If you have to cough or sneeze, put the coin down and turn your head. Try not to talk or breath on the coin, because even vapor can affect the surface of the coin. If you want to hold the coin to examine it, hold the coin between your thumb and index finger. Make sure you keep a soft mat on the table under the coin in case it falls. The condition of a coin has a great deal to do with its value. If a coin is dented, scratched, tarnished, or has ugly fingerprints on it, it will be far less valuable.

Do not attempt to clean a coin. If a coin shows signs of cleaning, it is worth far less. There are ways to remove some dirt using soap and water, but this should be left to the experts. It's not worth possibly of damaging your coins. Once a coin is cleaned it cannot be restored to its original condition. In the photo on the top left of the next page, the coin is first placed on a protective holder, then examined. In the photo on the right, the coin is being held between the thumb and index finger while being examined.



When examining a coin, it is important to use good lighting. Without good lighting, it is hard to see if a coin has been damaged. It is important to examine all parts of the coin. The value of the coin mainly depends on the condition of the coin. For circulated coins, the amount of wear is the most important part in determining condition. For Mint State coins or coins that have no signs of wear from circulation, the number of marks, scratches, contact marks, nicks, color, and eye appeal are all important. Good lighting is needed to see these flaws. Remember, a small difference in the condition of the coin can have a big difference in the value of the coin.

A strong light is recommended for viewing your coin. Halogen lights are very good. Having a lamp that can be moved around or tilted can be very helpful as you can change the amount of light and not have to move the coin themselves. Hold the coin about 2 to 3 feet from the light. When examining the coin, tilt the coin at an angle so that the light reflects from the coin's surface to your eye. Tilt and turn the coin so that different parts of the coin can be observed.

To look at a coin real closely, a magnifying glass is used. A magnifying glass is a glass that makes an object look larger. The power of the magnifying glass means how big the object is when you look through it. A magnifying glass that is 2x (x relates to the power) means that an object looks 2 times its normal size. A 10x magnifying glass makes an object look 10 times its normal size. There are many different types of magnifying glasses. They come in different shapes and different power levels. Some have lights attached with them. For normal coin examination a magnifying glass between 4x and 8x should be fine. For looking at very small parts of the coin, use a 10x to 16x. Some glasses are better than others because better glass is used. The coin looks much clearer through these. When buying a magnifying glass, bring a coin with you and examine it through different glasses to see which you like the best. One of the most popular is the 5x packette, which is made by Bausch and Lomb. Below are several different magnifying glasses.



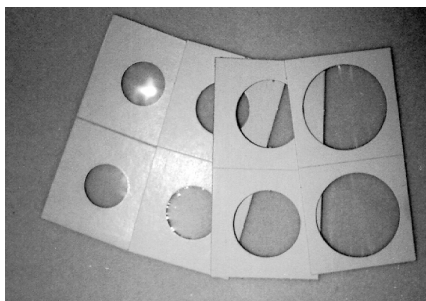
Storing Coins

It's important to properly store your coins so they do not become damaged. You should not place your coins in a bag all together or throw them in your drawer, because the coins can bang against each other and they will become nicked and scratched. Also do not store them near something that is hot, because this can damage the surface of the coin.

There are many different ways to store your coins to keep them protected. What you use depends a great deal on what you collect and what your goals are. For example, let's say you are trying to collect one of each date of the Lincoln cent series. There are books available specifically for storing these.

If you like to collect all types of coins and keep them together, the easiest way to store your coins is in 2" by 2" cardboard holders. These are safe for storage and because there is a plastic window, you can easily see the front and back of your coins. There are different sizes for different size coins. To insert a coin, first choose a holder where the window is the same size as the coin. Lay the holder flat, place the coin on top in the middle, fold over the holder, and staple it shut. When you staple, it is best to staple around the four sides. Make sure you do not accidentally staple your coin.

Once you have your coins in these holders, you can put the coins in boxes or in vinyl pages where you can put up to 20 coins in a page. These pages fit into a three binder and allow you to enjoy your coins in a book format. The photo on the top left of the next page shows different size cardboard holders. The photo on the right shows different albums that can hold these 2" by 2" cardboard holders. If you want, you can use smaller holders, so you can bring them to coin shows or a friend's house. With your larger book, you can set it up any way you want. For example, have Lincoln cents on one page, Jefferson nickels on another.



Another nice thing about cardboard holders is that you can write notes on them. For example, you could write when you bought the coin, how much you paid, or anything special you like about the coin. Make sure you also flatten down the staples so that they do not scratch other coins. Also, when taking coins out of a cardboard holder, make sure not to scratch the coin on a staple.

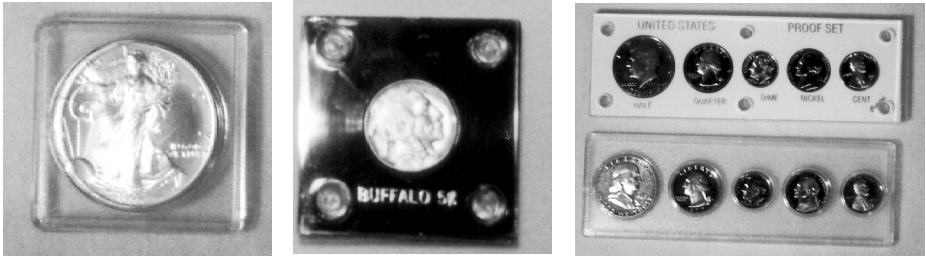
There are several other ways of storing single coins. Flips are clear plastic envelopes with two pockets. These can be used to display two coins, or a single coin with a description of the coin or any other information. Flips are made of vinyl, which is soft and easy to use, but not recommended for long-term storage because the oil in the vinyl can cause damage to the coins over long-term storage. Flips are also made of a different material that is safer but more expensive. These flips are of a stiffer material since the oil is removed from the vinyl to avoid damage over a long-term. Make sure you ask when you buy flips if they are safe for long-term storage.

Paper envelopes can be used as an inexpensive storage method. They are inexpensive; however, you have to remove the coin to view them. You can also write any notes on the outside of these envelopes. Below on the left is a 2-inch flip. The front pocket contains a coin, and the back is used to hold an insert with a description of the coin. On the right is a paper envelope holder.



The problem with a cardboard holder, flip, or paper holder is that the coin can still be damaged if it is dropped or banged into other coins. Hard plastic holders do not have this problem. Some of these also have the benefit of an airtight seal. This is important because air can change the color of the coin. With hard plastic holders you get to see both sides of the coin, the coin is protected, and you can use stickers to put notes on the holders. At the top left of the next page is a snap-together plastic holder. At the top middle of the next page is a holder that is screwed together.

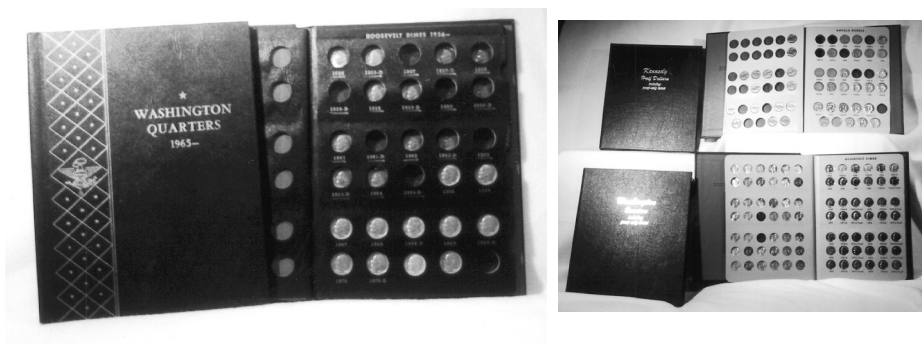
There are also holders you can get that hold all denominations for a given year. This would be useful if you want to store one of each proof coin for a year. At the top right of the next page are two different sets that hold each denomination. These holders are also good protection if the set is dropped, and some are air tight.



If you want to collect all the coins of a series, the most affordable way is to use coin folders. These are easy to use and a good way to start. These folders provide a space for each coin made for general use, including all dates and mint marks. But, only one side of the coin can be seen. One problem is that there is no plastic protection for the front and back of the coin. When you put coins into the folder's holes, you may have to use a little muscle. The holes are made small so the coins will not fall out. If you are having a little trouble, try to put the top of the coin in first, then the bottom. Below is a folder for the Jefferson nickel series. Coin folders can be bought for almost any United States coin series.

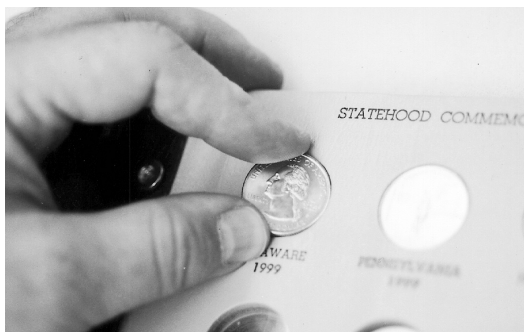


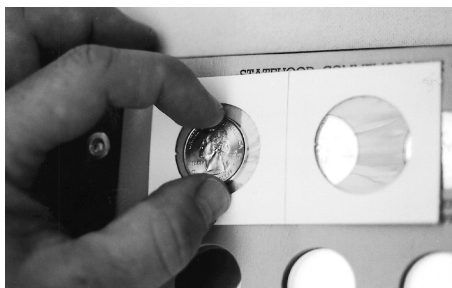
If you are collecting a complete set of each date and mintmark for a single series and you want good protection for your coins, coin albums are the best choice if you can afford it. Remember as you start out, you have to keep to your budget. But as you save your allowance, maybe you can get a nicer album to save your coins. Coin albums are attractive books in which both sides of the coins can be viewed. There is a removable plastic slide to protect both sides of the coin, and these albums are probably the best and safest way to store your coins. When removing or inserting coins from these albums, make sure you use a glove, cloth, or piece of plastic so that you do not damage the coin. Do not push on the front or back of the coin with your bare finger. Below are different types of coin albums made for an entire series of coins.



It is important when placing or removing the coin in a folder or album not to touch the front or back of the coin. First, holding the coins by the edge between your thumb and index finger, place the coin over top of the place you are going to place it in the album.

Second, use either a cardboard holder or cloth to place over the coin. With the cardboard holder, you can see the coin easily. With the thumb and index finger, push down on the rim of the coin. Make sure the coin is even, not one side down further than the other. This is because air pockets might form around the coin.





Another way to store coins is in tubes. These are great for extra coins that are not very expensive. The tubes allow you to store many of your coins together. Tubes are clear rolls for coins.



Make sure your coins are stored in a safe place. They should not be near heat or moisture or a place where the temperature changes. Usually you can store them in a desk or dresser drawer as long as it is not too close to a window or radiator.

There are many places to buy coins and accessories. You can try your local coin dealer or a coin show. If there aren't any nearby, try mail order. Check the classified ads in a coin paper or magazine to buy or sell coins or equipment. Most places are reputable and the editors do watch out for bad business, but be sure you can always check with the complaint department.

Grading Coins

Coin grading is an important part of coin collecting. It is the most important thing that you need to learn if you really want to collect coins. The grading of coins has to do with how much wear or circulation the coin has received. More use leads to the coin's design becoming more worn. This in turn affects the coin's condition and value. Always remember the grade of a coin is based on personal opinion. If someone tells you it is one grade and you disagree, then you should not buy the coin. There are no experts. Each person grades differently and you must learn to grade and trust your own experience that you learn through examining many different coins.

There are many books that can help you learn how to grade coins. Two of the standard books are: Photograde, and Official ANA Grading Standards for United States Coins. These books are helpful tools, but the best way to learn how to grade coins is to examine various graded coins and see the differences on the coin.

It is important when examining coins to use the right lighting and magnification. Four to eight power magnification should be fine. Ten power or more should be used to study small differences in a coin and to determine grading. When examining a coin, hold the coin on its edges between your fingertips. Make sure a soft padded surface is beneath the coin in case it is dropped. Tilt the coin at an angle so that the light reflects from the coin's surface to your eye. By tilting or turning the coin, different parts of the coin can be observed. Try not to breathe on coins, especially copper coins, and do not talk while holding one in front of you.

The grade of a coin reflects the condition. Wear, contact marks, hairlines, scratches, nicks, color, luster, and eye appeal all contribute to the grade of a coin. The grade of a coin is one of the most important factors in establishing the value of a coin. Grades for coins made for circulation are from 0 through 70, with 70 being perfect. Coins that show no signs of wear are assigned a grade of 60 through 70 and are known as Uncirculated (Unc) or Mint State (MS). The following are some of the general terms and standards used in the hobby to describe the grade of the coin. These descriptions are general; the exact descriptions will differ from series to series.

The basic circulated grades are given first. Lincoln cents are shown as an example for each grade.

The design of the coin is the main image. For example, on the Lincoln cent, the

obverse design is the image of President Lincoln. The lettering or legend are usually the lettering around the rim of the coin. The date is the date the coin was struck, which is usually at the bottom of the front of the coin. The highest point on the coin is the part of the design that is raised the highest above the surface of the coin and usually will begin to wear first.

