

1: My Coin Guides – United States Coin Collecting Guides

Coin collectors have many different avenues for embarking on the hobby, including building a collection from the coins they find in their pocket change or at the bank, buying coins from coin dealers and at auctions, and searching for coins through metal detecting and other forms of treasure hunting.

Links Coin Collecting Guide For Beginners Coin Collecting Guide For Beginners is dedicated to helping the beginner learn all about the fun, fascinating and rewarding hobby of collecting coins. If you are looking for information about collecting coins, you have come to the right place. Most people think that collecting coins is only for the rich, but believe me, you will find collectors from all genders, nationalities, ages and income groups.. Yes, it is true that Collecting Coins is known as the "Hobby of Kings"!. There have been many rich and famous coin collectors throughout history, including kings and several United States Presidents. But for every rich and famous person in this world who collects coins there are many more everyday folks just like you and me who are also collectors. Let us be your Coin Collecting Guide as you begin your historical journey through the world of beautiful and interesting coins. All it takes is the willingness to learn new things. I got started collecting coins like lots of folks, I imagine. Almost everyone has a "special" coin that they hold on to for some reason or another. Maybe it is an old Buffalo Nickel or a silver dollar that your grandparents gave you. These "keepsakes" can be a great start on your coin collection. You see, there is no right or wrong way to collect coins. You can collect whatever coins you like or find interesting! It simply means that you should learn all you can about a coin that you are interested in before you jump in and spend your hard-earned money. Even though most people intend to keep their coins for years, it is still nice to see an increase in your investment. To give you the information you need to know to make your new hobby fun and "stress free". Getting Started The best way to get started is by going to the section called Starting a Coin Collection. You can reach it by this link or by clicking on Getting Started in the menu to your left. In this step-by-step tutorial you will learn how to start your own coin collection. You will also find information about:

2: Coin Collecting for Beginners (Guide) - Silver Coins

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Grant Benjamin Franklin was famous as a scientist, an inventor, a statesman, a printer, a philosopher, a musician, and an economist. Although he was born in Boston, the city of Philadelphia is remembered as the home of Ben Franklin. Legal Tender Notes are intended for "all debts public and private. Unlike earlier demand notes, they are not redeemable in gold or silver of equivalent face value. Currency and coin put into circulation to meet seasonal demand is eventually returned to the institutions by merchants and other business owners. So to reduce the excess currency and coin held in their vaults, banks typically return cash to the Reserve Bank, where it is credited to their accounts. The process is reversed when the institutions need to replenish or increase their supply of currency and coin. Demonstrate to your counselor that you know how to use two U. Read a numismatic magazine or newspaper and tell your counselor about what you learned. Books are resources in the areas of interest. All have pricing information and illustrations to assist in proper identification. They are different, they are available at libraries or news stands. Describe the 50 state quarter program. Collect and show your counselor five different state quarters you have acquired from circulation. A scout who has a foundation in mints, how they are made, grading, preservation and information, gets to show the coins he has collected! The 50 state quarter program seems to have been popular with the general non-collecting public, and it has made folks look at their coins again. Collecting five different and knowing about the program is easy. Collect from circulation a set of currently circulating U. Collect a circulating type set; simple for the Cent thru Quarter, a bit more difficult for the Half and Dollar it may require a visit to the bank. This requirement makes the scout look at the design elements, and use information learned in Requirement 1 about the Mints and mintmarks. You may need some magnification to clearly see them. The Roosevelt Dime was designed by John R. Gilroy Roberts, former Chief Engraver of the U. Mint designed the head of Kennedy on the Half Dollar. His initials are located at the base of the neck. The beautiful reverse with the presidential coat of arms was designed by Frank Gasparro. Do one of the following: Collect and identify 50 foreign coins from at least 10 different countries. Collect and identify 20 bank notes from at least 5 different countries. Collect and identify 15 different tokens or medals. Collect a date set of a single type since the year of your birth. This requirement gives a scout exposure to other areas of the hobby; world coins and paper money are often brought back from trips by relatives. Tokens and medals are often encountered by a scout at arcades, or with school awards. The date set gives a scout the opportunity to explore circulating change, and gives exposure to a popular way of collecting, that of the series date set. They help you learn about history, geography, economics, etc. Buy or borrow a copy of the Standard Catalog of World Coins Krause Publications You can purchase world coins by the pound from some dealers. Keep an inventory of your collection. You might want to include: Country, location, denomination, date, material, purchase price, date of purchase, interesting facts, etc. There are lots of ways to collect including: Token are sometimes referred to as "Good Fors" because they may be "Good For" or exchangeable for a particular item like one glass of soda or service like one hair cut. Some can be traded for actual money, most cannot. Tokens can advertise a particular merchant or product and can be very interesting and fun to collect. A medal is a coin-like object that is struck for award, celebration or commemoration. Unlike a token or coin, they have no stated value. Medals can be beautiful, elaborate pieces of art and are highly collectible. They have an excellent journal. Any mint is acceptable. All coins must be of the same denomination. Mint facility, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, or a Federal Reserve Bank and describe what you learned to your counselor. Mint or a coin dealer, and report on what you learned. Give a talk about coin collecting to your troop or class at school. Do drawings of five colonial-era U. This requirement allows those who travel visiting Philadelphia, Denver or Washington DC or live in larger metropolitan areas to take advantage of a special trip to the Mint or Fed banks. If one is not is a big city, then those familiar with the Web can visit many different sites of dealers or

