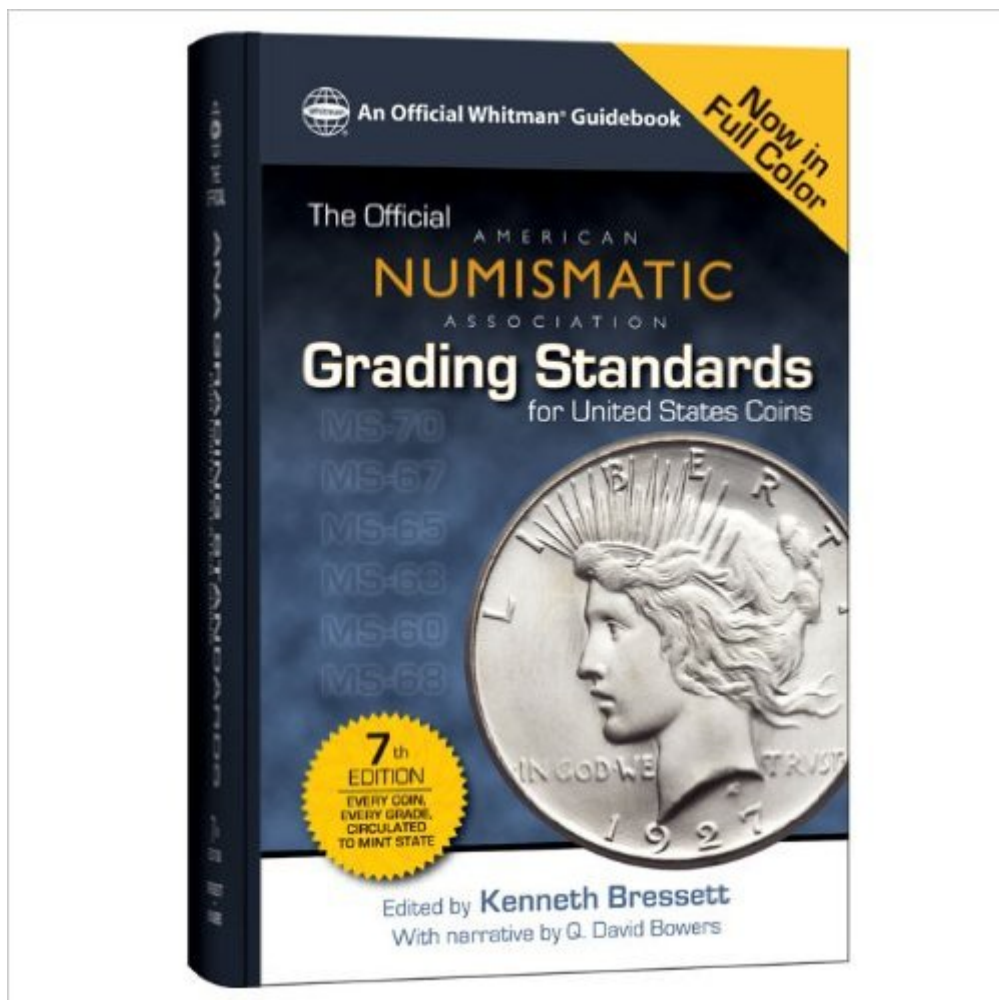


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Official ANA Grading Standards For United States Coins (Official American Numismatic Association Grading Standards For United States Coins)





Synopsis

This comprehensive grading guide, now in its seventh, spells out the official American Numismatic Association Grading Standards for each United States coinage series. Every coin minted since 1793, from half cents to gold double eagles to commemoratives is studied in 384 pages of easy-to-follow text and photographs. Every standard grade is illustrated and described in detail. Text descriptions of 30 levels and pinpoint grades from Poor to Mint State. High-resolution photographs illustrate exactly what to look for. All eleven Mint State levels are discussed in detail. Now in full color, from cover to cover. The only grading guide sponsored and endorsed by the American Numismatic Association. The Official American Numismatic Association Grading Standards for United States Coins, 7th edition, is an indispensable aid to properly grading U.S. coins - the very foundation of smart buying, selling, and collecting.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a difficult book to review. The fundamental positive is that this book just might save you several hundred dollars (or more!) by keeping you from falling into a phony, TPG overgrading trap. The ANA's standards clearly are stated, and anyone determined to enter the rare-coin market absolutely needs to learn them. The bad news is that there is a lot of rote in this book -- what is said about Liberty quarter eagles is pretty much what is said about Buffalo nickels, &c. Photos of the different coins, their grades, and where one should look for wear do help; but, dozens of pages

telling me that MS70 is a perfect coin with no wear or marks, and that MS69 is slightly impaired and MS67 slightly more so really does not explain critical nuances of grading. I would have preferred to see more information re what to expect in the real world of real coins -- what exactly IS the difference between a Philadelphia half eagle that is worn to VF and a Dahlonega half eagle that looks about the same but properly grades AU. Perhaps this is asking too much from a general book; however, this would have been more helpful than endless repetition of the ANA standards mindlessly applied to each type of U.S. mint issue. The Commemorative section also is wanting -- principal commemoratives are listed with a description of where wear typically first appears; however, there are no photos, so the information is not much more than one might find in a Red Book. Finally, there is no mention of Territorial (private) gold, and since I recently came across an Augustus Humboldt eagle, it would have been nice to know what to look for (especially since a private mint well might suffer from the kinds of deficiencies which can lead to weak strikes vis-a-vis worn features).

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