The most important thing to learn about grading is that the more coins you study, the better you will be at telling what grade a coin is. Study as many coins as you can and compare coins to see differences.

General Descriptions of Circulated Grades

About Good (AG-3) - Very heavily worn. Design worn smooth, but the general outline is still visible. Most of letters around the rim are only partially visible. The date is worn but visible, allowing you to tell which year the coin was struck.



Good (G-4) - Heavily worn. Most of the design is worn flat, but major parts of the design are visible. Letters around rim are worn but mostly visible. Date is fully visible.



Very Good (VG-8) - Well worn. Major features of design flat, but visible. Letters around rim are clear.



Fine (F-12) - Moderate to considerable wear. Entire design is bold, with some higher points visible.



Very Fine (VF-20) - Moderate wear on high points of design. Major details are clear.



Extremely Fine (EF-40) - Only slight wear. Major features of design are sharp and well defined.



About Uncirculated (AU-50) - Traces of light wear seen on most of the highest points of the design.



Mint State coins show no signs of wear. The grade of a Mint State coin is based on the coin's luster, number of bag marks, scuff marks, location of marks, color of the coin, and eye appeal. Remember, what grade one dealer or collector might consider a coin will usually vary from another dealer. It is always best to learn to grade yourself. The following are some general descriptions of Mint State coins:

MS-60 - Many possible large contact marks, hairlines or scuff marks throughout. Possible rim nicks. Poor eye appeal. Surfaces may be dull or spotted. Dull luster.

MS-63 - Only a few scattered large contact marks in prime areas, numerous small contact marks. A few small scattered patches of hairlines in secondary areas. Several possible scuff marks in fields and on the design. Attractive eye appeal. Surfaces have some original color. Luster may be slightly impaired.

MS-65 - One or two large contact marks in prime areas or a few small contact marks. One or two small patches of hairlines. A few scuff marks on high points of design. Very pleasing eye appeal. Surfaces have full original color or tone. Attractive average luster throughout.

MS-70 - Perfect coin. Outstanding eye appeal. Surfaces bright with lustrous original color. Very attractive blazing luster.

Identifying Die Varieties

To make a coin, a tool called a ‘working die’ is used. The die has the incused image of the coin on it. Two working dies are required to strike a coin, one for the obverse and one for the reverse. The coins are struck in a machine called a coining press. A pair of obverse and reverse working dies are placed in the coining press above and below and used to strike a blank disc, called a planchet. The planchet is struck by the dies with thousands of pounds of pressure, pushing the metal from the planchet up into the incused image on the working dies.

The process in creating a working die requires several steps, the critical of which involves pressing the raised image of the design on a working hub into the working die in a machine called a hubbing press. This might require several hubbings to get a good impression into the working die. Sometimes during the die making process, mistakes can be made. These mistakes can make the die look different from other dies and are known as die varieties. All coins struck with the working die will show the variation. Some types of die varieties are very valuable. Some types are very common during certain years. Below are some examples of different types of die varieties.

A doubled die is a coin that has two or more images of the design. There are several different types of doubled dies, which are reflected on how they are created. Below is a picture of a 1955 Lincoln cent with very dramatic doubling seen all around the coin. The doubled die was created when the working die was rotated counter-clockwise in perspective to the image impressed from the previous hubbing, when it was placed back into the hubbing press. This is one of the more dramatic doubled dies for the Lincoln cent series. In perfect condition, this coin can be worth around \$15,000.00. There are thousands of the doubled dies on 20th century coins. Many are minor and worth only a little, but imagine finding a monster like the 1955.

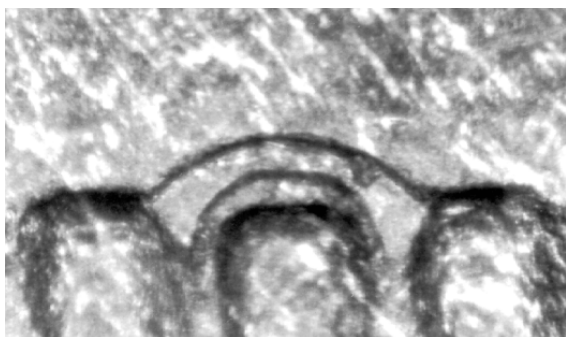


There are other types of doubling that are not valuable such as strike doubling, which occurs when the coin is being struck in the coining press or sometimes when the die wears down. It is important if you want to collect doubled dies to be able to know the difference between a hub doubled die and other types of doubling that are not valuable.

A repunched date occurs when the date was punched into the working die in more than one location. Before 1909, the date was struck into each obverse working die by a Mint employee who used a mallet and a date punch. Perhaps they wanted to get a deeper impression into the die or thought it was too high or low. Many of these repunched dates only show minor signs of extra digits. Some are very dramatic and are valuable. Below on the left is an 1864 Two cent piece with dramatic repunching on the 18. On the right is a photo of an 1864 Two cent piece, which was punched four times showing four different images of the digits.



A misplaced date is the same as a repunched date, but the repunched digits are much farther away. Sometimes by accident, the digits of the date were punched into the denticles below the date or the design of the coin above the date. There are many of reasons this could happen. Mainly, it is thought that it was caused by inexperienced Mint employees or by misjudgment. Remember the area in which the date is struck is only one-quarter of an inch wide and one-tenth of an inch high. Misplaced dates happened on almost all coin series before 1909. There are no misplaced dates found on coins after 1908 because the Mint changed the way it made dies and no longer struck the date into the die by hand. There are 400 misplaced dates known and new ones being found all the time. Below on the left is an 1870 Indian cent with a bold 0 in the denticles. On the right is an 1847 five dollar gold piece with a bold 1 seen in the neck.



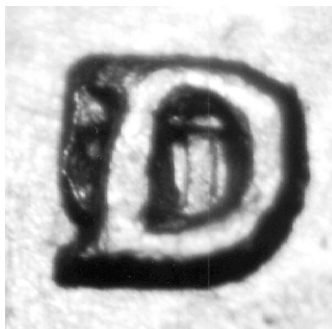
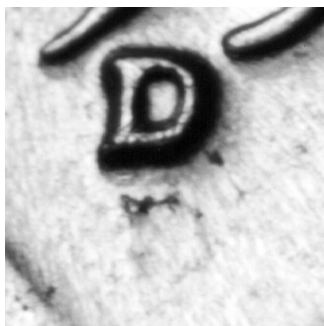
One of the rarest types of die varieties and sometimes the most valuable is an overdate. An overdate is a coin that shows two dates from different years. Let's first show what an overdate looks like. The photo below on the left is of an 1887 three cent nickel on which you can see the shape of a 6 under the 7. This working die was first struck with an 1886 date punch, then struck over with an 1887 date punch. The photo below on the right is of an 1918-D Buffalo nickel that shows a 7 underneath the 8.



There are approximately 200 overdates for all series. Most of these are for 19th century coinage. There are fewer than 10 overdates known for 20th century coinage. Overdates are one of the more collected and enjoyed type of die varieties.

A mint mark is used to identify which Mint a coin was struck, for example, ‘O’ for New Orleans. Up until around 1990, the mintmark was struck into each die by a Mint employee with a mallet and a punch with the mint mark at the end. If the Mint employee thought the first punch was too soft, too high, or too low, then he might strike the mintmark again into the die.

A repunched mint mark (RPM) is a coin that shows two or more mint marks punched into it. These are common for 20th century coinage, especially for Lincoln cents. There are more than a thousand repunched mint marks known for the Lincoln cents alone. Some of the more dramatic repunched mint marks can be very valuable. In the photo below on the left, a totally separated D can be seen on this 1956-D Lincoln cent. The photo on the right is of a 1942-D Jefferson nickel, in which the D is punched over a horizontal D.



An over mint mark (OMM) is a coin that shows two or more different lettered mint marks. The photo below on the left shows a 1944-D Lincoln cent with an obvious S underneath the D mintmark. The center photo shows a close-up of the 1944-D/S cent. The photo below on the right shows a 1938-D Buffalo nickel with an obvious S underneath the D mintmark.



Over mint marks are rare with about 50 known for all series. These are highly collected and sought after.

Organizing Your Collection

Some collectors are very meticulous with the organization of their coin collection. Others collections were simply stored in jars, containers, and other storage devices with coins of different denominations stored together. Some people simply would dump their pocket change into these containers. They might trade now and then for something they found interesting. One collector did this for a period of 60 years and had some very collectable, and a few valuable coins mixed together in large coffee cans.

When coins are mixed together, the first objective is to separate your collection by series and sets. Why would it be important to separate for example 90% silver Walking Liberty half dollars, Franklin half dollars and 1964 Kennedy half dollars? All are 90% silver and would have the same bullion value. The difference of course is that older coins would normally have an higher demand and greater numismatic value as a collectable coin. Mercury dimes are normally worth more than Roosevelt dimes for the same reason. In addition, once you separate the coins, it is much easier to search each series for those rare dates and die varieties as you are focussing only on a select number that apply to that series.

If a large group of mixed coins, first lay a large cloth on where you are going to separate them. Then gently dump the coins in the middle. Start separating the coins by series, starting with the largest silver denominations first as they are easiest to see and pick out. This step can normally be accomplished with the naked eye and does not require a loupe. Obviously if there are gold coins, remove them first. Silver coins are any dime, quarter, half dollar, or dollar from 1964 or before. Other series that contained silver included the Three cent silver coin, Bust and Liberty Seated half dimes; but these will not be seen in most collections that are the result of saved pocket change that will normally be seen.

It is important when searching through these piles, if you see brilliant uncirculated coins (you will know them when you see them), place them aside on a soft surface so as not to scratch or damage them.

Make a separate pile for each series starting with one for Morgan dollars and one for Peace Dollars. For coins in these series, as they are larger and heavier, they are more prone to denting if they are dropped on other coins. Stack them neatly or place them gently on a soft surface. At this stage you are not using a magnifying glass

Then continue with the half dollars, quarters, and then dimes, keeping each series with each denomination separate. Most pocket-change collections have

a pyramid-like number of coins for each denomination with the dollar at the top with the least number of coins, and the cents at the bottom with the most number of coins. The higher the denomination, the lower number of coins as part of the collection. Separating out the larger denominations first on these type of pocket-change collections also is more efficient as the nickel and cents are the most numerous part of the collection, and saving them for last makes it easier to separate. Normally it simply involves scooping into buckets.

For some series, such as the Morgan and Peace Dollars, if there is a large number of coins, I will further separate these by date and mint mark. This is time consuming, but helps when evaluating and identifying any rare dates and die varieties.

Once your collection is separated into their series, then you can move into the next section involving searching for rare dates and die varieties, and also uncirculated coins. By focusing only on one series at a time, it is much easier to use the second half of the book or other resource to understand what to search for.

For proof and mint sets, first order them by type, then within each type order them by date. There are several different types of proof sets including the basic one with one of each coin, there are other sets including prestige, premier, silver combinations, state quarters, silver state quarters, basic coins and silver state quarters and so on. Separate these by type of set first. Then within each type, order the sets by date. The date on most sets should be on the outside, for some, you need to look on the coins. Having the sets separated, greatly helps focus the search on those years which contain die varieties and rare coins that are worth a significant premium. For example, there are several doubled dies on the cent and half dollar on 1971-S proofs. There is a very valuable no-S mint mark found on 1990-S proof cent.

Once everything is organized, it is much easier to catalogue and search.

Looking for Rare Dates and Die Varieties

The objective of determining coins with a significant premium requires an understanding of how to identify those coins that are rare, high grade, dramatic die variety, or some other factor that has high interest and demand.

For example, in a group of Peace Dollars I was appraising, there was a 1928 Peace Dollar that was worth \$700 as compared to \$30 for the other Peace Dollars in the group. Had the collector went to a show or store to sell the coins, it is possible that he might have received melt value for the Peace dollars. One of the primary goals of an appraisal is to identify and separate out those valuable coins which will realize a much greater premium.

When searching for valuable coins, it is easiest to focus on one series at a time. This way you only have to remember a short list for that series.

The method and detail used in examining coins depends on several factors such as the number of coins involved, amount of time, and condition of the coins. If there are only a few hundred coins in a collection, it does not take long to examine and process all of them. If the collection contains tens of thousands of Mercury dimes for example, then it would have taken weeks and a new pair of eyes to examine every one. If being appraised, it is normally a good idea for the appraiser to speak with the owner and tell them what the options are, how much time it might take, and what the objectives are. Another consideration is how original the collection is, an older collection has a higher probability of being unsearched and finding die varieties and original coins.

When there is a large number of coins, the goal is to separate out those coins that have a higher probability of being worth a premium. For example, for the Buffalo nickels, the rare dates are 1913-D Type II, 1913-S Type II, 1914-D, 1921-S, and 1926-S. The primary die varieties are the 1916 doubled die, 1918/7-D overdate, 1935 doubled die, 1936-D three leg, and 1937-D three legged buffalo.