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museums. If a scout is comfortable speaking before a group, then the school talk option may be good. If a scout is not comfortable, then he can learn more about colonial coins by drawing some, and trust me, some of those drawings could be close but rough.

3: Coin Collecting Guide For Beginners

i agree with scott. as collectors we have state of the art grading equipment,books,internet info, and years of wasted nites going through s of mostly worthless coins. other than that i do have.

Coins featuring eagles A few common themes are often combined into a collection goal: Many enthusiasts focus their collection on only a single countryâ€™ often their own. In contrast, some collectors attempt to obtain a sample from every country that has issued a coin. Rather than being satisfied with a single specimen of a type, a great many collectors collect type by year; for example, one Memorial Lincoln Cent for every year from the year it was first minted to the last year it was minted. This is perhaps one of the most practical ways to collect a national currency since probably the majority of coin reference books and coin albums catalogue in the same manner. Many collectors consider different mint marks significant enough to justify representation in their collection. When collecting coins by year, this multiplies the number of specimens needed to complete a collection. Some mint marks are more common than others. Because mints generally issue thousands or millions of any given coin, they use multiple sets of coin dies to produce the same coin. Occasionally these dies have slight differences. This was more common on older coins because the coin dies were hand carved. But differencesâ€™ intentional or accidentalâ€™ still exist on coins today. Generally this is in a very small detail, such as the number of leaves on the ear of corn on the recent US Wisconsin state quarter File: Often a collection consists of an examples of major design variants for a period of time in one country or region. For example, United States coinage type set , Euro coins carry a "common side" that shows the denomination and a "national side" that varies in design from state to state within the Eurozone. Likewise, a type collection might focus on an unusual design feature such as coins with a hole in the middle, coins that are not circular in shape or coins with brockage. For some, the metallurgical composition of the coin itself is of interest. For example, a collector might collect only bimetallic coins. Precious metals like gold, silver, copper and platinum are of frequent interest to collectors, but enthusiasts also pursue historically significant pieces like the steel cent or the aluminum cent. Government considers private ownership of the aluminum cent illegal. Collectors with an interest in a certain theme or subject such as, ships or eagles may collect only coins depicting that interest. Collectors may restrict themselves to coins of the 18th or 19th century, while others collect ancient and medieval coins. Coins of Roman , Byzantine , Greek origin are amongst the more popular ancient coins collected. Collectors may also take interest in money issued during the administration of a historically significant bureaucrat such as a central bank governor, treasurer or finance secretary. A currency collection might be modeled around the theme of a specific printed value, for example, the number 1. This collection might include specimens of the US 1 dollar coin , the Canadian Loonie , the Euro , 1 Indian rupee and 1 Singapore dollar. Collectors may have an interest in acquiring large volumes of a particular coins e. These usually are not high-value coins, but the interest is in collecting a large volume of them either for the sake of the challenge, as a store of value, or in the hope that the intrinsic metal value will increase. With the head of Benito Mussolini on the obverse, this is an obvious copy. Some collectors enjoy acquiring copies of coins, sometimes to complement the authentic coins in their collections. Some individuals enjoy collecting coins from various nations which were once united by one dominant Geo-political force or movement. Examples include communist states such as the PRC China and the Soviet Union and satellite or constituent nations which shared similar iconography. Such collections can be broken down into geographical regions, such as British territories in Europe, from Africa, from Asia, the Americas, or from the Pacific, and even the smaller region of Oceania. Collectors of coins from empires have a wide time-span to choose from as there have been various forms of empire for thousands of years, with different regions changing hands between them. Some collections consist of coins which could fit into the other categories, and on coin grading may be graded poorly due to not conforming to their systems. These collections are made up of coins which are pleasing to the owner and to others not due to perfect condition, but rather due to the uniqueness of the coin based on several factors. These can include patinas which form from being exposed to acidic or basic environments such as soil, when coins are excavated , and warping or wearing which come from use in circulation. Very

