

Washington Quarters

Washington Quarter Facts Every Collector Should Know



Designed by: John Flanagan

Edge Style: Reeded

Mints: Philadelphia, Denver, San Francisco

Diameter: 24.3mm

Weight: 6.30g *

Metallic Content: 90% Silver, 10% Copper *

Silver Content: .18084 oz Pure Silver

*These details are unique to only the dates from 1932-1964.



Washington Quarters

In 1931, it was proposed that a commemorative half dollar be issued to mark the 200th anniversary of the birth of our first president, George Washington. A competition was held, and a design by Laura Gardin Fraser was selected by the Fine Arts Commission. However, that decision was overruled by Treasury Secretary Andrew Mellon, who gave the nod to a design by John Flanagan. Congress later directed that the new design should be used on the quarter rather than the half, and in 1932, the Washington Quarter made its initial appearance.

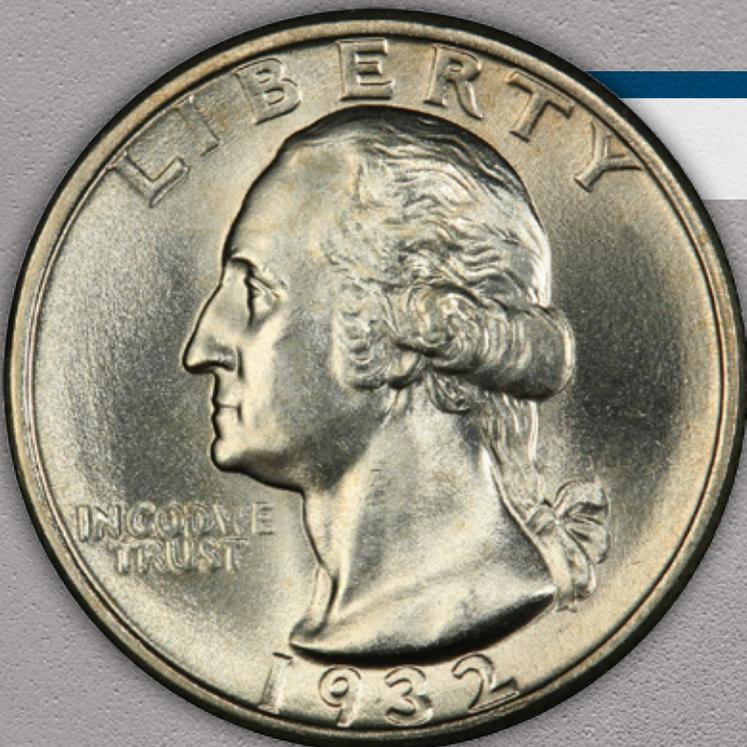
The coin proved quite popular with the public, and after a year's hiatus in 1933, the Washington design returned in 1934 and replaced the older Standing Liberty Quarter, which had been in use since 1916. The earliest issues (1932-1934) had a very weak "In God We Trust" motto, and modifications to the hub in 1934 corrected the problem.

The Washington Quarter is currently one of our longest-lived designs, and celebrates its 85th anniversary in 2017. Modifications to the obverse were made in 1999 with the advent of the State Quarter program, and these have continued through the current "America the Beautiful" program.

Original Designs



Laura Gardin Fraser's original design selected by the Fine Arts Commission



John Flanagan's Washington Quarter design as it first appeared as a commemorative coin in 1932



Are Washington Quarters Rare?

In general, no. Most of the coins struck at Philadelphia (no reverse mintmark) are common, as are most of the Denver (D) and San Francisco (S) struck after 1940. Coins struck prior to 1941 in Denver or San Francisco are typically slightly better dates, and of course there are several key dates worth considerably more. Always check for a mintmark, which is found on the reverse, under the eagle (1932-1964). In 1968, the mintmark was moved to the obverse, to the right of Washington's hair ribbon. From 1932 through 1979, coins struck in Philadelphia bore no mintmark. Starting in 1980, however, they began using the "P" mintmark.

Nearly all dates and mints struck in 1965 or later are currently circulating.