When studying details of coins, a 10x power loupe should normally be used. For general examination, a 2x to 5x loupe is best. When examining a large number of coins, the 2x loupe is used to identify and separate those coins of the date and mint mark that might be a rare date or die variety. Holding each coin one at a time would be extremely time consuming. One method for processing a large number of coins is to take about 100 coins, spread them across a table, all heads up so as to see the date. Start on one side and go up and down the rows to view the coins quickly, using your fingers to push coins that have been examined to one side. For series such as Buffalo nickels, you might like to further separate

coins by the decade. One pile will be 1913 through 1919, then another for 1920 through 1929, and finally one for 1930 through 1938. This makes it easier in the future if you wish to study further.

For coins that are believed to be a rare date or die variety, put each into a separate container, such as a cardboard bowl. Also put aside those coins that are higher grade in a separate container. When completed, use the 10x loupe to study each coin that was separated out to see if they are what you are searching for. If coins of value are discovered, they are placed in a flip and marked accordingly.

The second half of this book lists those rare dates and die varieties that are worth a significant premium. For many other series, there are other dates and die varieties that are also worth a premium. There are many books that identify these. Your method of evaluation should be based upon your level of comfort, most individuals will want to focus on those coins that will bring the most money. One of the principals of grading is that experience is the best teacher. The more coins you study, the more knowledge you will gain. Some series are more difficult to grade than others, such as for Buffalo nickels, some years are notorious for weak strikes, which can be confused with wear.

Searching through coins takes patience and focus. Some people get bored quickly and quit. It also takes a keen eye for studying details, but the reward can be significant when you find a “What If” treasure coin.

Modern Silver Coins

On modern U.S. coin series struck for circulation that contain silver are worth primarily their melt value, especially given the high cost of silver. The Roosevelt dimes and Washington quarters contain 90% silver up through 1964. The Franklin half dollars and 1964 Kennedy half dollars are 90% silver. The 1965 through 1970 Kennedy half dollars are 40% silver. Some of the Eisenhower dollars were struck on 40% silver planchets.

There are other rare exceptions, the most rare and dramatic of these are the off-metal error coins, which are also referred to as transitional varieties. For example, 90% silver planchets were used for the dime, quarter, and half dollar in 1964. In 1965, it was decided to use clad planchets for the dime and quarter and 40% silver planchets for the half dollar. A few of the dime, quarter, and half-dollar 90% silver planchets were accidentally struck with 1965 dated working dies. These coins can be worth between \$5,000 and \$10,000. For 1965 dated dimes and quarters, simply look at the rim of the coin to see if it is silver across, or if you see the darker middle that is the copper center of the clad coinage.

There were over 400 million 1964 Kennedy half dollars struck, with many being saved in original rolls, therefore high grade uncirculated coins are not that rare. But, there are many different doubled dies and a few repunched mint marks known for 1964 and 1964-D Kennedys, some of which can bring \$100. The question becomes what effort and time are you willing to commit to find these die varieties. When appraising, this effort is based upon the level the collector wants me to check them. Normally, I will scan through uncirculated specimens.

For silver Roosevelt dimes, Franklin half dollars, and Eisenhower dollars, the same general scan will normally be done. Uncirculated coins are usually separated out as are nicely toned coins, these are sometimes further checked for die varieties.

For Washington quarters, rare dates include the 1932-D and 1932-S, there are several nice doubled dies found in the 1930s and early 1940s, and two over mint marks found in 1950. Generally, silver coins for these series are scanned through, unless a date is found that has a higher probability of a die variety.

Most collectors want to be able to quickly determine what their silver coins are worth. If a general reference book is used, it will most likely be out of date as the price of silver can change drastically in a short period of time. It is better to use a resource that can provide real time prices. On either google or yahoo, if you type in "silver value," you will get web sites such as www.coinflation.com and www.kitco.com. These sites will provide live, up to date prices for

silver and gold.

The price of silver and gold is normally provided by weight in “Troy Ounces,” which is a unit of measurement normally used for precious metals. The normal general system we use in the U.S. for weight is also known as the avoirdupois system.

There are 12 troy ounces in a troy pound as compared to 16 ounces in a U.S. pound. A troy ounce weighs more than a U.S. ounce. There is 480 grains in one troy ounce as compared to 437-1/2 grains for a U.S. ounce. This means that the U.S. ounce is .91% of the weight of a troy ounce. A troy pound weighs less than a U.S. pound. There are 5,760 grains in a troy pound as compared to 7,000 grains in a U.S. pound. This means that a troy pound is .82% of the weight of a U.S. pound.

Therefore, if given the value of one troy ounce, multiple this value by .91 to convert it to U.S. ounces. Then multiple this by .90 if the silver content is 90% or by .40 if the silver content is 40%. Luckily, most of these sites provide the bullion value of the silver for each different gold and silver series.

Modern Proof Sets

For the 20th century, proof sets were made up through 1916 in very limited numbers. Production of proof coins were ceased until it was started again in 1936. Between 1936 and 1942, proof coins were sold individually in limited numbers. With World War II, proof coin production was again ceased until 1950. Proof coins before 1950 generally have a higher value primarily based upon their rarity. For example, between 1936 and 1940, the lowest mintage was just under 4,000 for 1936 and the highest was 1942 with just over 21,000.

Starting in 1950, proof sets were again sold by the Mint. Mintage for 1950 was only 51,386 sets in increased rapidly to 1961, when 3,028,244 sets were minted. Since then, the Mint has averaged between 2 and 4 million sets per year, except of course between 1965 and 1967 when only special mint sets were struck. Working dies for proof coins are normally only used to strike about 3,000 coins. If 3 million coins are struck, and each working die is used to strike an average of 3,000 coins. Then approximately 1,000 working dies would be required to strike these coins. Therefore, if one working die for a given year has a dramatic doubled die, statistically, you would need to look at 1,000 coins to find one example.

But sometimes, when it rains, it pours. One dealer purchased a box of 20 1971-S proof sets from a collector that was still in the Mint sealed box. He found 10 sets that contained the dramatic 1971-S Lincoln cent with a dramatic doubled die that was worth approximately \$1,500 per coin.

The majority of proof coins struck since 1950 do not contain anything that would command a premium over their normal price as a proof set. Many proof sets struck between 1970 and 1990 have a value that is less than the amount that was originally paid for them. During this period, many collectors would purchase several sets for each year. Today, there is an over abundance of 1970 through 1990 proof sets and little demand.

There are also modern commemorative sets that were struck starting in 1982, mostly to raise funds for different organizations and special events. Many of these were struck in silver and gold, some in proof, and some with circulated strikes. The majority of these are simply worth their value in bullion melt.

Of course, for sets that contain silver coins, they will increase or decrease in value based upon the value of these metals. With gold at approximately \$1,300 an ounce, sets with gold coins have normally increased in value.

There are several key types of varieties to search for on proofs. The first is early proof coins with deep mirrors and cameo frostings. If you look at proofs struck after 1980, you will notice the fields usually have a deep mirrored, and the devices normally have a frosted surface. The process for creating working dies was vastly improved in the early 1970s, before this time, the frosted surface wore off when it was used in the coining press. Only the first few coins would retain this surface. Check proof coins from 1964 and before for cameo devices, the earlier cameo proofs are rarer and more valuable. On the larger proofs such as the Franklin half dollars, these can be breath taking. 19th century proofs can also be found with deep mirrored fields and cameo surfaces, but these will not normally be found in the average collection. Below on the left is a 1950 Franklin half dollar proof. On the right is a deep cameo Franklin half dollar proof.



There are several key die varieties that need to be searched for. The first and most important is the No S proof sets. Starting in 1968, the San Francisco Mint was used to exclusively strike proof coins. An 'S' mint mark was added to identify that the coins were struck in the San Francisco Mint. Up through the mid-1990s, all working dies were hubbed at the Philadelphia Mint. The dies were hubbed and the mint mark added as the last stage in the dies production. Several working dies between 1968 and 1990 were sent to the San Francisco Mint and used to strike proof coinage without the S mint mark. These coins are worth an extreme premium and absolutely must be checked for. They include: 1968 No S dime, 1970 No S dime, 1971 No S nickel, 1975 No S dime, 1983 No S dime, and 1990 No S cent.

Some of these are extremely rare, for example, on the 1975 No S proof dime, there are only two known and are worth over \$300,000. The 1868 No S proof dime is the second rarest and is worth about \$20,000 in higher grades. Even the more common 1883 No S proof dime can be worth over a \$1,000 in higher grades. This makes these varieties an absolute to check for. During this time frame, the S mint mark on the cent and dime is right below the date. On the nickel, the S mint mark is between the date and bottom right of Jefferson. Below on the left is the 1990 No S Lincoln cent proof. On the right is the 1983 No S Roosevelt dime proof.



There are literally hundreds of doubled dies known on proof coins from 1950 onward. The level you search for these treasure is primarily dependent on the time you have to spend with them. At the very least, you should search through proof sets for those years with the most dramatic doubled dies. This includes 1960, 1961, 1970, and 1971. For example, there is a 1961 Franklin half dollar proof that has a very dramatic doubling and worth a very nice premium. A list of the better proof doubled dies are listed in the second half of the book.

The earlier the proof set, normally the higher the value. There are also modern proof sets that are worth a lot of money simply based on their low mintage or high demand. For example, the 1999-S silver 10-piece proof set can be worth several hundred dollars. You can use references such as the Red Book to get a general idea of the value, but there are other sources that provide an up to date value such as the grey sheet, which is used by most coin dealers.

Foreign Coins

Many people also collected foreign coins, especially from places they traveled to. Foreign coins can come in many sizes and shapes. One of the nice things about foreign coins is that they are usually readily available and affordable. Foreign coins, even older ones, can be much cheaper than United States coins from the same time frame.

What is the best way to determine the value of these coins? One of the best resource to identify the coins and get an idea of value is eBay. Many foreign coins are on eBay here and most have photographs to assist in identification. If you can read words on the coin and type them in through the search on eBay, you should be able to quickly find similar coins. If you cannot read the words, either because of the grade and condition of the coin or because it is in a language you do not understand, use the date and denomination of they are readable.

Once you fully identify the coin, the internet is a great place to learn more of the history, what the images represent, when and how the coins were used in commerce, and value. Coin shows are usually a good place to find a dealer who specializes in foreign coins. Just like U.S. coins, it is important to research and learn about your coins, and separate out those coins that are more valuable. Imagine having a bag of coins, that have some silver and gold coins mixed in and a dealer purchasing the coins as bulk.

Like segmenting U.S. coins, best method to appraise your foreign coins is to conquer and divide the coins by country if possible, making a list of dates and certain wording, then searching on the internet or eBay for similar coins. Make sure you seek and separate out any silver or gold coins. For some coins examined, it was difficult to determine if silver was used in part of the alloy. Finding the coin on the internet was the best way to determine what it is made of.

For most foreign coins, as they are worth little money, the most enjoyable method of distributing them is giving them to kids, many of whom will be fascinated by the coins, and may inspire them to begin collecting.

Normally little time is spent on foreign coins during an appraisal. The main objective is showing the owner how and where to determine the value themselves. If someone is appraising your collection and is charging your by the hour to access the content and value, it is better that you do not spend their time and your money checking these coins. Check them before they get there and isolate those coins you still have a question on.

Mint Error Coins - What Do You Have There?

by Fred Weinberg

When going through a coin collection for an appraisal or evaluation, if you weren't the collector who bought or found them, you might be amused or frustrated to run across a coin in the collection that's labeled "Error", with a short description of the error on the coin.

As with 'normal' coins, there are very worthwhile and valuable error coins, and there are many error coins that are either too common or too minor to be of interest to collectors.

Die Variiertes - those variations on the Die itself, are covered in other chapters. But here are a few thoughts on the more common Varieties that don't have much value.

Many collectors, since the 1950's and 1960's, loved to go through their pocket change every evening, looking at every coin closely with a magnifying glass, looking for something 'different' on the coin. In many cases, it was easy to find a coin with a die crack, a lamination ('peeling metal') doubled lettering, blob letters or numbers, or other small differences. Most of these pieces (other than those discussed in the prior chapters) are so common and easy to find, that there are simply many more of them struck and put into circulation than there are collectors of them!

In general, such pieces have minimal, if any, collector value - unless they are one of the popular Die Varieties such as the 1955 Doubled Die Cent, or the 1937-D Three Legged Buffalo Nickel. I usually suggest that the owner either put them up on Ebay in lots of 5 or 10 pieces, or give them to a young numismatist who would find such minor errors interesting, and enable them to understand the minting process.

Just because a coin has an error on it - a die crack, a blob in one of the letters or numbers of the date (very common in the 1950's and 1960's cents, for example) or a small area of raised metal, doesn't mean other collectors or dealers will buy them - don't forget - if you (or the original collector) could find them in circulation or rolls, so could others - and they do....that's why the market premium for these errors is low.

Over the decades, I have bought collections of normal coins that have one or more nice 'major' errors in them - by 'major', I'm referring to a mechanical error resulting in a coin that is struck off-center, or struck on the wrong intended planchet, or maybe even struck two or three times - some mechanical errors can be very dramatic, and valuable.

Although a common off center Lincoln Cent has a retail value of \$5 or so, a Kennedy half that is struck 50% off center (only have the design showing) could be worth \$200-\$400, depending on condition, if the date shows, etc.

This also applies to other error coins - in general, higher the denomination, the more valuable the coin - but there are always exceptions.