interesting patinas and patterns can form on coins which have been naturally exposed to environments which can affect the contents of the coin. Examples include naturally blackened Victorian pennies, which have only the most raised surface showing the underlying copper, meaning that the head is clearly presented. One of the issues with this category is that the coins can be seen to have less perceived value to speculators and appraisers. Secondly the coins may be produced artificially, that is coins can be exposed to substances which can create effects similar to those sought for aesthetic collections. This means that coins which may be worth more to historians, numismatists and collectors for their purposes will be destroyed by the process. Grade and value[edit] In coin collecting, the condition of a coin its grade is paramount to its value; a high-quality example is often worth many times more than a poor example. Collectors have created systems to describe the overall condition of coins. In the early days of coin collecting—before the development of a large international coin market—extremely precise grades were not needed. Coins were described using only three adjectives: By the mid 20th century, with the growing market for rare coins, the American Numismatic Association helps identify most coins in North America. It uses a 1–70 numbering scale, where 70 represents a perfect specimen and 1 represents a barely identifiable coin. Descriptions and numeric grades for coins from highest to lowest is as follows: Mint State MS 60— These are specimens struck from polished dies and are often packaged and sold by mints. This is frequently done for Commemorative coins , though annual proof sets of circulating coinage may be issued as well. Unless mishandled, they will stay in Mint State. Collectors often desire both the proof and regular "business strike" issues of a coin, though the difference in price between the two may be significant. Additionally, proof coins follow the same grading scale as business strike coins, though they use the PR or PF prefix. Coin experts in Europe and elsewhere often shun the numerical system, preferring to rate specimens on a purely descriptive, or adjectival , scale. Nevertheless, most grading systems use similar terminology and values and remain mutually intelligible.

4: Coin Collecting Merit Badge Requirements | American Numismatic Association

Collecting Coins Discover everything you wanted to know about coins including values, prices, collecting and much more.

