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Official Price Guide To Postcards: 1st Edition (Official Identification And Price Guide To Postcards)



Synopsis

From the first souvenirs commemorating the Columbian Exposition in 1893, picture postcards have held the American imagination. Not since the "Golden Age" of postcards in the early part of this century has there been as much activity and interest in collectible postcards as there is now. * WRITTEN BY A LEADING EXPERT, this is the first reference of its kind, covering every aspect of postcard collecting.* FOR ALL LEVELS OF COLLECTORS, this easy-access resource provides comprehensive, accurate, and up-to-date guidance, with professional advice on postcard value and how to determine it, as well as a helpful glossary of terms all collectors need to know.* INSIDER TIPS on how to start a collection, how to date and grade postcards, and the tricks behind buying and selling them.* AN EXTRAORDINARY ARRAY of collectible postcards is represented -- 100,000 in all -- from the 1890s until today, featuring such varied subjects as streetscapes, state capitals and skylines, as well as holiday greetings, celebrity postcards, advertisements, fantasy, and novelty cards.* RARE POSTCARDS signed by the artists themselves, including Mucha and Vargas, among others.* FULLY ILLUSTRATED with 400 black-and-white photographs and an eight-page color insert, all serve to make this volume indispensable to every collector.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book starts with short easy chapters on the topics of most interest to beginning collectors: history of postcards, how to gauge age, condition, buying and selling, terms and abbreviations.

Contains a comprehensive list of postcard publishers, a good glossary, but less than adequate index. One particularly good chapter runs through 5 postcards from the same artist that range in value from \$1 to \$150 in order to give a sense of what is valuable. This type of comparison would be of great value in any collectables/antique book and I wish there were more examples in this book. The novice can quickly get up to speed on the basics, then browse the extensive price listings both to estimate the value of their own collections, or to see if the local antique store is overpriced (it is!). The price list contains several thousand categories. Contains many b&w photos. The color insert would've been better if it showed a greater variety of postcard types rather than emphasizing a specific topic: European Art Nouveau. I highly recommend this book to beginners. Advanced collectors will probably already know the basic information, including the monetary value of their own topical interests. However, the extensive price list makes a good shelf or shopping reference even for advanced collectors.

Allmen's book is a nice reference, but not an absolute essential. It has some valuable information in the beginning, such as how to determine the age of a card and so on, but her examples aren't as plentiful as one would wish. As well, her prices aren't current, and having been published in 1990, cannot possibly reflect the kind of resurgence in interest in postcards that places like Ebay and auctions are generating. But if you're a dealer or a serious collector it's a nice book to add to your shelf.

Good book for general price guide. Great information for beginning collector. Highly recommend.

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