If you believe you have a worthwhile error coin, or might have, you should contact a specialist in the field - I myself have been collecting error coins since 1962, and have been a full-time coin dealer in error coins and currency since 1972 - it's fairly easy for me to view a good clear scan or photo of a coin, and determine if it's a genuine mint error, or a coin that's been damaged after it left the mint and got into circulation.

Many coins are gold plated, silver plated, run over by a train, hit with a hammer, chemically treated - you'd be surprised what people do on purpose or by accident to their pocket change! Before you get too excited about finding an error coin a collection - find out if it's real or not. Most people who find a coin in their change that simply looks 'different' automatically assume it's a rare error coin - when in fact it is called PMD - Post-Minting Damage.

Fred Weinberg is a highly respected numismatist, with 38 years of full-time experience in the rare-coin marketplace. His interest in mint-errors coins goes back to the early 1960s. He now maintains an inventory of almost 100,000 error pieces. Fred is a coauthor to 100 Greatest U.S. Error Coins and The Error Coin Encyclopedia, and has also contributed to numerous other numismatic books. He can be contacted at fred@fredweinberg.com

Examples of Error Coins

The following are some examples of different error coin types.



offcenter



struck over different denomination



capped die



folded edge struck



chain strike



double struck

These are only a few of the error types. There are several books you can purchase that provide a basic value assesment on the different types of errors.

Rare Dates and Die Varieties

The objective of this section is to present the rarer and more valuable coins and die varieties for each series.

This section does not include any gold, commemorative, or some of the early series such as the Bust coinage. These coins are not normally found in most coins that are inherited and they are also easily identified in general books such as the Red Book.

The rare coins listed are not the only ones in a series that are valuable. Many coins are valuable in higher grades, which should encourage you to learn as much about grading as possible so that you can identify those coins worth more.

For the Rare Date section, the date and mint mark is first listed followed by the mintage struck for that year. This is followed by the value for some of the more common grades from Good (G4) up through mint state 65 (MS65). Use these values as a general reference, you can find actual prices realized in auction companies such as Heritage Auctions (www.ha.com). It is easy to use, free, and is a great resource for determining value as you can normally see the coin and compare to your own.

A die variety is something that is unique to the die that differentiates it from other dies. All coins struck from the die will exhibit those characteristics unless they are removed. Die varieties include overdates, doubled dies, repunched dates, misplaced dates, repunched mint marks, over mint marks, clashed dies, and a few others.

The die varieties presented are some of the more dramatic for a series. There are sometimes hundreds of die varieties in a series, and also some that have yet to be identified. These varieties give an idea of what to look for and how to identify a particular type of variety. The best way to identify a particular variety that you might find in your collection is to obtain the reference book that covers the series.

For the Die Variety section, the date and type of variety is first presented followed by the values for particular grades. For some of these varieties, the one listed is the only variety of that type for a series. For example, in the Standing Liberty quarter series, there is only one known overdate. For other series, such as the Morgan Dollars, there are over twenty-five overdates known for 1880. To help understand how common some of these are, sometimes the total number is put in brackets "(25)". For many series, repunched dates are very common in a given year. For example, there are over thirty repunched dates known for the 1864 Two cent piece. One of these is extremely dramatic and worth far more than the others. This variety is listed as "1864 RPD" and a corresponding photo is presented to identify it.

Special coins are presented for some series that are significant and highly valuable. For example, the Mint changed from using 90% silver planchets for the dime, quarter, and half dollar in 1964 to a copper nickel clad planchet for the dime and quarter in 1965 and a 40% silver clad planchet for the the half dollar. Several left over 90% silver planchets were used to strike 1965 dated dimes, quarters, and half dollars and are highly sought after and valuable.

Half Cent

1793-1857

Note – Even common date Half Cents can be valuable in higher grades. It is important to gain a basic understanding of grading and determining if a coin has been cleaned or recolored.

Any Half Cent before 1800 will normally have a low mintage and nice value in most grades. Some dates are very rare and command much more. Some variations also command a much higher premium.

Rare Dates

	Mintage	G4	VG8	F12	VF20	XF	AU
1793	35,334	3,500	5,500	9,500	12,000	22,000	40,000
1796	1,390	20,000	30,000	38,000	55,000	75,000	100,000
1802	20,266	1,000	2,200	5,000	11,000	33,000	
1811	63,140	500	1,000	1,500	2,300	5,000	10,000
1831	2,200	5,000	7,000	8,000	15,000	45,000	62,000

Die Varieties

	G4	VG8	F12	VF20	XF	AU
1796 No Pole	50K	95K	150K	225K		
1797 Grippped Edge	55K	80K	100K			
1802 Reverse of 1800	25K	42K	55K	75K	120K	
1805 Small 5, Stems	1,000	2,000	3,000	6,000	16,000	30,000
1806 Small 6, Stems	250	300	700	1,600	3,600	6,000
1808/7	200	325	600	1,500	3,800	8,000



1808/7 Overdate



1809 over inverted 9

Large Cent

1793-1857

Most Large Cents before 1800 will normally have a low mintage and nice value in most grades. Some dates are very rare and command much more. Some variations also

Rare Dates

	Mintage	G4	VG8	F12	VF20	XF	AU
Chain Reverse							
1793	36,130	7,000	12,000	24,000	40,000	85,000	129,000
Wreath Reverse							
1793	63,353	2,500	3,500	5,000	12,000	18,000	35,000
1799		4,200	9,000	13,000	40,000	200,000	300,000
1804	96,500	2,000	3,000	5,000	10,000	20,000	75,000

Die Varieties

	G4	VG8	F12	VF20	XF	AU	
1794 Starred Reverse	30,000	40,000	65,000	100K	250K		
1795 Reeded Edge	350K	700K					
1795 Jefferson Head	30,000	80,000	100K	175K			
1799/8	5,000	10,000	25,000	40,000	215K	550K	
1803 Large Date							
Small Fraction	8,000	18,000	26,000	50,000	80,000		
1807/6 Blunt 1	2,200	5,000	12,000	25,000	40,000	150K	



1810/09 Overdate



1798/7 Overdate



1800/799 Overdate



1807/6 Overdate

Flying Eagle Cent

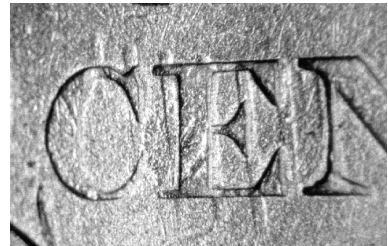
1856-1858

Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	VG8	F12	VF20	XF	AU
1856	2,000	5,000	7,000	9,000	11,000	13,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1857 Obv Clash 50C Obv	150	300	1,500	2,500		
1857 Rev Clash 25C Rev	20	120	300	500	1,600	4,000
1957 Obv Clash \$20 Obv	22	50	200	500	1,300	3,000
1858/7	80	225	600	3,200	10,000	74,000



1857 Obv clashed with \$20 Gold Obv

1857 Rev clashed with 25C Rev



1857 Obv clashed with 50C Obv

1858/7

Indian Cent

1859-1909

There are many doubled dies (DDO, DDR), misplaced dates (MPD), repunched dates (RPD), clashed dies Clash Obv/Rev), some of which are many dramatic, to many to list in one reference. Higher premiums in the Indian cents is primarily based on how dramatic the doubling, repunching, or clashing is.

Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63RB	MS65RD
1864 L on Ribbon	70	120	260	340	750	10,000
1869 6,420,000	100	200	400	550	1,250	7,000
1870 5,275,000	50	175	350	500	800	4,000
1871 3,929,000	80	200	400	550	1,100	11,000
1872 4,024,000	100	250	500	650	1,450	20,000
1877 852,000	600	1,000	2,000	3,000	6,000	30,000
1908-S 1,115,000	50	100	200	230	500	2,600
1909-S 309,000	400	500	700	900	1,500	6,000

Die Varieties

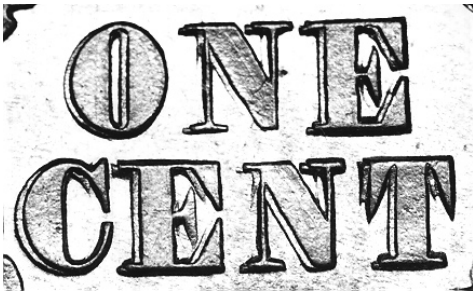
	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63RB	MS65RD
1865 DDR	50	200	700	900	3,000	9,000
1866 DDO/MPD	60	90	175	250	700	4,500
1870 MPD	80	250	600	900	1,500	5,000
1873 DDO	200	800	2,500	5,000	12,500	50,000
1880 Clash Rev	25	50	175	250	750	3,000
1882 MPD	25	50	200	300	1,100	11,000
1887 DDO	40	100	400	600	1,500	6,000
1888/7	1,000	3,500	9,000	18,000	75,000	
1894 RPD	60	150	325	500	2,000	7,500



1888/7 Overdate



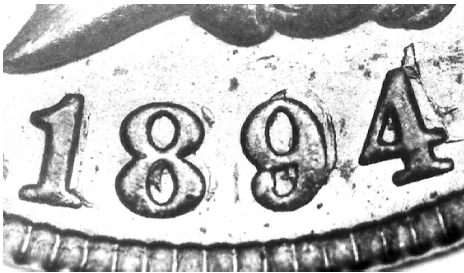
1870 MPD - Digits in denticles



1865 Doubled Die Reverse



1873 Doubled Die Obverse



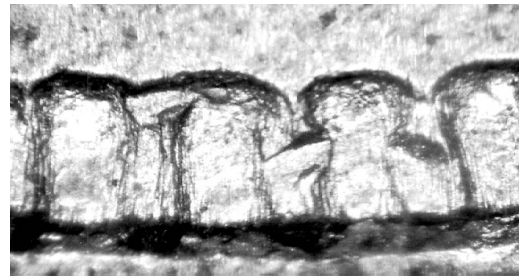
1894 Repunched Date



1882 MPD - Digits in necklace



1880 Rev Off-center clash



1866 DDO & MPD

Lincoln Cent

1909-current

There are literally hundreds of doubled dies and repunched mint marks in the Lincoln cent series. Flynn's book *The Authoritative Reference on Lincoln Cents, Second Edition*, covers most of the better die varieties for this series.

Rare Dates

As with most copper coins, full fire engine red colored coins are much more preferred and command a higher premium. It is important to be able to distinguish coins that are original, those that have naturally toned, and coins that have been artificially colored through a chemical treatment. Lincoln cent matte proof coins for example were stored in a tissue paper when mailed from the Mint, which contained elements that reacted with the surface of the coin and caused them to tone. Artificially toned coins will greatly reduce the value and will normally be certified as such by third party grading services.

Many of the Lincoln cents struck between 1909 and 1932 from the Denver and San Francisco branch mints are relatively common in circulated grades but much rarer and command a higher premium in uncirculated grades as relatively few were saved.

	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63RB	MS65RD
1909-S	1,825,000	75	120	200	250	400	1,700
1909S VDB	484,000	700	800	1,000	1,200	1,800	4,500
1914-D	1,193,000	150	230	800	1,400	4,000	18,000
1922 No D Strong Rev		500	750	2,000	5,000	40,000	150,000

• No Lincoln cents were struck at the Philadelphia Mint in 1922. Three different obverses used at the Denver Mint had a D mint mark that was either partially or fully filled.

<u>Die Varieties</u>	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63RB	MS65RD
1909 VDB DDO	20	40	100	150	300	3,000
1917 DDO	90	200	700	1,200	5,000	20,000
1936 DDO (3)	30	60	140	300	2,500	10,000
1941 DDO (3)	30	60	120	200	350	1,800
1943-D/D	25	55	125	225	400	1,100
1944D/S (2)	30	50	130	200	375	3,000
1946S/D	25	40	100	150	250	900
1955 DDO	800	1,100	1,400	1,900	3,500	40,000
1969S DDO	5,000	9,000	15,000	22,000	50,000	150,000
1970-S DDO	100	250	600	900	2,000	11,000
1972 DDO	15	20	80	115	300	500
1983 DDR	12	15	30	40	175	350
1984 DDO	5	10	15	20	150	250

Proof	PR63RD	PR64RD	PR65RD
1960 Pr DDO (3)	50	175	225
1971-S Pr DDO (2)	300	400	500
1990 No S Proof	2,000	2,500	2,800

Special coins

1943-P,D,S Copper cents – The Mint steel for the cents in 1943 as copper was needed for the war effort. Several 1943 cents were struck on left over copper planchets. The rarest of these is the 1943-D Copper cent, of which only one specimen is known and is worth over a million dollars.

1944-P,D,S Steel cents – The Mint switch back to copper for the cents in 1944. Several of the 1944 cents were struck on leftover steel planchets. These off-planchet error coins are also worth thousands of dollars.



