

Collector's Journal

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2015 Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Dollar

Thirty-Fourth in the Presidential Dollars Collection



The second 2015 Presidential Dollar honors Dwight D. Eisenhower. Released in the Spring of 2015, it was preceded by the Harry S. Truman coin and will be followed by the coins for John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson to complete the set of four 2015 coins.

Presidential Dollars are issued in the order in which the Presidents served. Dwight D. Eisenhower was the 34th President, so the Eisenhower coin is the 34th in the overall series. Four coins are released each year, although each coin is made for only about 13 weeks before production ends and minting starts for the next coin. When a coin's minting period is over, the design is retired forever.

The portrait of Eisenhower on the coin was inspired by photographs taken through the years, particularly one from 1947 when Eisenhower was general of the U.S. Army and five years before he was elected as President. He is wearing his military uniform. Inscriptions under the portrait include "34th President" to show the order of Eisenhower's Presidency and "1953-1961" to indicate the beginning and end of his term in office.

Presidential Dollars are struck in uncirculated condition at both the Philadelphia and Denver Mints. The two different versions can be identified by the mint mark ("P" for Philadelphia or "D" for Denver) on the edge.

Eisenhower was previously featured on the Eisenhower Dollar that was issued from 1971 to 1978 and which was the last large-size Dollar coin issued for circulation. A special edition was made in 1976 to celebrate the bicentennial of the Declaration of Independence, and this coin was the first circulating commemorative Dollar in U.S. history.

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of Eisenhower's birth in 1990, the U.S. Mint also issued a commemorative Silver Dollar

showing a portrait of Eisenhower as President superimposed over his profile as a five-star general; and in 2013, Eisenhower was featured along with George C. Marshall on the commemorative Silver Dollar that was part of the Five-Star Generals issue.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

Dwight D. Eisenhower was born on October 14, 1890, in Denison, Texas. He graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1915 and began a distinguished career in the U.S. Army that saw him become one of only five five-star generals in U.S. history. Prior to World War II, his most important position was as an advisor to General Douglas MacArthur in the Philippines.

During World War II, Eisenhower was the most prominent Allied military leader. He led the invasion of North Africa, was supreme commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force in Europe, devised the pivotal D-Day invasion of France in 1944, and accepted the German surrender on May 7, 1945. Following the war, he was the first supreme commander of NATO forces and served as president of Columbia University.

Using the slogan "I Like Ike," Eisenhower won the 1952 Presidential election and won reelection four years later. As President, he ended the Korean War, supported civil rights, and signed legislation creating the Interstate Highway system and NASA. The years of his Presidency are renowned for great national prosperity and the rise of the middle class. At the same time, automobiles, television, and suburbs came to characterize American life, and the nation's youth embraced new fashions and rock and roll music.

After his Presidency, Eisenhower retired to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and he died on March 28, 1969.

Collectors Alliance • 1942 Swarthmore Avenue • Lakewood, NJ 08701

Call TOLL FREE 1-800-997-9843

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