

precious moments figurines price guide

precious moments figurines price guide offers collectors and enthusiasts a detailed understanding of the market values associated with these beloved collectibles. Known for their distinctive teardrop-eyed characters and heartfelt themes, Precious Moments figurines have been cherished since their introduction in the 1970s. This guide delves into the factors influencing their price, including rarity, condition, and edition types, providing a comprehensive overview for buyers and sellers alike. Whether you are a seasoned collector or a casual admirer, understanding the pricing dynamics can help in making informed decisions. Additionally, this article explores popular figurine series, tips for authenticating pieces, and where to find reliable valuation resources. The following sections will systematically cover these topics to enhance your knowledge and confidence in navigating the Precious Moments figurine market.

- Understanding Precious Moments Figurines
- Factors Affecting Precious Moments Figurines Prices
- Popular Precious Moments Figurine Series and Their Values
- Tips for Authenticating and Preserving Figurines
- Where to Find Reliable Pricing and Valuation Resources

Understanding Precious Moments Figurines

Precious Moments figurines are porcelain collectibles created by artist Samuel J. Butcher and produced by the Precious Moments company. These figurines are characterized by their gentle, sentimental expressions and often convey messages of love, faith, friendship, and hope. Since their debut in the late 1970s, they have become a popular choice for gifts and collectibles worldwide.

The figurines come in various themes, sizes, and editions, including limited and special releases. Understanding the history and characteristics of Precious Moments figurines is essential for assessing their value. The craftsmanship, artistic detail, and emotional appeal contribute significantly to their desirability among collectors.

History and Popularity

The Precious Moments brand began with greeting cards before expanding into figurines in 1978. The figurines quickly gained popularity due to their unique design and heartfelt themes that resonated with a broad audience. Over the decades, the brand released thousands of figurine designs, some of which have become highly sought after in the collector's market.

Materials and Craftsmanship

Precious Moments figurines are typically made from bisque porcelain, a type of unglazed, matte porcelain that gives the figurines their distinctive soft appearance. The fragile nature of porcelain adds to the importance of proper care and preservation. Each figurine undergoes detailed hand-painting, enhancing its charm and uniqueness.

Factors Affecting Precious Moments Figurines Prices

Several key factors influence the pricing of Precious Moments figurines in the secondary market. These factors help determine whether a figurine holds significant investment value or is primarily sentimental. Understanding these elements is crucial for collectors and sellers.

Rarity and Limited Editions

Rarity is one of the most significant determinants of a figurine's price. Limited edition releases, discontinued models, or pieces produced in small quantities typically command higher prices. Collectors often seek rare figurines that are no longer available in stores, which drives up their market value.

Condition and Original Packaging

The condition of a Precious Moments figurine greatly affects its price. Mint condition pieces without chips, cracks, or paint wear are worth more. Retaining the original packaging, certificates of authenticity, and display boxes can increase the figurine's value, as these elements assure buyers of the item's authenticity and care.

Age and Historical Significance

Older figurines, especially those from the initial production periods in the late 1970s and 1980s, often have higher collectible value. Historical significance, such as commemorative editions or pieces marking special occasions, can also enhance a figurine's worth.

Popularity and Demand

Market demand fluctuates depending on trends, collector interest, and cultural relevance. Popular themes such as religious motifs, holidays, or iconic Precious Moments characters tend to retain or increase their value. Conversely, less popular designs may have lower prices.

Popular Precious Moments Figurine Series and Their Values

Several Precious Moments series have become iconic, with specific figurines from these lines commanding premium prices. Understanding the different series and their market reception helps collectors target valuable pieces.

The Original Collection

The initial collection launched in the late 1970s includes some of the most valuable figurines today. Early editions such as “The Keeper of the Keys” and “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands” are highly prized, especially when in pristine condition.

Holiday and Seasonal Figurines

Christmas, Easter, and Valentine’s Day themed figurines remain popular. Limited edition holiday releases often appreciate in value due to their seasonal relevance and rarity once sold out. Collectors seek out these pieces for their decorative appeal and sentimental value.

Anniversary and Commemorative Editions

Special anniversary figurines or those commemorating milestones in Precious Moments history are typically limited in production. These editions often come with certificates and unique packaging, increasing their desirability and price.

- Early original figurines (1978-1985): \$50 to \$500+
- Limited edition holiday pieces: \$40 to \$300
- Commemorative and anniversary figurines: \$100 to \$600+
- Common newer releases: \$20 to \$75

Tips for Authenticating and Preserving Figurines

Proper authentication and preservation are vital for maintaining and increasing the value of Precious Moments figurines. Counterfeit or damaged items significantly reduce market value, so collectors should employ careful practices.

Identifying Authentic Precious Moments Figurines

Authentic figurines typically feature the Precious Moments logo stamped or

embossed on the base, along with the artist's signature or mark. Certificates of authenticity accompany limited editions. Buyers should verify these details before making a purchase to avoid replicas or fakes.