1943-D RPM



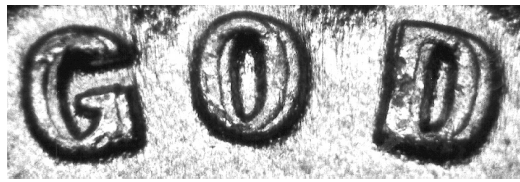
1944-D/S OMM



1946-S/D OMM



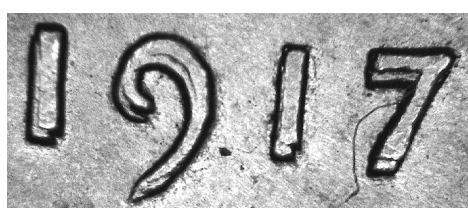
1936 Doubled Die Obverse



1941 Doubled Die Obverse



1909 VDB Doubled Die Obverse



1917 Doubled Die Obverse



1960-D Small/Large Date RPM



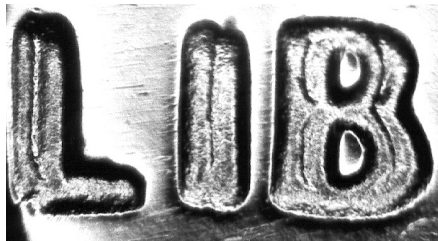
1884 Doubled Die Reverse



1983 Doubled Die Reverse



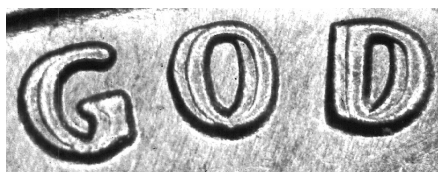
1960 Proof Large/Small Date



1871-S Proof Doubled Die Obverse



1969-S Doubled Die Obverse



1970-S Doubled Die Obverse



1955 Doubled Die Obverse



1972 Doubled Die Obverse

Two Cent

1864-1873

The goal of the die variety section is to show some of the more dramatic die varieties in a series. The secondary objective is to show the types of die varieties that exist so the collector knows what to search for. There are many more varieties available for the treasure hunting collector as seen in Flynn's book, *The Authoritative Reference on Two Cent Coins*.

Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63RB	MS65RD
1864 Small Motto	200	400	800	1,000	2,000	15,000
1872 65,000	375	700	1,200	2,000	4,000	25,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63RB	MS65RD
1864 DDO	25	40	70	130	400	3,000
1864 RPD	25	50	80	140	450	3,200
1865 MPD	25	40	70	125	375	2,900
1864 clash with Indian	25	50	75	135	500	3,200
1865 RPD	25	45	75	130	400	3,000
1865 Plain/Fancy 5	25	40	65	115	350	2,800
1867 DDO	125	250	500	800	4,000	20,000
1869 RPD	30	50	110	150	500	4,200

Special

1864 Small Motto Proof - Originally patterns that were released sold as proofs.

1864 Proof Restrike - Restruck after 1870.



1864 Rev clashed with 1C Obv



1869 Triple Punched Date



1864 Doubled Die Obverse



1867 Doubled Die Obverse



1865 Plain / Fancy 5 date punch



1865 Repunched Date



1865 Misplaced 1 far to left



1865 Misplaced 6 in denticles



1864 Triple Punched Date



1864 Quadrupled Punched Date

Three Cent Silver

1851-1873

For the Three cent silver coins, the mintages for circulated strikes between 1863 and 1872 is low. Relatively few of these coins were used in commerce, which is why the price difference between F12 and MS63 is not that dramatic. For a list of all die varieties, see Flynn's book, *The Authoritative Reference on Three Cent Silver Coins*.

Rare Dates

	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1863	21,000	350	425	500	750	1,250	3,000
1864	12,000	350	425	500	700	1,200	2,800
1865	8,000	360	450	550	800	2,000	3,500
1866	22,000	340	400	550	750	1,250	3,400
1867	4,000	360	450	550	825	1,900	17,000
1868	3,500	350	450	550	850	2,000	17,500
1869	4,500	350	450	700	1,000	1,500	4,000
1870	3,000	350	460	550	850	1,400	5,000
1871	3,400	350	460	575	800	1,100	2,000
1872	1,000	400	500	675	1,000	2,600	8,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1851 RPD	30	70	125	235	400	950
1852 DDR	35	80	140	250	425	1,000
1852 /Inverted Date	2,500	3,500	4,500			



1852 over inverted 2



1852 Doubled Die Reverse



1851 Repunched Date

Three Cent Nickel

1865-1889

For die varieties, see The Authoritative Reference on Three Cent Nickels.

Rare Dates

	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1883	4,000	225	350	600	900	2,900	8,000
1884	1,700	700	1,000	1,250	1,500	4,250	20,000
1885	1,000	1,250	1,400	2,500	3,000	5,000	15,000
1887	5,001	250	325	400	500	650	1,300

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1865 RPD	25	35	50	75	260	800
1866 DDO	25	35	60	85	275	900
1869 RPD	25	35	50	75	260	800
1871 DDO	25	35	55	80	275	1,000



1869 Repunched Date



1865 Digits in Denticles



1866 Doubled Die Obverse



1871 Doubled Die Obverse



1887/6 Overdate Proof



1865 Repunched Date

Liberty Seated Half Dime

1837-1873

For all die varieties, see The Authoritative Reference on Liberty Seated Half Dimes.

Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1838-O NS 70,000	100	300	2,000	3,000	12,000	32,000
1846 27,000	600	1,300	3,500	4,300	25,000	
1853-O NA 160,000	200	600	2,300	4,000	16,000	38,000
1864 48,000	350	700	1,000	1,100	1,600	2,800
1865 13,000	300	400	800	1,000	1,400	2,600
1867 8,000	375	500	700	900	1,500	2,100

Die Varieties

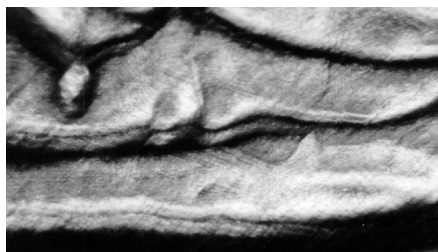
	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1845 MPD	30	50	120	250	750	1,800
1848/6	30	40	135	200	850	4,000
1849/6 (3)	25	50	150	225	1,300	3,100
1858 / Inverted Dated	40	90	230	340	1,150	6,500
1872 DDO	30	45	120	175	500	1,000
1872 MPD	30	45	120	175	500	1,000



1872 Doubled Die Obverse



1858 Date over Inverted Date



1872 MPD 2 in drapery



1848/6 Overdate



1849/6 Overdate

Shield Nickel

1866-1883

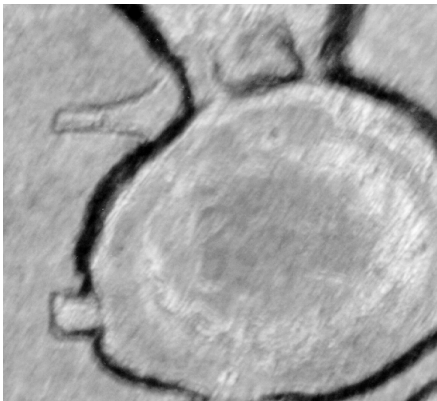
There is an incredible number of die varieties in the Shield nickel series. The most comprehensive reference for them is The Shield Five Cent Series by Edward Fletcher.

Rare Dates

	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1879	25,900	400	650	850	1,250	2,000	3,500
1880	16,000	1,300	2,000	5,500	10,000	20,000	72,000
1881	68,800	250	400	600	900	1,200	2,500

Die Varieties

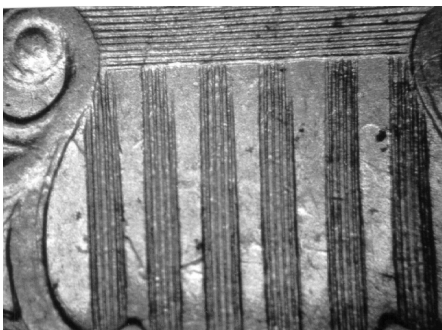
	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1868 MPD	35	60	125	200	350	900
1870 Clash with Indian	80	150	500	1,000	2,500	6,000
1870 DDR	65	100	200	350	500	2,800
1883/2 (4)	200	450	1,000	1,500	2,300	6,500



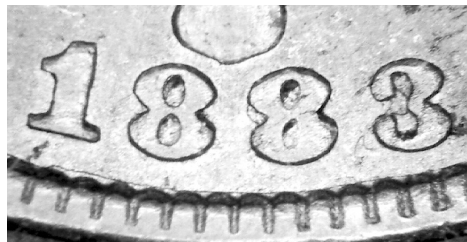
1868 MPD, 1 protruding from ball



1870 Doubled Die Reverse



1870 Obv clashed with 1C Obv



1883/2 Overdate

Liberty Head Nickel

1883-1913

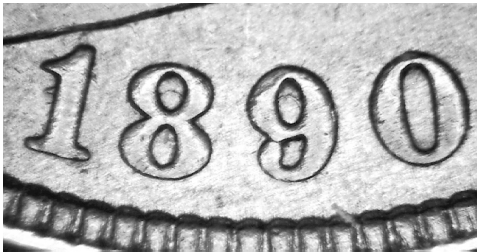
For all die varieties, see Flynn's book, *Treasure Hunting Liberty Head Nickels*.

Rare Dates

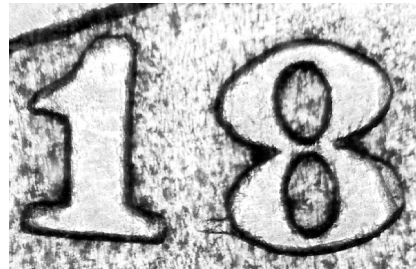
	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1885	1,472,700	500	750	1,250	2,200	4,000	8,000
1886	3,326,000	250	400	600	1,000	2,400	6,500
1912-S	238,000	125	250	800	1,500	2,000	3,800

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1883 RPD	15	20	25	40	70	250
1887 DDR (4)	25	40	120	175	350	1,300
1890 RPD	25	50	120	170	300	1,350
1900 DDR	20	35	75	125	325	800
1905 MPD	12	18	40	80	180	700
1908 MPD	12	18	40	85	190	1,000



1890 Repunched Date



1883 RPD, bottom of 1 in lower 8



1908 MPD, top of 8 in denticles



1905 MPD, top of 5 in denticles



1887 Doubled Die Reverse



1900 Doubled Die Reverse

Buffalo Nickel

1913-1938

For all varieties, see The Authoritative Reference on Buffalo Nickels.

Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1913-S II 1,209,000	300	450	600	700	1,250	6,500
1921-S 1,557,000	75	200	900	1,250	2,500	7,000
1924-S 1,437,000	25	100	1,150	700	3,000	10,000
1926-S 970,000	20	100	900	2,500	9,000	90,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1916 DDO	3,000	8,000	18,000	45,000	135,000	
1918/7D Overdate	1,000	2,500	8,000	12,000	60,000	250,000
1935 DDR	40	90	700	1,500	7,000	25,000
1836-D 3-1/2 Leg	500	1,400	4,000	9,000		
1937-D 3 Leg	500	700	750	1,000	3,500	30,000



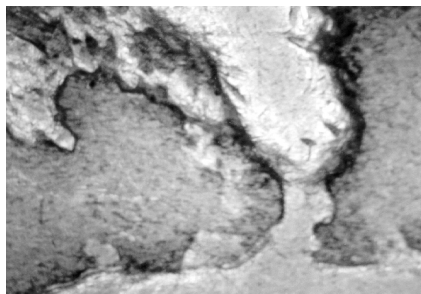
1935 Doubled Die Reverse



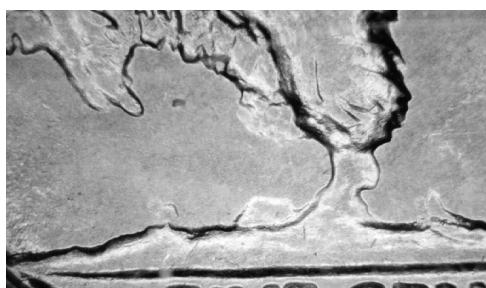
1916 Doubled Die Obverse



1918/7-D Overdate



1936-D 3-1/2 Leg



1937-D 3 Leg

Jefferson Nickel

1938-current

One of the key diagnostics on determining striking characteristics on the Jefferson nickel is the steps on Monticello on the reverse. For some years, Full Step (FS) coins are rare and can command a nice premium over the normal price. Besides those listed below, there are several other dates in the 1970s and 1980s that Full Step varieties command a significant premium.

