

# Collector's Journal

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## 2014 Calvin Coolidge Presidential Dollar

### *Thirtieth in the Presidential Dollars Collection*

The second 2014 Presidential Dollar honors Calvin Coolidge. Released in the Spring of 2014, it was preceded by the Warren G. Harding coin and will be followed by the coins for Herbert Hoover and Franklin D. Roosevelt to complete the set of four 2014 coins.

The Presidential Dollars series started in 2007. It is the first series of circulating commemorative Dollar coins, as well as the first coin series issued as a tribute to America's Presidents. The only previous circulating commemorative Dollar coin was the 1976 Eisenhower Dollar, a one-time-only coin that was issued to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

Presidential Dollars are issued in the order in which the Presidents served. Calvin Coolidge was the 30th President, so the Coolidge coin is the 30th in the overall series. Four coins are released each year. However, the collection is limited only to deceased Presidents, so the collection is scheduled to end with Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, and Ronald Reagan in 2016. Should a President or former President die in the meantime, he may be added to the collection.

The distinctive portrait of Coolidge on the coin was inspired by photographs of Coolidge around the time he was elected as Vice President with President Warren G. Harding in 1920. At this time, Coolidge was governor of Massachusetts. Inscriptions under the portrait include "30th President" to show the order of Coolidge's Presidency and "1923-1929" to indicate the length of his term in office.

This is the second U.S. coin honoring Coolidge. The first was a commemorative Half Dollar issued in 1926 to mark the 150th anniversary of American independence. Coolidge was President in 1926, becoming the first living President to be featured on a U.S. coin.



### Calvin Coolidge

Calvin Coolidge was born on July 4, 1872, in Plymouth Vermont. He is the only President born on Independence Day. After his graduation from Amherst College in Massachusetts, Coolidge became a lawyer in Northampton, Massachusetts. He also took an interest in politics, working his way through the political hierarchy from Northampton city council to the Massachusetts legislature – where he was president of the Senate in 1914 and 1915 – and eventually to the Massachusetts governorship in 1919.

A defining moment in Coolidge's political career was the Boston police strike in 1919. As governor of the state, he took a hard stance and refused to let the police strike interfere with public safety. This earned him praise and respect – and elevated him to national status and the Vice Presidency in the 1920 election.

Coolidge became President as a result of President Warren G. Harding's untimely death in 1923. He won election to a full term in 1924 but declined to run again in 1928. During his Presidency, the nation enjoyed a period of tremendous economic prosperity, which boosted his popularity and encouraged the excesses of the "Roaring Twenties." Following his retirement from the Presidency, Coolidge returned to Northampton. He died there on January 5, 1933, and is buried in the city of his birth.

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