Mintmark location 1932-1964



Mintmark location 1968-date

What Are Washington Quarters Worth?

Washington Quarters can be broken into two major groups: the silver issues, and the clad issues.

All circulation strikes that are dated 1965 and later are clad coins, composed of a core of pure copper surrounded by a layer of copper nickel.

They are currently in circulation and, unless they are uncirculated, are worth face value.

Coins dated 1964 and earlier are 90% silver and 10% copper, and at a silver price of \$20 per ounce, are worth about \$3.60 each.



The following chart summarizes values for common date Washington Quarters at various silver prices:

SILVER PRICE PER OUNCE	APPROXIMATE VALUE OF A WASHINGTON QUARTER (1932-1964)
\$15	\$2.70
\$20	\$3.60
\$25	\$4.50
\$30	\$5.40
\$35	\$6.30

These are values for common dates, in circulated condition. If the coin is uncirculated, or a low mintage and better date, it will be worth more — in some cases, considerably more.

What Are the Common and Rare Dates?

There are not a lot of rare date Washington Quarters. The two real keys to the series are the Denver and San Francisco issues of 1932. While in lower grades, they are worth in the vicinity of about \$150 to \$200 each. In higher grades (above MS-60), the 1932-D is the more valuable of the two, and is worth roughly \$10,000 in MS-65 condition. Above that grade, they are extremely rare and valuable, and in April 2008, one sold for the incredible price of \$143,750!

As mentioned earlier, most 1930s dates with mintmarks are worth a small premium, as is the 1940-D. After 1941, though, nearly all the dates are common. Among the clad issues, the 1983 Philadelphia and Denver issues are worth a premium if uncirculated.

While there are relatively few regular issue date and mintmark combinations that are valuable, there are a number of varieties that command some serious money. These include both “Doubled Die” obverses, and “overstruck mintmark” varieties.

Doubled Die obverses are known for the following dates: 1934, 1937, 1942-D, 1943, 1943-S.



1932-D 25C

COINS MINTED

436,800

AUCTION RECORD

MS66 \$143,750



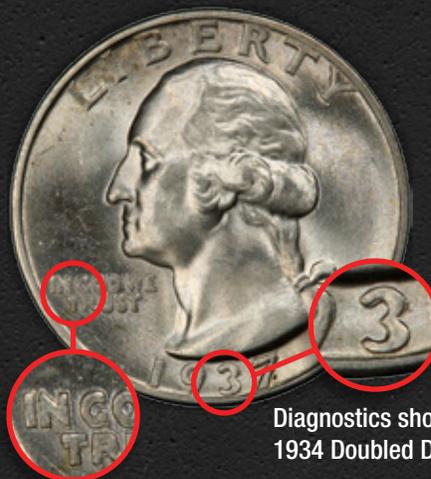
1932-S 25C

COINS MINTED

408,000

AUCTION RECORD

MS66 \$35,250



1934 25C
Double Die Obv

COINS MINTED

Unknown

AUCTION RECORD

MS66 \$6,463

Diagnostics shown for the
1934 Doubled Die variety



1950-S/D 25C

COINS MINTED

Unknown

AUCTION RECORD

MS67 \$16,450

S over D mintmark

What Are the Other Types of Washington Quarters?

Aside from the silver issues of 1932 to 1964, and the regular clad issues of 1965-1998, there are three other groups of Washington Quarters of interest to collectors.



The first of these were the **Bicentennial Quarters**, issued in 1975 and 1976, bearing the dual date 1776-1976. These carried a special reverse of a colonial drummer facing left, designed by Jack L. Ahr. These were struck both for circulation as clad issues and in special collectors sets in a 40% silver composition.



The second group are the **State Quarters**, struck from 1999 through 2008. An additional six issues followed in 2009 to recognize the District of Columbia and the various territories, including Puerto Rico, Guam, Samoa, Northern Mariana and the Virgin Islands. State Quarters carried substantial revisions to the obverse lettering and portrait, with the date now shown on the reverse.