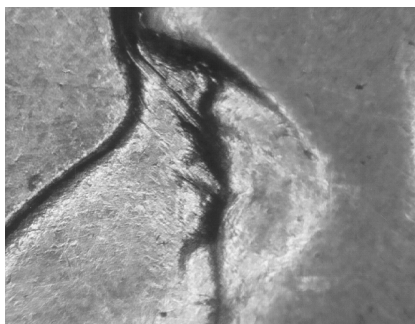
Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1952 Full Steps					400	1,250
1953 Full Steps					400	3,000
1953-S Full Steps					400	20,000
1954-S Full Steps					700	6,000
1955-D Full Steps					600	6,500
1960 Full Steps					200	2,000
1961 Full Steps					600	2,500
1961-D Full Steps					700	25,000
1962-D Full Steps					125	10,000
1963-D Full Steps					400	8,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1939 DDR	20	45	100	175	700	1,500
1942-D/Horizontal D	25	50	150	600	3,500	6,000
1943 Double Eye	15	30	45	60	150	400
1943/2	20	45	90	175	325	750
1945 DDR	15	30	50	65	190	450
1946-D/Inverted D	75	125	150	250	600	1,000
1949-D/S OMM	20	35	55	90	150	500
1954-S/D OMM	5	8	15	20	45	175
1955-D/S OMM (14)	5	8	15	20	60	175

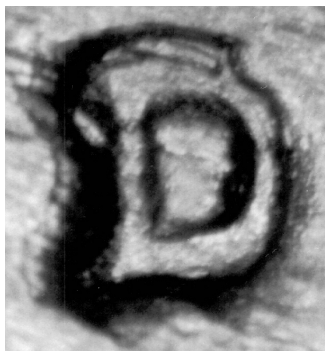
Proof	PR63	PR65	PR66	PR67
1971 No S Proof	800	1,100	1,200	1,300



1943 Doubled Eye



1943/2 Overdate



1949-D/S OMM



1954-D/S OMM



1955-D/S OMM



1942-D/Horizontal D



1946-D/Inverted D

Liberty Seated Dime

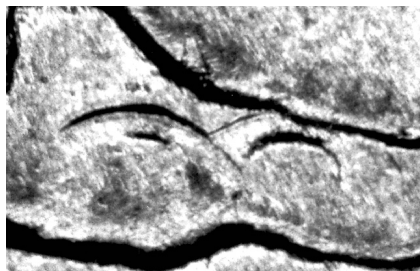
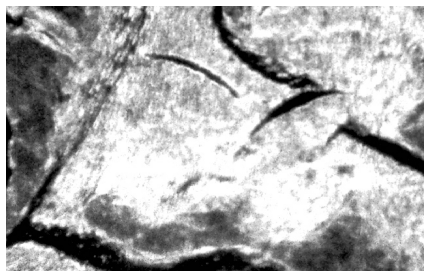
1837-1891

Rare Dates

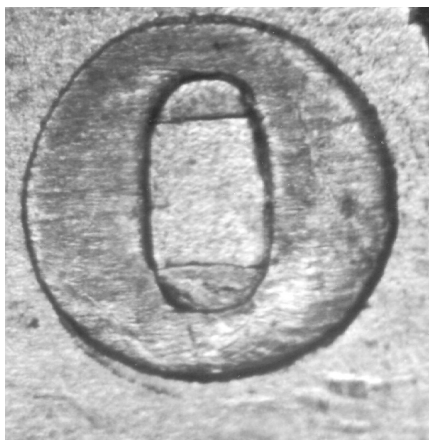
	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1843-O	150,000	50	200	3,100	6,000	150,000	
1844	72,500	300	500	1,100	2,300	10,000	28,000
1846	31,300	400	800	2,500	5,000	47,000	
1856-S	70,000	100	500	1,500	2,800	14,000	30,000
1858-S	60,000	100	400	1,200	3,000	20,000	35,000
1859-S	60,000	100	350	2,200	4,000	29,000	75,000
1860-O	40,000	600	1,300	5,000	9,000	30,000	80,000
1863	14,000	500	900	1,300	1,800	2,500	3,500
1864	11,000	450	800	1,200	1,500	2,000	5,200
1865	10,000	250	600	800	1,000	1,500	3,000
1866	8,000	300	600	1,000	1,300	2,000	4,000
1867	6,000	400	750	1,100	1,800	2,200	4,000
1870-S	50,000	250	500	650	1,800	3,000	6,000
1871-CC	20,000	2,500	6,000	16,000	25,000	100,000	270,000
1872-CC	35,480	600	3,500	9,000	25,000	182,000	
1873-CC	18,791	2,200	5,000	18,000	40,000	100,000	200,000
1874-CC	10,817	8,000	5,000	30,000	60,000	152,000	
1879	14,000	150	250	400	500	600	900
1880	36,000	120	230	350	500	600	1,000
1881	24,000	150	260	400	500	600	1,200
1885-S	43,690	450	800	2,500	4,000	8,000	25,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1851 MPD	30	50	120	350	1,300	5,500
1859 MPD	30	50	120	300	700	3,000
1872 RPD	25	45	100	175	400	2,600
1873 DDO	500	1,500	3,500	18,000		
1890 MPD	35	50	120	160	550	1,400
1891-S, Large/Small S	35	55	125	175	650	1,400
1891-O/Horizontal O	35	70	150	250	650	1,500



1890 MPD, the tops of 4 digits in the drapery



1891-O/Horizontal O



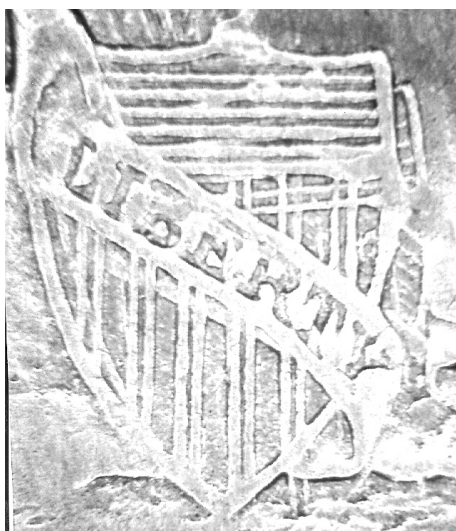
1891-S Large/Small S



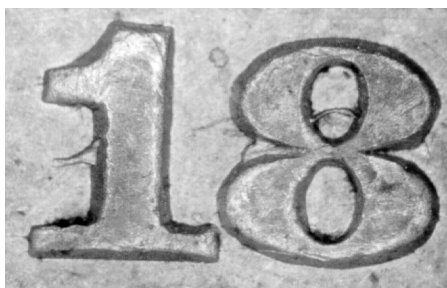
1851 MPD top of 1 in shield



1859 MPD, bottom of 5 in drapery



1873 Doubled Die Obverse



1872 Repunched Date

Barber Dime

1892-1916

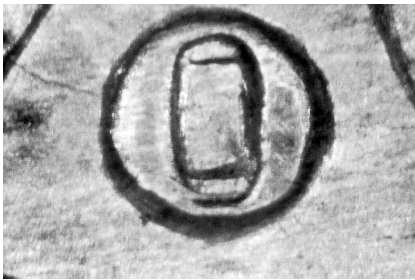
For all varieties, see Flynn's book, *The Authoritative Reference on Barber Dimes*.

Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1892-S 990,710	60	175	250	325	750	3,500
1894-S 24						1,000,000
1895 690,000	75	250	450	550	1,000	2,200
1895-O 440,000	350	900	2,000	3,000	9,000	25,000
1896-O 610,000	75	250	500	1,000	2,200	7,000
1896-S 575,056	70	225	350	450	1,100	2,800
1901-S 593,022	75	300	450	700	1,500	4,300
1903-S 613,300	70	275	650	800	1,400	2,000

Die Varieties

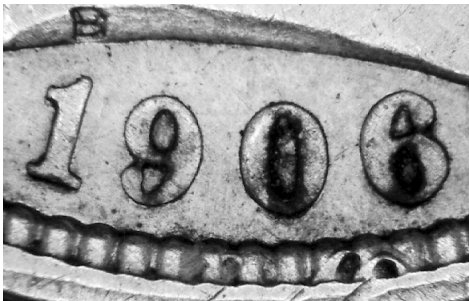
	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1893-S RPM	25	45	150	200	800	3,000
1901-O/Horizontal O	40	80	250	500	1,600	3,700
1905-O Micro O	50	150	600	1,250	4,000	10,000
1906 MPD	20	35	60	110	400	800
1908 MPD	20	35	60	120	400	800
1908-D RPD	15	30	50	100	300	700



1901-O / Horizontal O



1908-D Repunched Date



1906 MPD, digits in denticles



1908 MPD, top of 8 in denticles

Mercury Dime

1916-1945

For all varieties, see The Authoritative Reference on Mercury Dimes.

Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1916-D 264,000	600	1,600	4,000	8,000	12,500	25,000
1921 1,230,000	40	100	400	800	1,300	3,000
1921-D 1,080,000	65	150	500	1,000	1,800	3,200
1926-S 1,520,000	12	28	200	800	1,600	2,800
1945 FB	5	5	5	5	2,200	11,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1942/1 Overdate	325	400	550	1,200	4,000	13,500
1942/1-D Overdate	350	425	750	1,100	4,250	9,000



1941-D RPM



1942-S RPM



1945-D/Horizontal D



1941-D Doubled Die Obverse



1945-S/Horizontal S



1942/1 Overdate



1942/1-D Overdate

Roosevelt Dime

1946-current

For all varieties, see Flynn's book, *The Authoritative Reference on Roosevelt Dimes*.

<u>Die Varieties</u>	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1947-S/D OMM	10	15	20	35	90	150
1947-D/S OMM	10	15	20	35	90	150
1950-D DDR	20	25	40	60	150	600

Proof	PR63	PR65	PR66	PR67
1960 DDO	150	215	250	700
1968 No S Proof	12,500	14,000	18,000	28,000
1970 No S Proof	600	750	800	900
1975 No S Proof				349,600
1983 No S Proof	600	800	850	875

Special Coins

1965 Silver – In 1965 the Mint switched from an alloy of 90% silver and 10% copper to a alloy of



1964 Doubled Die Obverse



1953-D/Horizontal D



1964-D, D in torch



1947S/D Over Mint Mark



1960 Doubled Die Obverse

Liberty Seated Twenty Cent

1875-1878

The majority of the 1876-CC Twenty cent pieces that were struck were melted by the Mint. Less than 20 are known to exist today. For all varieties, see The Authoritative Reference on Liberty Seated Twenty Cent Coins.

Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1875-CC 133,290	300	500	1,000	1,500	4,000	16,000
1876-CC 10,000					300,000	550,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1875-S RPM/MPD	130	170	320	450	1,600	3,500

The date was hand punched into each working die up through 1908, after which the date was part of the Galvano or punched into the master die. This is why there are no more repunched dates or misplaced dates starting in 1909.



1876-CC Doubled Die Obverse



1975-S MPD, top of 8 in denticles



1875-S Repunched Mint Mark



1975-S MPD, top of 5 in denticles

Liberty Seated Quarter

1838-1891

Like the other Liberty Seated series, there are many more doubled dies, misplaced dates, repunched mint marks, and repunched dates known. The author has written books on the Liberty Seated half dime, twenty cent, and dollar.

Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1849-O	1,000	2,000	5,000	8,000	17,000	35,000
1851-O 88,000	250	600	2,000	3,000	28,000	40,000
1852-O 96,000	150	750	2,800	7,500	45,000	
1853 NA 44,200	300	900	2,000	3,500	7,500	12,500
1859-S 80,000	200	950	4,000	18,000		
1860-S 56,000	800	2,200	11,000	16,000		
1864-S 20,000	600	1,500	4,000	3,500	20,000	50,000
1865-S 41,000	125	300	1,000	1,700	6,000	15,000
1866 16,800	350	900	2,000	2,700	4,000	8,000
1866-S 28,000	300	1,000	2,600	4,000	13,500	25,000
1867 20,000	350	900	2,000	2,700	4,000	8,000
1867-S 48,000	325	1,000	4,000	9,000	20,000	30,000
1869 16,000	325	500	1,200	1,700	3,500	6,000
1870-CC 8,340	10,000	18,000	45,000	40,000		
1871-CC 10,890	5,000	15,000	42,000	90,000	100,000	352,000
1871-S 30,900	450	800	4,000	5,500	9,000	21,000
1872-CC 22,850	1,500	4,000	10,000	18,000	100,000	
1872-S 83,000	1,500	3,700	8,000	12,500	20,000	45,000
1873-CC 12,462	5,000	9,000	25,000	50,000	80,000	250,000
1884 8,000	250	500	800	850	1,000	2,000
1886 5,000	275	525	825	1,000	1,350	3,000
1887 10,000	250	325	450	525	750	1,500
1888 10,001	200	300	450	525	750	1,500

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1841-O DDR	50	90	350	500	2,000	5,000
1842-O Small Date	650	2,000	6,500	14,000	55,000	
1853 No Arr RPD	450	1,200	3,000	4,000	8,000	14,000
1853/4 Overdate	100	200	400	2,000	9,000	17,500
1853-O/Horizontal O	80	150	500	2,000	10,000	45,000
1856-S Large/Small S	200	400	2,700	4,000	16,000	48,000
1857 Rev clash with 1C	250	450	800	1,000	2,500	7,000
1876 RPD	35	60	110	290	350	2,100
1877-S/Horizontal S	40	100	240	450	1,500	6,000
1891 MPD	35	60	125	200	800	2,300



1841-O Doubled Die Obverse



1891 MPD, digits in denticles



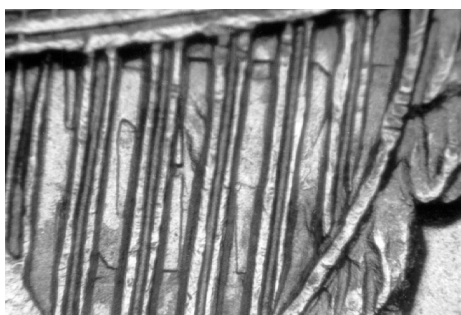
1876, MPD, top of 1 in 8



1853-O/Horizontal O



1856-S, Large/Small S



1857 Rev clash with 1C Rev



1833/4 Overdate

Barber Quarter

1892-1916

In the author's Authoritative Reference on Barber Quarters, he listed 15 doubled die obverses and 19 doubled die reverses for 1892. There are also many repunched dates, misplaced dates, and repunched mint marks found in this series. For example, 8 different RPMs are found on 1916-D.