Older US coins differ. Portrait – Probably the defining item of the coin is the portrait on the Obverse side. Relief – This refers to any part of a coin that is raised and not the field. Rim – The outer edge that is slightly raised making coins easier to stack and serves as protection for the face of the coin. Tools of the Trade As you get more and more serious about coin collecting, you will eventually want to invest in some coin collecting supplies and tools to assemble your collection. While not an exhaustive list, the items below will serve you well in becoming a more efficient and thorough coin collector: These are essential for identifying the value of a coin, detecting flaws, faults, checking for error coins, as well as spotting counterfeits. Most collectors prefer between 10x – 20x magnification. I highly suggest you buy a pair of soft cotton gloves to use when holding a coin. Also, always hold the coin around the edges and not on the face, especially if you are not using gloves. The dirt and oil from the skin can be destructive to the coin. Apart from that book, most of the information you will need can easily be found online. Even the Red Book is outdated once it goes to press, and sites such as PCGS will have all the pricing needs you are looking for. For storage you can use albums, folders, display boxes, coin binders, coin flips, coin tubes, as well as coin slabs. Below are some sample coins on a variety of grades for the Washington quarter. Images courtesy of ha. Below that is a table that shows the grading scale, abbreviations, and description of each state. Sheldon Coin Grading Scale At the heart of finding quality coins and getting a good deal is understanding how to grade coins. Half science half art, the skill of grading coins can be learned with time and use. The only way to get better at this is to practice, practice, practice. Take your loupe and magnifier and go and visit coin shows and shops to see examples of how different coins are graded. When trying to determine the value of a coin try to see multiple coins in the same grade and rarity you are after. Especially before you make a big purchase you will want to see many different grades of that same coin to ensure you are getting what you paid for. Rarity Scale Following in the footsteps of the coin grading scale, there is also a Universal Rarity Scale that was developed in by Q. David Bowers , a famous numismatist. This was to better assess the rarity of a coin quickly and accurately. Strikes are usually placed in several categories such as weak, average, above average, and full strike. A full strike is the highest and sharpest strike. It is a combination of sheen, contrast, brilliance, and cartwheel, or the rotating windmill effect on the surface. This can include any and all marks, hairlines, bagmarks, general mishandling, and any other marks made during minting. Location and severity of the mark will determine how much it will impact the grade. For example, a deep scratch on the reverse side of the coin off to the side is not as severe than a deep scratch on the main portrait on the obverse. This is because one person may find the coin below very attractive and appealing while another may not like it at all. You will find tones are much more important and strong in copper and silver coins than in gold coins. While it may seem subjective, eye appeal to the experienced collector comes naturally with time and experience. They are amazing, positive, above average, neutral, below average, negative, and ugly. For some sample images of the above grades you can visit PCGS. Eye appeal can vastly differentiate the price on two coins with the same technical grade. For example, 2 Morgan silver dollars graded as XF can yield different sell prices based on the toning or colors that the coins display. Knowing this beyond the grade can be extremely useful in appraising a coin. This goes along well with the tip to specialize and focus to know the nuisances of that group of coins. Where to Buy or Find Coins for your Collection To find and buy coins for your collection there are many different places you can look. You can treasure hunt by going to local banks, convenient stores, or credit unions and asking for coin rolls. Another way you can treasure hunt is to go to your local flea markets and garage sales. At flea markets you can find anything and everything, possibly someone who came upon a coin collection and is looking to get rid of it. The same with garage sales, people looking to raise some money many times will offer their old coin collections they started long ago or was passed down from family to family. You can find garage sales in your area by using gsalr. Their mission and vision statement is to make the hobby safe for collectors and hobbyists.

To find a local PNG Dealer just use their online directory here. You can trust these guys, to be a member you have to have the following criteria met: Another great way to browse coins and collections is through coin shows. You can find most any and every type of coin at these events as well as sharpen your coin grading skills. Local coin shops are another avenue to find and browse coins to possibly add to your collection. Finally, in this day in age, buying coins online is commonplace. All About Coin Care Safe handling of your coins will guarantee the quality and value of your coin collection for many years to come. Taking the time to study, research, and invest in coins only to mishandle or damage them is not something you want to happen. Below are some simple coin care tips that you can follow to protect your coins from damage. Attempting to clean your coins will many times do more damage than good, especially if they are uncirculated. Cleaning coins even with just soap and a small cloth can cause micro abrasions and strip the coin of its tone and luster ultimately lowering the technical grade. The only exception to this rule is freshly dug up coins from the ground or through metal detecting. Handling Coins When handling coins, you should never touch the face of the coin and should hold the coin by its edges between the thumb and forefinger. Using cotton gloves or tongs can also help in minimizing the possibility of damaging your coin. Other Tips Other tips on proper care for you coin collection is to never talk over or spit on your coins. Holding a coin in front of you while talking can allow tiny parts of saliva to land on your coin unknowingly and cause small spots or blemishes that are hard to remove. Many a mint coin has been ruined in this way.

5: Coin collecting - Wikipedia

Coin collecting for beginners is simple, all you have to do is just collect the coins you receive from change, already in circulation. Also, if you read some of the coin facts above, you will know that over \$10 billion in coins sit idle in houses across the US.

