

# Collector's Journal

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## 2016 Richard M. Nixon Presidential Dollar

### *Thirty-Seventh in the Presidential Dollars Collection*



The Richard M. Nixon Presidential Dollar is the first of three unique Presidential Dollars issued by the U.S. Mint in 2016, the tenth and final year of the ongoing coin program. It is also the 37th coin overall in the Presidential Dollars series because Nixon was the 37th President. This coin will be followed in 2016 with the final two coins in the series: Gerald R. Ford and Ronald Reagan, the 38th and 40th Presidents, respectively.

Jimmy Carter, the 39th President whose term ran from 1977 to 1981, is not included in the Presidential Dollars series because – according to the legislation that created the coins – it is restricted to deceased Presidents. As a result, no Presidents after Reagan are included, either: George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama, and the eventual winner of the 2016 Presidential election.

Each Presidential Dollar is produced by the U.S. Mint in a limited edition of about 13 weeks. Once production of a President's coin ends, the dies are retired and destroyed and that coin can never be made again.

Presidential coins are struck in uncirculated quality at both the Philadelphia Mint ("P" mint mark) and the Denver Mint ("D" mint mark); the mint mark is found on the edge, along with the year of issue and the motto "E Pluribus Unum."

The portrait of Nixon on the coin is similar to a mirror-image of the Presidential medal produced by the U.S. Mint to mark Nixon's first term in office. The portrait on the medal was created by U.S. Mint chief engraver Frank Gasparro, while the coin was designed by U.S. Mint engraver Don Everhart. The coin emphasizes Nixon's distinctive nose and receding hairline.

The inscriptions under Nixon's portrait include the notation

"37th President" and "1969-1974" to indicate the dates of his Presidency. The reverse of all Presidential Dollars is a common design depicting the Statue of Liberty and the denomination "\$1."

#### **Richard M. Nixon**

Richard M. Nixon was born on January 9, 1913, in Yorba Linda, California. He graduated from Duke University School of Law and practiced law in California before serving in the U.S. Navy and in the Pacific during World War II.

Shortly after the war, Nixon began his political career by winning a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives from California. A rising star in the Republican party for his role on the House Un-American Activities Committee, he won a seat in the U.S. Senate in 1950 and was Dwight D. Eisenhower's Vice Presidential running mate in 1952.

After eight years as Vice President, Nixon ran for President in 1960 but narrowly lost to John F. Kennedy. Eight years later, he defeated Hubert H. Humphrey and won reelection in 1972. Highlights of his Presidency included the end of the military draft, Apollo 11 astronauts becoming the first men on the moon, and a close relationship with China and the Soviet Union in an effort to achieve worldwide political stability.

However, Nixon's Presidency was defined by the Watergate scandal that unfolded early in his second term. Nixon was connected to – and actively tried to cover up – a break-in at the offices of the Democratic National Committee during the 1972 campaign. Facing almost certain impeachment, he resigned on August 9, 1974. He died on April 22, 1994.

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