Rare Dates

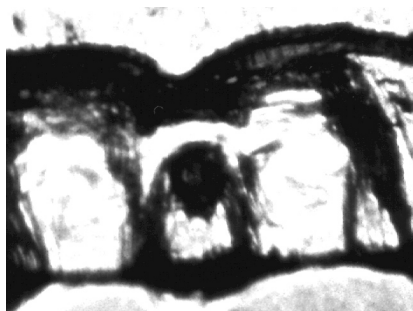
	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1892-S	964,079	35	90	200	350	1,000	4,500
1896-O	1,484,000	40	90	500	800	1,900	7,000
1896-S	188,039	700	1,800	4,000	6,000	15,000	45,000
1897-O	1,414,800	25	170	450	700	1,700	3,500
1897-S	542,229	75	250	500	900	1,800	5,500
1901-O	72,664	40	125	500	850	2,000	6,500
1901-S	72,664	4,500	13,000	25,000	30,000	50,000	80,000
1909-O	712,000	40	275	900	1,200	2,500	10,000
1913-S	40,000	1,250	4,000	7,500	9,000	13,000	26,000
1914-S	264,000	100	400	750	1,100	2,000	5,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1892 DDO	15	45	120	225	600	1,400
1892-O RPD	25	75	180	300	800	2,500
1899 DDR	75	150	250	300	900	2,000
1908 MPD	20	35	100	200	550	1,300



1892-O Repunched Date



1808 MPD, 8 in denticles



1892 Quadraupled Die Obverse



1899 Doubled Die Reverse

Liberty Standing Quarter

1916-1930

The head of Liberty on the obverse is one of the key striking characteristics on the Liberty Standing quarter. “Full Head” (FH) specimens on some dates are rare and will command a much higher premium. Normally the central design elements are the strongest with the periphral elements being weaker.

Rare Dates

	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1916	52,000	3,000	5,500	9,000	11,000	16,000	25,000
1919-D	1,944,000	100	225	600	800	1,900	5,500
1921	1,916,000	200	450	850	1,000	2,000	3,400
1923-S	1,360,000	350	625	1,300	1,800	3,000	4,200
1927-S	396,000	40	100	1,000	2,700	6,500	11,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1917-D Type 1 DDR	40	120	240	270	475	1,500
1918/7-S	1,600	3,000	6,000	12,000	25,000	36,000
1928-D RPM	15	20	55	90	300	550
1928-S RPM	15	20	55	90	300	550



1917-D Doubled Die Reverse



1928-D Repunched Mint Mark



1918/7-S Overdate



1928-S Repunched Mint Mark

Washington Quarter

1932-current

Rare Dates

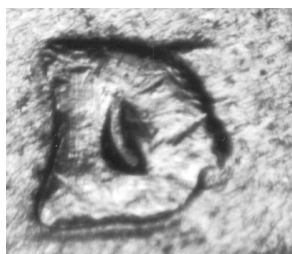
Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1932-D 436,000	80	100	200	400	1,250	10,000
1932-S 408,000	90	125	180	240	750	3,200

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1934 DDO	50	90	200	250	1,500	3,400
1936 DDO	8	25	125	300	1,250	2,000
1937 DDO	90	175	450	800	2,000	10,000
1942-D DDO	75	100	200	1,200	3,000	10,000
1943 DDO	100	200	500	1,200	7,000	10,000
1943-S DDO	40	75	250	350	750	1,800
1950-D/S OMM	30	50	100	225	450	4,000
1950-S/D OMM	25	40	150	250	500	1,600

Special Coins

1965 silver quarter – In 1965 the Mint switched from an alloy of 90% silver and 10% copper to one of



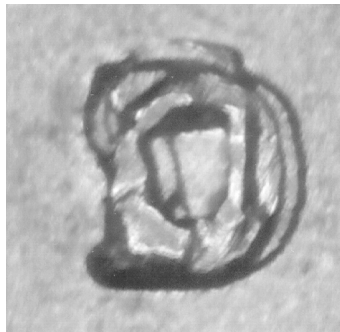
1956-D/Inverted D



1958-D/Horizontal D



1940-D RPM



1950-D/S OMM



1950-S/D OMM



1957-D, D in branch



1965 Doubled Die Obverse



1970-D Doubled Die Obverse



1943 Doubled Die Obverse



1943-S Doubled Die Obverse



1942-D Doubled Die Obverse



1942-D Doubled Die Reverse



1934 Doubled Die Obverse



1937 Doubled Die Obverse

Liberty Seated Half Dollar

1839-1891

Rare Dates

	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1850	227,000	200	400	700	1,250	4,000	23,000
1851	200,750	275	500	1,800	2,500	5,500	15,000
1852	77,130	300	550	1,500	2,000	3,500	14,000
1856-S	211,000	45	180	1,000	2,200	11,000	26,000
1857-S	158,000	55	200	1,000	2,400	20,000	45,000
1866-S NM	60,000	40	75	250	600	1,700	10,000
1870-CC	54,617	1,500	4,200	11,000	52,000	150,000	
1871-CC	153,950	400	1,000	2,800	9,000	45,000	100,000
1873 Open 3 -	214,200	2,600	4,500	8,000	23,000	110,000	
1873-CCNA	122,500	250	800	2,500	8,000	30,000	75,000
1873-CC AR	214,560	200	500	2,200	4,500	17,000	50,000
1874-CC	59,000	1,100	2,800	5,000	8,700	26,000	80,000
1878-CC	62,000	800	2,000	4,500	6,500	20,000	60,000
1878-S	12,000	30,000	45,000	75,000	90,000	150,000	250,000
1879	4,800	350	500	750	900	1,100	3,000
1880	8,400	325	475	700	850	1,050	3,000
1881	10,000	325	475	725	875	1,050	3,000
1882	4,400	350	500	750	900	1,100	3,000
1883	8,000	325	475	725	875	1,050	3,500
1884	4,400	325	500	750	875	1,700	5,000
1885	5,200	350	500	800	950	1,300	5,000
1886	5,000	350	550	750	875	1,100	3,000
1887	5,000	450	650	800	925	1,200	3,400
1888	12,001	300	475	700	800	1,000	3,000
1889	12,000	275	450	700	800	1,000	3,000
1890	12,000	275	450	700	800	1,100	3,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1840 Rev 1838	125	300	1,250	2,800	10,000	52,000
1844-O MPD	500	1,250	3,500	5,500	23,000	75,000
1846/Horizontal 6	150	275	1,000	1,500	8,000	25,000
1847/6 Overdate	1,500	3,200	7,000	10,000	20,000	
1849 RPD	80	150	400	800	3,000	12,000
1873 Arrows DDO	75	150	350	700	2,800	18,000



1858-O Repunched Date



1847/6 Overdate



1873 Doubled Die Obverse



1858-O MPD, base of 1 from rock



1846/Horizontal 6



1849 Repunched Date



1844-O MPD, digits into base of rock



Barber Half Dollar

1892-1915

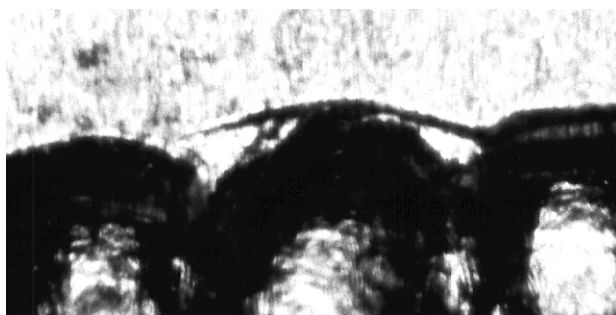
For all varieties, see The Authoritative Reference on Barber Half Dollars.

Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1892-O 390,000	250	450	700	900	1,750	3,200
1892-S 1,029,028	200	400	625	900	1,750	4,500
1893-S 740,000	150	475	1,100	1,900	4,300	20,000
1896-O 924,000	40	150	1,200	2,000	7,000	23,000
1896-S 1,140,948	100	275	700	2,400	3,000	8,500
1897-O 632,000	150	450	1,400	2,600	4,000	9,000
1897-S 933,900	150	325	1,250	2,000	3,800	7,500
1901-O 1,124,000	20	75	450	1,700	4,200	13,000
1901-S 847,044	30	200	900	2,200	5,400	14,000
1904-S 553,038	50	350	3,000	12,500	20,000	40,000
1913 188,000	75	250	1,000	2,200	3,300	4,500
1914 124,230	140	300	1,000	2,000	2,500	8,000
1915 138,000	90	225	650	1,500	2,300	5,000

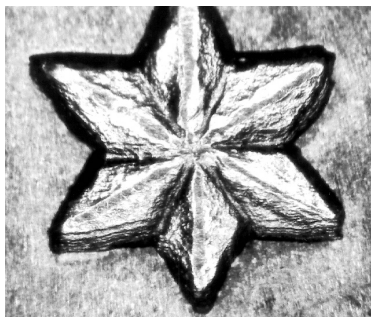
Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1892-O Micro O	4,000	11,000	18,000	28,000	40,000	92,000



1892-S RPM

1908-D MPD, top of 0 above denticles



1892 Octogoned Die Obverse

1892 Quadrupled Die Reverse

Walking Liberty Half Dollar

1916-1947

For all varieties, see Treasure Hunting Walking Liberty Half Dollars.

Rare Dates

	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1916-S	508,000	80	250	600	1,100	2,200	7,000
1919-D	1,165,000	30	300	900	3,500	12,500	120,000
1919-S	1,552,000	20	200	800	2,700	7,000	19,000
1921	246,000	150	400	1,800	4,000	7,500	20,000
1921-D	208,000	300	800	2,100	5,000	11,000	36,000
1921-S	548,000	45	550	3,400	12,000	30,000	90,000
1838-D	491,600	80	110	150	275	500	1,250

Die Varieties

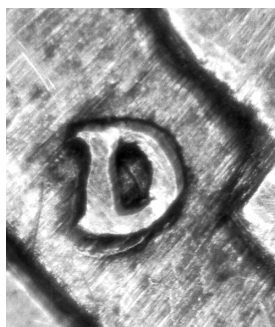
	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1936 DDO	20	45	90	150	250	500
1942 DDR	15	25	50	100	160	350
1946 DDR	30	50	100	250	900	4,000



1946-S RPM



1944-S RPM



1943-D RPM



1942 Doubled Die Reverse



1936 Doubled Die Obverse



1946 Doubled Die Reverse

Franklin Half Dollar

1948-1963

One of the key striking characteristics on the Franklin half dollars is the bell lines on the bottom of the Liberty Bell on the Reverse. Some dates are notorious for weak strikes and command a significant premium for “Full Bell Lines” or FBL. For all varieties, see Flynn’s book, *The Authoritative Reference on Franklin Half Dollars*.

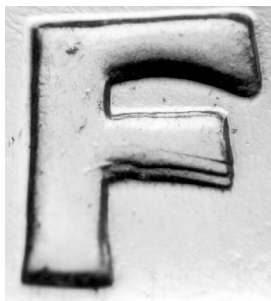
Rare Dates

Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1952-S FBL					250	1,000
1953-S FBL					4,000	25,000
1961 FBL					25	900
1962 FBL					30	1,500
1963 FBL					25	1,250

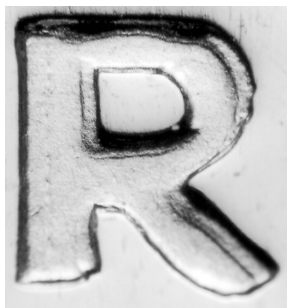
Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1959 Type II/I	10	15	22	30	80	225

Proof	PR63	PR65	PR66	PR67
1961 DDR	600	3,000	4,000	6,000



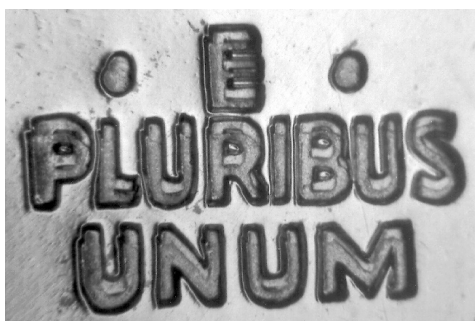
1956 Doubled Die Reverse



1960 Doubled Die Obverse



1956 Doubled Die Obverse



1961 Doubled Die Reverse



1959 Type II over Type 1 Reverse

Kennedy Half Dollar

1964-current

For all varieties, see Treasure Hunting Franklin and Kennedy Half Dollars.