Preservation and Care Recommendations

To keep Precious Moments figurines in excellent condition, avoid exposure to extreme temperatures, direct sunlight, and moisture. Handle figurines with care to prevent chips and cracks. Display cases and soft cloth storage help protect these delicate items.

Restoration Considerations

Professional restoration can sometimes enhance the appearance of damaged figurines but may affect collector value. It is advisable to consult experts before attempting repairs, especially on rare or valuable pieces.

Where to Find Reliable Pricing and Valuation Resources

Accurate pricing information is essential for both buyers and sellers of Precious Moments figurines. Various resources can provide market insights and data to support informed decisions.

Collector's Guides and Price Catalogs

Published collector's guides and price catalogs offer comprehensive pricing information, historical context, and identification tips. These resources are updated periodically to reflect market changes and trends.

Online Marketplaces and Auction Sites

Websites specializing in collectibles and auction platforms provide current sale prices and bidding trends. Reviewing completed sales can help gauge real-time market values for specific figurines.

Collector Clubs and Forums

Engaging with Precious Moments collector communities provides access to expert knowledge, valuation advice, and buying or selling opportunities. These platforms facilitate information exchange and support among enthusiasts.

Professional Appraisals

For high-value or rare figurines, professional appraisals offer authoritative valuation reports. Certified appraisers consider condition, rarity, and market demand to provide accurate pricing assessments.

1. Consult multiple sources for balanced pricing insights
2. Verify authenticity before buying or selling
3. Maintain figurines in optimal condition to preserve value
4. Stay informed on market trends through regular research

Frequently Asked Questions

What factors influence the price of Precious Moments figurines?

The price of Precious Moments figurines is influenced by factors such as rarity, condition, age, edition size, and demand among collectors. Limited editions and retired pieces typically have higher values.

Where can I find a reliable Precious Moments figurines price guide?

Reliable price guides for Precious Moments figurines can be found on collector websites, auction sites like eBay, specialty collectible books, and dedicated Precious Moments collector forums and groups.

How do I determine if my Precious Moments figurine is valuable?

To determine the value, check the figurine's condition, look for markings or numbers on the base, research its edition status, and compare recent sales of similar pieces on auction sites or price guides.

Are retired Precious Moments figurines more valuable than current ones?

Yes, retired Precious Moments figurines are generally more valuable because they are no longer in production, which makes them rarer and more sought after by collectors.

Has the market price for Precious Moments figurines changed recently?

Recently, the market price for Precious Moments figurines has seen fluctuations due to changes in collector interest, availability, and economic factors, with some rare pieces increasing in value while common ones remain stable or decline.

Additional Resources

1. *The Complete Precious Moments Price Guide*

This comprehensive guide offers detailed pricing information for hundreds of Precious Moments figurines. It includes high-quality images, historical background, and tips for collectors on how to identify rare pieces. Updated regularly, this book is an essential resource for both novice and experienced collectors aiming to understand current market values.

2. *Collecting Precious Moments: Identification and Valuation*

Focused on helping collectors accurately identify Precious Moments figurines, this book provides clear descriptions and market values for each piece. It covers different series and limited editions, highlighting key features that affect pricing. The guide also offers advice on maintaining and preserving the figurines to retain their value.

3. *Precious Moments Figurines: A Collector's Companion*

This companion book delves into the history and artistry behind Precious Moments figurines, alongside a detailed price guide. It showcases popular and rare items with estimated values, helping collectors make informed buying and selling decisions. The book also features interviews with collectors and experts in the field.

4. *Guide to Vintage Precious Moments Collectibles*

Targeting vintage collectors, this guide focuses on older Precious Moments figurines and their current market prices. It includes tips on spotting authentic vintage pieces versus reproductions. The book also discusses how trends in collecting have evolved over time and what to expect in future valuations.

5. *Precious Moments Price Guide and Collector's Handbook*

Combining a thorough price guide with practical collecting advice, this handbook is ideal for those new to Precious Moments figurines. It covers the basics of collection care, storage, and appraisal. Detailed pricing charts help collectors understand the value fluctuations in the market.

6. *The Official Precious Moments Price Guide*

Endorsed by the makers of Precious Moments, this official guide provides authoritative pricing information and background stories for each figurine. It includes limited edition releases and seasonal items, complete with production numbers and rarity ratings. The book is a trusted reference for collectors worldwide.

7. *Precious Moments Figurines: Values & Identification*

This book offers a straightforward approach to identifying Precious Moments figurines and understanding their value. It features color photographs and descriptions to aid in quick recognition. The guide also discusses market trends and how to spot figurines that may increase in value.

8. *Investing in Precious Moments: Price Trends and Insights*

Designed for collectors interested in the financial aspect, this book analyzes price trends and investment potential of Precious Moments figurines. It provides historical sales data and forecasts future value changes. The book also includes tips on building a valuable collection and avoiding common pitfalls.

9. *Precious Moments Collectibles: A Market Guide*

This market guide covers a wide range of Precious Moments collectibles beyond figurines, including ornaments and accessories. It provides updated pricing

and market analysis for each category. The book is useful for collectors who want a broader understanding of the Precious Moments collecting landscape.

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