The third and final group is the **"America the Beautiful"** program. These issues began in 2010, and are scheduled to continue through 2021. They honor sites of "natural or historic significance" from each of the 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia and the territories. This series is also being struck in special 5-ounce silver bullion pieces, available by order from the Mint.

How Do I Grade Washington Quarters?

PCGS.COM/PHOTOGRADE

Washington quarters received heavy use during the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s, and many of the early issues wore down to fairly low grades. Inflation has eroded the buying power of the quarter today, and many end up in a change jar at the end of the day. Consequently, clad quarters (minted 1965 and later) are seldom seen below a grade of Very Fine or so.



A Washington Quarter in **Good** condition. The hair is nearly worn flat, and the rim is worn down into the tops of the lettering on both the obverse and reverse.



In **Very Good** condition the major hair details are evident, and the rims should be full on both sides though they may touch the tops of the letters.

How Do I Grade Washington Quarters? (continued)



In **Fine**, the rims will be fully clear of the lettering. The hairline above the forehead may begin to show.



By **Very Fine**, the full outline of the hair is visible and most of the details will show, though will be worn.

How Do I Grade Washington Quarters? (continued)



In **Extremely Fine**, only the highest points of the hair will show a bit of wear. Nearly all the feathers on the eagle will be visible.



An **About Uncirculated** coin should display some mint luster, and only a trace of rub will be visible at the highest points of the design.

How Are Washington Quarters Collected?

With the advent of the State Quarter program in 1999, collecting Washington Quarters became one of the most popular segments in the coin collecting hobby. With a steady supply of new coins entering circulation every year, searching pocket change for that “missing State” became a pastime for both young and old alike. Of course, collecting Washington Quarters did not start with the State Quarters. Here’s a look at a few of the ways to collect.

1 | **Date and Mintmark Set, 1932-1964:**

This is the traditional set, focusing on the silver issues. None of these remain in circulation, though, so you’ll have to purchase all of them.

2 | **Date and Mintmark Set, 1932 to date:**

This is the most challenging set, and certainly one that will require the purchase of all the pre-1965 silver issues as they have long since disappeared from circulation.

3 | **Date and Mintmark Set, 1965 to date:**

Here’s a set that can largely be assembled from circulation, though it may take a bit of searching and time.

4 | **Date and Mintmark Set, 1999 to date:**

Starting with the State Quarters and continuing through the America the Beautiful series, this is an interesting set with loads of variety.

5 | **State Quarter Set, 1999-2009:**

Another popular set, this contains 56 different State and Territorial issues. If you want, you can collect both the Philadelphia and Denver Mint coins as well, which doubles the size of the set.

6 | **America the Beautiful Set, 2010 to date:**

If you like the most modern issues, this set should present relatively little problem.

7 | **Modern Proofs and Collector Issues:**

The San Francisco Mint struck Proof issues of nearly all the Washington Quarters since 1968. Since 1992, both clad and silver versions have been made. Needless to say, all of these must be purchased, as they did not normally enter circulation.

8 | **Classic Proofs:**

The Philadelphia Mint struck Proofs from 1936 to 1942, and from 1950 to 1964. These are highly collectible as well.

There are, of course, varieties that can be included, as well. These are just a few of the ways to undertake a collection of Washington Quarters.