<u>Die Varieties</u>	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1964-D DDO	10	12	14	16	75	150
1966 DDO	5	8	10	12	35	100
1967 DDO	10	15	25	50	200	400
1974-D DDO	10	20	30	50	60	175

Proof	PR63	PR65	PR66	PR67
1971-S DDO	90	150	200	250

Special coins

1971-D on a 40% silver planchet. In 1964, the Kennedy Half Dollar was first struck on a 90% silver planchet. In 1965, this was changed to a 40% silver clad planchet and was struck through 1970. In 1971, a clad planchet was used. Several left over silver clad planchets were accidentally used in 1971 for the Kennedy Half Dollar.



1964-D Repunched Mint Mark



1967 Quintupled Die Obverse



1966 Doubled Die Obverse



1964-D Doubled Die Obverse



1971-S Doubled Die Obverse



1974-D Doubled Die Obverse

Liberty Seated Dollar

1840-1873

The cheapest Liberty Seated Dollar starts around \$250 in a grade of G4. If you have a Liberty Seated Dollar, no matter what year, it will be worth some amount of money. For all varieties, see Flynn's book, *The Authoritative Reference on Liberty Seated Dollars*.

Rare Dates

	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1850	7,500	400	800	2,200	3,500	13,000	
1851	1,300	4,000	6,000	12,500	20,000	45,000	120,000
1852	1,100	4,000	5,750	13,000	19,000	45,000	120,000
1854	33,140	700	1,250	4,000	6,000	12,500	75,000
1855	26,500	500	1,200	3,800	5,600	30,000	
1861	77,500	500	800	2,500	3,500	8,000	11,000
1862	11,540	400	750	2,200	3,500	6,500	11,000
1870-CC	11,758	800	1,500	4,000	8,000	43,000	
1871-CC	1,396	2,500	6,000	14,000	28,000	125,000	
1872-CC	3,150	2,000	3,500	7,000	14,000	125,000	400,000
1873-CC	2,300	3,500	10,000	32,000	50,000	200,000	600,000



1869 Repunched Date



1867 Repunched Date



1872 Proof Doubled Die Reverse



1872 MPD, digits in rock

Trade Dollar

1873-1885

The 1884 and 1885 proof Trade Dollars were

Rare Dates

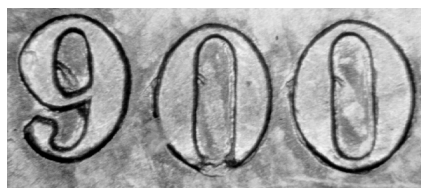
Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1873-CC124,500	225	500	1,400	2,500	25,000	140,000
1874-CC1,373,200	200	300	600	1,400	6,500	35,000
1875-CC1,573,700	175	300	600	800	4,500	38,000
1876-CC509,000	175	300	600	1,900	20,000	82,000
1877-CC534,000	175	325	600	1,200	10,000	75,000
1878-CC97,000	350	700	4,000	8,000	30,000	150,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1875-S/CC OMM (2)	200	400	800	1,700	17,000	70,000
1876-S DDO	150	300	500	750	2,500	23,000
1876-CC DDR	300	450	1,000	3,000	24,000	50,000



1876-CC Doubled Die Reverse



1873-CC MPD, top of 7 in denticles.



1878 Doubled Die Reverse



1875-S/CC Over Mint Mark



1876-S Doubled Die Obverse

Morgan Dollar

1878-1921

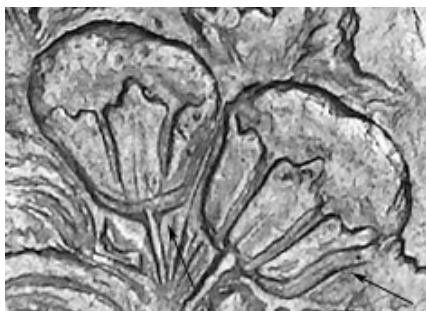
The primary book for Morgan Dollar collectors is the VAM book. Each die pair has a number assigned. For the top die varieties, see Flynn's book, *The Top Morgan Dollar Die Varieties*.

Rare Dates

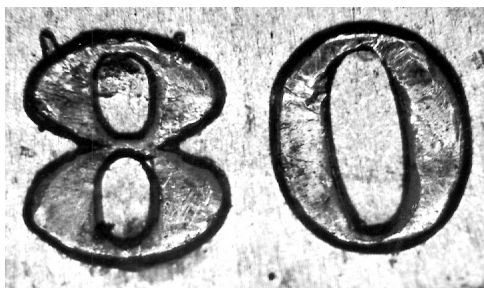
Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1878-CC 2,212,000	90	115	135	160	450	1,800
1879-CC 756,000	150	225	900	1,600	7,000	30,000
1880-CC 591,000	150	200	250	325	550	1,100
1881-CC 296,000	350	425	450	475	550	875
1883-S 6,250,000	30	35	45	150	2,700	32,000
1884-S 3,200,000	30	35	65	400	45,000	150,000
1885-CC 228,000	500	550	575	600	700	1,100
1886-S 750,000	40	60	100	150	475	2,200
1888-S 657,000	120	160	200	240	450	2,500
1889-CC 350,000	500	750	2,500	9,000	45,000	275,000
1890-CC 2,309,041	80	110	150	200	800	4,500
1891-CC 1,618,000	90	110	175	200	750	4,400
1892-CC 1,352,000	200	250	500	800	2,500	8,000
1892-S 1,200,000	25	50	400	4,500	60,000	130,000
1893 378,000	200	220	275	400	1,250	23,000
1893-CC 677,000	200	350	1,200	2,200	8,000	60,000
1893-O 300,000	135	200	500	1,000	7,500	15,000
1893-S 77,000	2,000	3,400	9,000	20,000	60,000	330,000
1894 110,000	700	1,000	1,250	1,600	5,000	35,000
1894-S 1,260,000	50	70	150	450	1,300	5,000
1895-O 450,000	240	350	500	2,000	45,000	160,000
1895-S 400,000	325	500	1,000	1,800	6,000	22,000
1901 6,962,000	30	45	100	550	14,000	200,000
1902-S 1,530,000	55	90	200	250	550	25,000
1903-O 4,450,000	275	350	400	425	450	600
1903-S 1,241,000	100	130	350	2,000	6,000	10,000
1904-S 2,304,000	40	50	225	600	4,000	10,000

Die Varieties

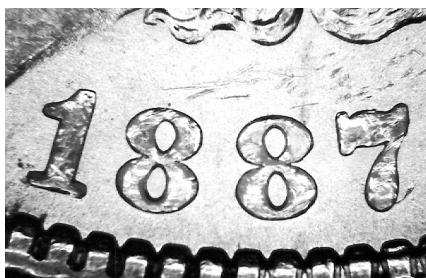
	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1878 DDO (VAM 44)	500	1,000	3,000	4,000	20,000	
1880/79 (25) (VAM 6)	40	60	100	250	800	
1887/6 (VAM 2)	20	45	70	250	500	1,800
1888-O Die Crack	100	175	300	600	12,000	
1888-O DDO (VAM 4)	100	150	200	500	30,000	
1899-O Micro O (5)	30	50	100	250	4,000	30,000
1900-O/CC (5)	50	90	130	180	700	2,000
1901 DDR	200	300	1,000	1,500		
1903-S Micro S	125	300	1,500	15,000		



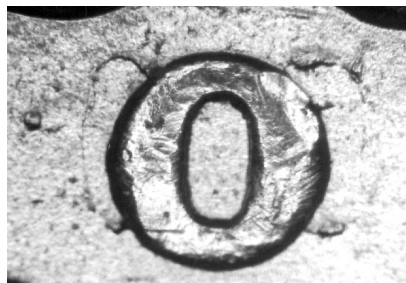
1878 8-TF VAM 44, DDO



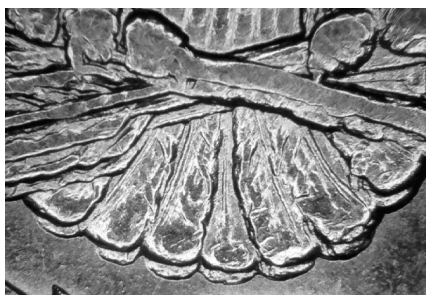
1880/7 VAM 6, Overdate



1887/6 VAM 2, Overdate



1900-O/CC VAM 12, Over Mint Mark



1901 VAM 3, Doubled Die Reverse



18840-O VAM 25, digits in denticles



1888-O VAM 1B, large die crack



1888-O VAM 4, DDO



1903-S VAM 2, Micro S

Peace Dollar

1921-1935

The Peace Dollars were struck to commemorate the end of World War I. Most dates and mint marks can be obtained easily in many grades at coin shows and stores.

Rare Dates

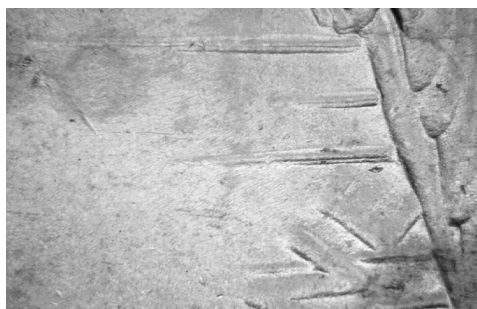
	Mintage	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1921	1,006,473	70	100	150	175	400	2,000
1928	360,649	200	250	325	400	825	4,500
1934-S	1,011,000	25	50	175	450	3,000	10,000

Die Varieties

	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1934-D DDO	35	45	60	75	350	2,000

Special coins

1964-D Peace Dollar – In 1964, Congress authorized striking of 45 million Peace Dollars. The Denver Mint struck 316,076 of these dollars before authorization was ceased and all of the coins were eventually melted with none officially released for circulation. Either five or ten 1964-D Peace Dollars were illegally removed from the mint by employees. At a 1972 coin show five specimens were offered for \$5,000 each. These coins are illegally to own and subject to confiscation by the Mint. They would easily be worth over one million dollars today.



1924 Doubled Die Reverse



1926 Doubled Die Reverse



1934-D Doubled Die Obverse



Eisenhower Dollar

1972-1978

The Eisenhower Dollar was created to commemorate President Eisenhower and also the first landing on the moon. President Eisenhower signed the bill that started NASA. These coins are easy to obtain in almost any grade at most coin shows and shops for little premium. These coins were too large to be used in general circulation and many were saved. The majority were struck in a copper nickel clad with an outer layer of 75% copper and 25% nickel bonded to an inner core of pure copper. Silver clads were struck 1971 through 1974 at the San Francisco Mint and contain an outer layer of 80% silver and 20% copper bonded to an inner core of 20.9% silver and 79.1% copper. No 1975 dated Eisenhower Dollars were struck. The Bicentennial Eisenhower Dollar was struck in 1975 and 1976. For all die varieties, see Flynn's book, The Authoritative Reference on Eisenhower Dollars. For example, there are 58 doubled dies listed for 1971-S Eisenhower Dollars.

<u>Die Varieties</u>	G4	F12	XF	AU	MS63	MS65
1971-S Peg Leg	10	15	25	50	100	150
1972 Type II Reverse	25	40	60	85	120	1,800
Proof	PR63	PR65	PR66	PR67		
1971-S DDO-008	120	300	425	550		

The peg leg variety is missing the lower left part of the bottom of the R of LIBERTY on the obverse. This is common on some 1971-S Eisenhower proofs, but rare on 1971-S Eisenhower Dollar coins struck for circulation. All 1972-S proofs and coins struck for circulation contain the peg leg variety.

Special Coins

1974-D Silver Clad – In 1974, the Denver Mint was only striking copper nickel clad Eisenhower Dollars. The San Francisco Mint struck both silver and copper nickel clads. Rejected copper nickel planchets would be shipped to the Denver Mint to be used for coins for circulation. Several silver clad planchets were also shipped to the Denver Mint. There are roughly 15 known specimens.

1976-D Silver Clad - For the 200th bicentennial in 1976, the reverses were changed for the quarter, half dollar and dollar. The reverse for the dollar included the Liberty Bell overlaid onto the moon. The San Francisco Mint used copper nickel clad planchets for proofs, and used silver clad planchets for both proof and coins for circulation. As with the 1974-D silver clad, left over or rejected silver clad dollar planchets were sent to the Denver Mint along with copper nickel dollar planchets. There are only two or three 1976-D silver clad coins known.

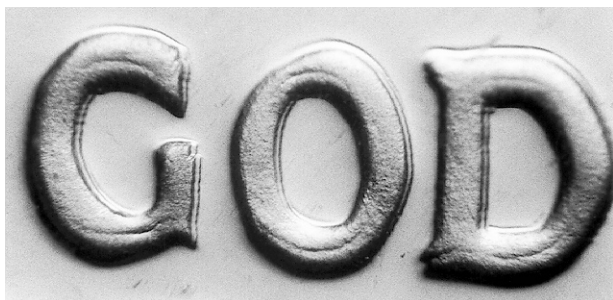
1977-D Silver Clad. No silver clad Eisenhower Dollars were suppose to be struck in 1977 at any of the mints. Somehow several leftover silver clad planchets were struck at the Denver Mint in 1977.



Reverse Type I



Reverse Type II



1971-S Doubled Die Obverse #8