Year set Collecting A year set is a popular method of collecting coins from a specific year. This is especially popular when buying proof sets. **Popular Types of Coins for Beginners** There are also several types of coins that are the most popular to collect. **Lincoln cents** These are the coin most commonly encountered in circulation - including all date and mintmark combinations, there are hundreds of different Lincoln cents. As of this writing, the reverse of the Washington quarter is the canvas for new America the Beautiful designs honoring different national parks and landmarks from around the United States. **Kennedy half dollars** First made in 1964, the Kennedy half dollar honors the 35th president of the United States, John F. Kennedy, who was assassinated in 1963. Though no longer struck for circulation, the Kennedy half dollar is legal tender and remains a popular collectible coin that is still minted for certain collector sets. **Morgan silver dollars** One of the most popular silver coins of all time, this large dollar coin features the head of Miss Liberty on the obverse and an eagle on the reverse. Morgan designed this coin, which was minted from 1878 through 1908. **Gold coins** The United States Mint has struck gold coins since 1794. Until 1933, United States gold coins were produced for circulation and were used at face value. These days, gold coins are produced mainly as commemorative issues or bullion issues. **Commemorative Coins** A commemorative coin that is issued for a limited period of time and is designed to honor a specific person, place, or event. In the case of United States coinage, commemorative coins are considered legal tender. Commemorative coins may be made as proofs, specimen strikes, or business strikes circulation quality, and they are graded in the same manner as other coins. **Error Coins** An error coin contains some type of minting mistake and are usually much more valuable than ordinary coins due to their rarity. Such pieces are graded in the same fashion as non-error coins. There are many types of error coins. Just some of these include the following: **Broadstrike** coins are thinner and wider than normal coins and usually show a wider-than-ordinary margin around the design. These die breaks usually look like raised lines or blobs. **A hub** is a piece of equipment that imprints a design on the working dies. The percentage of design that may remain can range from 1 to 99 percent. Coins with only a tiny portion of their design are extremely rare, and **off-center** coins missing most of their design yet also still exhibit their date are highly desirable. If the die was used for more than one year, engravers carved the new date into the die, creating a type of error or variety known as an **overdate**. A popular example of a mule is a dated U. Indeed, mules are extremely rare and valuable! **Wrong planchet** errors are rare and valuable. **Ways To Find Coins** Building your coin collection is something that may take many years and is a process that is never really complete if you make coin collecting a lifelong pursuit. There are many avenues for finding the coins you want for your collection. Here are some of the most common methods for acquiring coins: **Looking through your pocket change** is a great way to find common, circulated coins. Bank rolls are obtainable for face value and are widely available, though rolls of half dollars and dollar coins may require a special order request. **Metal Detecting** Some collectors prefer looking for coins with a metal detector. Many valuable coin hoards have been found this way. Check out our complete guide to metal detecting here. For a collector who wants old, rare, and valuable coins, a coin dealer is a good source of collecting material that is not normally available in circulation. However, beware of counterfeit coins, as they commonly turn up in garage sales and flea markets. Some folks really do get lucky and score an authentic rare coin for a low price, but for the most part, rare coins that are dirt cheap are either counterfeit coins or genuine common coins that were altered to look like a particular rare coin. **Collecting Coins for Money Vs. Enjoyment** There are many people who collect coins for the sole purpose of making money. But is that all there is to collecting coins? What about all those TV ads that tell you the price of gold increased almost 1, percent between and ? History and art come to mind. Imagine the joy of finding all of the quarters necessary for completing the 50 States quarter set or finishing a complete set of Morgan dollars. Foreign coins expose you to a whole new world of art, history, and culture. What coins do you like? The

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possibilities are virtually unlimited. What Makes A Coin Valuable? This is a complex question, and it comes with a multifaceted answer. There are several factors that go into determining what a coin is worth, including:

6: A Beginner's Guide to Coin Collecting - FREE Read eBooks

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7: Guide to Coin Collecting: StartLocal® - Australian Business Directory & Business Search Engine

Many coin collectors begin their coin collecting journey by collecting Lincoln pennies. Given its scarcity, the S VDB is the "Holy Grail" of Lincoln pennies. This is usually the last coin Lincoln penny collectors will add to their collection.

8: Coin Collecting - The Ultimate Beginners Guide to U.S Coin Collecting

Coin Price Guide for Beginners (View the U.S. Currency Pricing Guide). How much is my coin worth? Looking for a place to find coin values or current coin prices? This is our basic coin price guide for people who are unfamiliar with coins but want to find out about old coin values.

9: Official Red Book Online - Coin Price Guide | Coin Values

The NGC Coin Price Guide is a complete catalog of coin values for US and World coins from to date, compiled from a variety of numismatic sources.

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