

Collector's Journal

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2013 William McKinley Presidential Dollar

Twenty-Fifth in the Presidential Dollars Collection

The William McKinley Presidential Dollar is the first of four unique Presidential Dollars issued by the U.S. Mint in 2013. It also begins the seventh year of the popular coin program that honors America's Presidents who are no longer living.

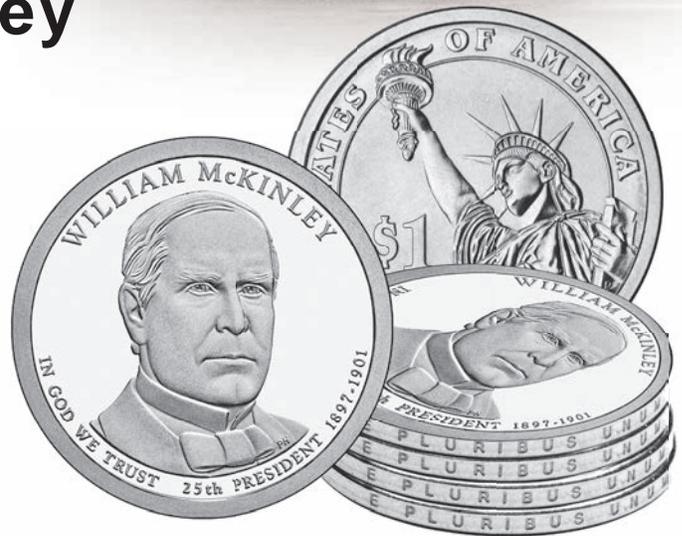
Presidential Dollars are issued at the rate of four coins per year, and the order of issue is the order in which the Presidents served. Each coin is minted in a limited edition of about 13 weeks before production begins on the next coin.

The McKinley coin is the 25th overall in the Presidential Dollars series because McKinley was the 25th President. This coin will be followed in 2013 with the coins for the 26th through 28th Presidents: Theodore Roosevelt, William H. Taft, and Woodrow Wilson, respectively. Together, the 2013 coins represent the first four Presidents of the 20th century.

Starting in 2012, the Presidential Dollars were no longer released into circulation. As a result, they are made exclusively for collectors and the editions are significantly smaller and harder to acquire. Each coin is still produced in uncirculated quality at both the Philadelphia Mint ("P" mint mark on the edge) and the Denver Mint ("D" mint mark).

The portrait of McKinley on the coin was inspired by photographs that date from the approximate period of his Presidency. It is also similar to the image that appeared on \$10 National Bank Notes in the Series of 1902, as well as on small-size \$500 Federal Reserve Notes and Gold Certificates. McKinley is formally dressed and wears a bow tie with upturned collar.

The inscriptions under McKinley's portrait include the notation "25th President" and "1897-1901" to indicate the dates of his Presidency. The reverse of all Presidential Dollars is an identical design showing the Statue of Liberty and the denomination "\$1." The coin's date of issue appears only in the edge inscriptions, along with the mint mark and the motto "E Pluribus Unum."



William McKinley

William McKinley was born on January 29, 1843, in Niles, Ohio. The last President to have fought in the Civil War and the third President to be assassinated, he began a long career in politics at the age of just 34 in 1877 when he won a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

During a 14-year tenure in the House, McKinley was popular for consistently siding with the public and against private interests. His signature legislation was the McKinley Tariff Act of 1890 that protected American industries from foreign competition. After leaving the House, he served two terms as Governor of Ohio.

In 1896, McKinley was elected President and enjoyed a relatively prosperous era following the depression of the early 1890's. The key event in his Presidency was the Spanish-American War in 1898, which resulted in a resounding American victory. It also signaled the start of an overseas U.S. empire when Spain ceded Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines. The United States also acquired Hawaii and American Samoa during his Presidency.

Well-liked for his social and business policies, McKinley was reelected in 1900, with Spanish-American War hero Theodore Roosevelt as his Vice President in place of Garrett Hobart who died in 1899. On September 6, 1901, McKinley was shot while attending the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York. He died eight days later on September 14.

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