1932 - 1964 Washington Quarters

Mintage and Collectible Value

Year	Mintage	Good	Fine	Extra Fine	Uncirculated
1932	5,404,000	\$6.00 - \$6.50	\$6.50 - \$7.00	\$7.00 - \$7.50	\$18.00 and up
1932 D	436,800	\$55.00 - \$60.00	\$90.00 - \$100.00	\$150.00 - \$165.00	\$750.00 and up
1932 S	408,000	\$60.00 - \$65.00	\$100.00 - \$110.00	\$125.00 - \$135.00	\$350.00 and up
1934	31,912,052	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$20.00 and up
1934 D	3,527,200	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$4.00 - \$4.25	\$16.00 - \$18.00	\$150.00 and up
1935	32,486,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$12.00 and up
1935 D	5,780,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$4.00 - \$4.25	\$22.00 - \$24.00	\$160.00 and up
1935 S	5,660,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$8.00 - \$10.00	\$65.00 and up
1936	41,300,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$18.00 and up
1936 D	5,376,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$4.00 - \$4.25	\$40.00 - \$45.00	\$300.00 and up
1936 S	3,828,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$4.50 - \$5.00	\$10.00 - \$12.00	\$65.00 and up
1937	19,696,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$17.00 and up
1937 D	7,189,600	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$10.00 - \$12.00	\$40.00 and up
1937 S	1,652,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$6.00 - \$6.25	\$20.00 - \$22.00	\$125.00 and up
1938	9,472,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$11.00 - \$13.00	\$50.00 and up
1938 S	2,832,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 - \$5.50	\$14.00 - \$16.00	\$45.00 and up
1939	33,540,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$12.00 and up
1939 D	7,092,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$4.00 - \$4.50	\$10.00 - \$12.00	\$28.00 and up
1939 S	2,628,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 - \$5.50	\$14.00 - \$16.00	\$45.00 and up
1940	35,704,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$12.00 and up
1940 D	2,797,600	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$4.00 - \$4.25	\$14.00 - \$16.00	\$75.00 and up
1940 S	8,246,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.50 - \$6.00	\$19.00 and up
1941	79,032,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$5.50 and up
1941 D	16,714,800	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$22.00 and up
1941 S	16,080,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$22.00 and up
1942	102,096,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.50 and up
1942 D	17,487,200	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$14.00 and up

1932 - 1964 Washington Quarters

Mintage and Collectible Value (continued)

Year	Mintage	Good	Fine	Extra Fine	Uncirculated
1942 S	19,384,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$40.00 and up
1943	99,700,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.50 and up
1943 D	16,095,600	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$21.00 and up
1943 S	21,700,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$17.00 and up
1944	104,956,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.50 and up
1944 D	14,600,800	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$12.00 and up
1944 S	12,560,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$6.50 and up
1945	74,372,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.50 and up
1945 D	12,341,600	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$12.00 and up
1945 S	17,004,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.50 and up
1946	53,436,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.50 and up
1946 D	9,072,800	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$6.50 and up
1946 S	4,204,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.50 and up
1947	22,556,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$6.50 and up
1947 D	15,388,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1947 S	5,532,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1948	35,196,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$5.00 and up
1948 D	16,766,800	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1948 S	15,960,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$6.00 and up
1949	9,312,000	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$3.75 - \$4.00	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$22.00 and up
1949 D	10,068,400	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$5.00 - \$5.25	\$10.00 and up
1950	24,920,126	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$6.00 and up
1950 D	21,075,600	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$6.00 and up
1950 S	10,284,004	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$6.00 and up
1951	43,448,102	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1951 D	35,354,800	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1951 S	9,048,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$8.00 and up

1932 - 1964 Washington Quarters

Mintage and Collectible Value (continued)

Year	Mintage	Good	Fine	Extra Fine	Uncirculated
1952	38,780,093	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1952 D	49,795,200	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1952 S	13,707,800	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$6.00 and up
1953	18,536,120	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1953 D	56,112,400	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1953 S	14,016,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1954	54,412,203	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1954 D	42,305,500	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1954 S	11,834,722	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1955	18,180,181	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1955 D	3,182,400	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1956	44,144,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1956 D	32,334,500	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1957	46,532,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1957 D	77,924,160	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1958	6,360,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1958 D	78,124,900	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1959	24,386,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1959 D	62,054,232	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1960	29,164,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1960 D	63,000,324	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1961	37,036,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1961 D	83,656,928	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1962	36,156,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1962 D	127,554,756	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1963	74,316,000	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1963 D	135,288,184	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up

1932 - 1964 Washington Quarters

Mintage and Collectible Value (continued)

Year	Mintage	Good	Fine	Extra Fine	Uncirculated
1964	560,390,585	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up
1964 D	704,135,528	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.25 - \$3.50	\$3.50 - \$3.75	\$5.00 and up



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
E PLURIBUS UNUM

QUARTER DOLLAR