

mccoy pottery value guide

Mccoy pottery value guide is an essential resource for collectors and enthusiasts of vintage ceramics. Mccoy Pottery, founded in 1910 in Ohio, has become one of the most recognizable names in American pottery. Known for its high-quality craftsmanship and diverse range of products, Mccoy pieces are highly sought after by collectors and can fetch impressive prices at auctions and sales. This article will delve into the history of Mccoy pottery, factors that influence its value, popular collectible items, and tips for collectors looking to enhance their collections.

History of Mccoy Pottery

Mccoy Pottery was established by the McCoy family in 1910, originally starting as a small company producing utilitarian items. By the 1920s, Mccoy began to focus on decorative pottery, which gained significant popularity during the 1930s and 1940s. The company's signature style often featured vibrant glazes and unique designs, making Mccoy pottery a staple in many American homes.

In 1967, the company underwent a name change to Nelson McCoy Pottery Company, and it continued to produce pottery until it closed its doors in 1990. Throughout its years of operation, Mccoy created various lines, including planters, vases, dinnerware, and decorative pieces. Today, the company is remembered for its artistic contributions to American pottery, and many of its products are considered collectibles.

Factors Influencing Mccoy Pottery Value

Understanding the value of Mccoy pottery requires knowledge of several factors that can significantly affect the price. Here are key elements to consider when evaluating the worth of a piece:

1. Age

- Older pieces, especially those produced before the 1950s, tend to have higher value due to their rarity.
- Limited production runs and discontinued lines can also increase desirability among collectors.

2. Condition

- Items in mint condition, free from chips, cracks, or repairs, command higher prices.
- Original finishes and glazes that have not faded or worn over time enhance value.

3. Rarity

- Limited-edition pieces or those with unique designs are often worth more.
- Items that were produced in smaller batches or have become hard to find can attract higher bids.

4. Demand

- The popularity of certain styles and designs can fluctuate, impacting values.
- Seasonal trends and collector interests can drive up demand for specific items.

5. Provenance

- Items with a known history or those that belonged to famous collectors can carry a premium.
- Documentation and certification can help validate a piece's authenticity and increase its market value.

Popular McCoy Pottery Collectibles

Certain lines and designs from McCoy Pottery have achieved iconic status among collectors. Understanding these popular collectibles can help you identify valuable pieces.

1. Planters

McCoy planters are among the most sought-after items. They were produced in various styles, often featuring whimsical shapes and vibrant colors. Some notable examples include:

- Leaf Planters: Known for their naturalistic designs, these planters depict

leaves and have varying glazes.

- Fish Planters: Featuring unique fish shapes, these planters are particularly popular among collectors.

2. Dinnerware

Mccoy dinnerware sets, especially those from the 1940s and 1950s, are highly collectible. Popular patterns include:

- Stoneware: Known for its durability and rustic look, this type of dinnerware is favored for everyday use.
- The "Cameo" Line: Featuring delicate floral designs, this line is known for its elegance.

3. Vases and Decorative Pieces

Mccoy vases and decorative items are also highly desired. Some notable styles include:

- Bamboo Vases: Characterized by their tall, slender shapes and intricate glaze designs.
- Figurines: Mccoy produced various figurines, often depicting animals or human figures, which can be quite valuable.

4. Cookie Jars

Mccoy cookie jars evoke nostalgia and are highly collectible. Some popular designs include:

- "Cookie Monster": A whimsical jar that features a character shape, increasing its desirability.
- "Hound Dog" Jar: A cute dog-shaped cookie jar that appeals to animal lovers.

Tips for Collectors

If you're a collector or someone interested in starting a collection of Mccoy pottery, here are some helpful tips to consider:

1. Do Your Research

- Familiarize yourself with different lines, patterns, and values of McCoy pottery.
- Utilize online resources, books, and collector forums to expand your knowledge.

2. Attend Auctions and Estate Sales

- Keep an eye on local auctions, estate sales, and flea markets for potential finds.
- Be prepared to act quickly, as valuable pieces can sell fast.

3. Join Collector Groups

- Consider joining McCoy pottery collector clubs or online communities to connect with other enthusiasts.
- Networking with fellow collectors can provide insights into the market and help you identify valuable pieces.

4. Proper Care and Storage

- Ensure that your McCoy pottery is stored in a safe environment, away from direct sunlight or extreme temperatures.
- Clean items carefully using gentle methods to avoid damaging the glaze.

5. Keep Documentation

- Maintain records of purchases, including receipts and provenance if available.
- Documentation can help verify authenticity and enhance resale value.

Conclusion

The McCoy pottery value guide serves as a valuable tool for both seasoned collectors and newcomers alike. Understanding the history, factors influencing value, and popular collectible items can enrich your experience in the world of McCoy pottery. As you navigate this fascinating realm, remember to do your research, connect with fellow collectors, and take proper care of your items. Whether you are looking to buy, sell, or simply appreciate the artistry of McCoy pottery, this guide provides a solid foundation for your journey.

Frequently Asked Questions

What factors influence the value of McCoy pottery?

The value of McCoy pottery is influenced by factors such as rarity, condition, age, design, and market demand. Limited edition pieces or unique designs typically fetch higher prices.

How can I determine the age of my McCoy pottery?

You can determine the age of McCoy pottery by examining the mark on the bottom, as different markings were used in different eras. Additionally, reference books and online databases can provide insights on dating.

Are there specific McCoy pottery pieces that are worth more than others?

Yes, certain pieces like the 1950s cookie jars, vases, and planters are particularly sought after. Unique art pieces and those with unusual glazes or designs can also have higher value.

Where can I find a reliable McCoy pottery value guide?

Reliable McCoy pottery value guides can be found in antique reference books, online auction sites, and collector forums. Websites like eBay also provide insights based on recent sales.

How can I assess the condition of my McCoy pottery?

To assess the condition, check for cracks, chips, discoloration, and repairs. Original pieces in excellent condition fetch higher prices, while damaged items significantly decrease in value.

Is there a market for McCoy pottery?

Yes, there is a vibrant market for McCoy pottery among collectors and enthusiasts. Online platforms, antique shops, and flea markets are common places to buy and sell.

What are the most common markings found on McCoy pottery?

Common markings include 'McCoy', 'USA', and various numbers or letters indicating the production year. Familiarizing yourself with these marks can help in identifying and valuing pieces.

How do online auctions affect the value of McCoy pottery?

Online auctions can influence the value by providing a platform for competitive bidding, which can drive prices higher. They also allow buyers to see current market trends and prices.

Can I sell my McCoy pottery, and how should I price it?

Yes, you can sell your McCoy pottery. To price it, research similar items online, consider its condition, rarity, and consult price guides to set a competitive yet fair price.

What are some tips for starting a McCoy pottery collection?

Start by researching the different types and styles of McCoy pottery. Focus on specific themes or periods, attend auctions and shows, and connect with other collectors for advice and insights.

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