

Collector's Journal

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2011 Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Dollar *Nineteenth in the Presidential Dollars Collection*

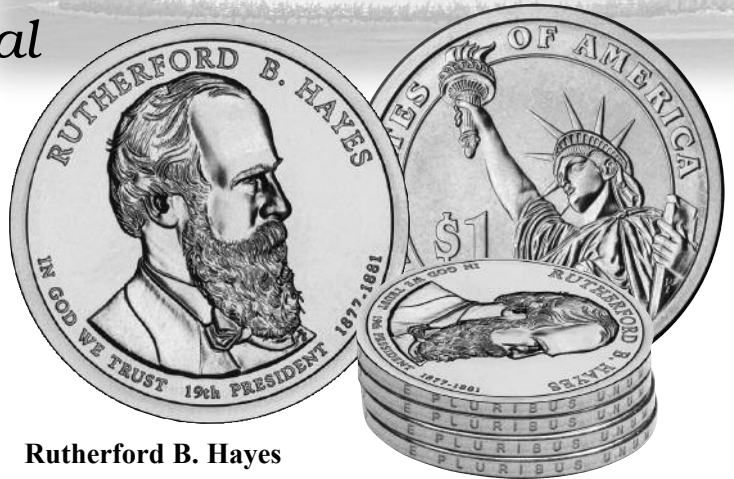
The Rutherford B. Hayes Dollar is the third of four Presidential Dollars issued by the U.S. Mint in 2011. It was released in August 2011. Each President is being honored on a separate Presidential Dollar, and the coins are issued in the order in which the Presidents served. The series started in 2007 with the coin for George Washington, the first President.

The Hayes coin is the 19th in the series because Hayes was the 19th President. It was preceded in 2011 with coins for Andrew Johnson (17th President) and Ulysses S. Grant (18th President), and it will be followed by the coin for James A. Garfield (20th President). Like all other coins in the series, it will be struck in a limited edition of only about three months. When production ends, no more coins can ever be made.

Presidential Dollars are struck in the same golden alloy that was introduced in 2000 for the Sacagawea Dollar. The alloy consists of 77% copper and 12% zinc with the remainder manganese and nickel. The distinctive golden color sets the dollar coins apart from all others in circulation. The coins' weight and diameter are the same as the Susan B. Anthony Dollar, which was introduced in 1979 to replace the large Eisenhower Dollar.

In addition to the color, the dollar coins are different from most other coins because the edge includes lettering instead of the usual reeding. The edge of 2011 Presidential Dollars features the motto "E Pluribus Unum," the date of issue, and the mint mark ("P" for Philadelphia or "D" for Denver). The 2007 and 2008 coins also included the motto "In God We Trust" on the edge, but this motto was moved to the obverse in 2009.

The portrait of Rutherford B. Hayes on the Presidential Dollar is based on a photograph of Hayes taken by Mathew Brady.



Rutherford B. Hayes

Rutherford B. Hayes was born on October 4, 1822, in Delaware, Ohio. The 1876 Presidential election between Republican Hayes and Democrat Samuel Tilden was one of the closest and most bitterly disputed in history.

After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1845, Hayes was a successful lawyer in Cincinnati, Ohio. He joined a volunteer regiment at the start of the Civil War in 1861, and by 1865 he was promoted to brevet major general for his bravery. Before the war ended, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Ohio. He served one term in the House and three terms as Governor of Ohio.

In 1876, the Republicans selected Hayes as their Presidential candidate. Tilden won the popular vote by more than 250,000, but the electoral college votes were in doubt until decided along party lines in Hayes' favor 185-184 by a special commission on March 2, 1877 – just three days before the inauguration.

Hayes was renowned for his dignity and honesty. As President, he ended Reconstruction in former Confederate states by withdrawing the last federal troops. However, with a Democratic Congress opposed to his policies and bitter about the election, he was able to achieve little. Intending to serve only one term, he retired in 1881 and returned to his home in Fremont, Ohio. He died there on January 17, 1893.

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