



BULLION AUTHENTICATION COMPANY (BAC) GRADING SCALE

GRADE	DESCRIPTION	Sheldon 70-Point Scale Equivalent*
10	Perfectly minted - shows no trace of wear, handling or scratches from a (5x) magnification.	70
	9.9 - Sharp strike or pour with full original luster, with no more than two small non-detracting contact marks or flaws. No hairlines or scuff marks are visible.	69
	9.8 - Sharp strike or pour with full original luster, with no more than four, lightly-scattered, contact marks or flaws. No hairlines or scuff marks show.	68
	9.7 - Sharp strike or pour with full, original luster, may have three or four very small contact marks and a single, more noticeable, but not detracting mark.	67
	9.6 - Above average quality of strike or pour and full original luster, with no more than two or three minor, but noticeable, contact marks. A few very light hairlines may show under (6x+) magnification, or there may be one or two light, scuff marks showing on frosted surfaces or in the field.	66
	9.5 - Shows an attractive high quality of luster and strike or pour. A few, small, scattered, contact marks, or two larger marks may be present, and one or two small patches of hairlines may show under (5x+) magnification. Noticeable, light, scuff marks may show on the highest points of the design features. Overall quality is above average.	65
	9.4 - Good, overall average luster and even strike or pour. Several small contact marks in groups, as well as one or two moderately heavy marks may be present. One or two small patches of hairlines may show under low, (3-4x) magnification. Noticeable, light, scuff marks or defects may be seen within the design or in the field.	64
	9.3 - Luster may be slightly impaired. Numerous small contact marks, and a few scattered, heavy marks may be seen. Small hairlines are visible without magnification. Several detracting scuff marks or defects may be present throughout the design or in the fields.	63
	9.2 - Impaired or dull luster may be evident. Clusters of small marks may be present throughout with a few large marks or nicks in prime focal areas. Hairlines may be very noticeable. Large unattractive scuff-marks might be seen on major features. The strike, rim and planchet quality may be noticeably below average.	62
	9.1 - Luster may be diminished or noticeably impaired, and the surface has clusters of small contact marks throughout. Hairlines could be very noticeable. Scuff-marks may show as unattractive patches on large areas or major features. Small rim nicks, striking or planchet defects may show, and the quality may be noticeably poor.	61
9	Unattractive, dull or washed-out luster. There may be many large detracting contact marks (nicks), or damage spots, but absolutely no trace of wear. There could be a heavy concentration of hairlines (minute scratches to a coin's surface), or unattractive large areas of scuff-marks. Rim nicks may be present.	60
	8.8 - Almost all of the original luster remains	58
	8.5 - Three-fourths of the original luster remains.	55
	8.3 - Slight wear on more than 50% of the design. Full details except for very minor softness on the high points.	53
8	Traces of wear at the highest points of the coin. At least half of the original luster remains.	50
	7.5 - Slight, overall wear is seen at the highest points of the piece. All the details are full and very sharp. Luster may show only in protected areas of the surface.	45
7	Overall sharpness. Light wear seen at the highest points. Details are sharp. Traces of luster may show.	40
	6.5 - All lettering and major features are sharp. Light, but even wear is seen on the surface and high points of the piece. Traces of luster may show.	35
6	All lettering and major features are sharp. Light, but even wear is seen on the surface and high points of the piece.	30
	5.5 - All lettering and major features are sharp. Light to moderate, but even wear is seen on the surface and high points.	25
5	Moderate wear on the higher surface features.	20
	4.5 - Slightly more detail in the recessed areas of the piece.	15
4	Some deeply recessed areas show detail. All lettering is sharp and shows completely, but may be weak. Moderate to considerable, but even wear throughout the piece.	12
	3.5 - Slightly clearer design-features, with 75-85% of the lettering and/or the design showing on the piece.	10
3	Slight detail shows, with 25-40% of the lettering and/or design showing on the piece.	8
	2.5 - Peripheral lettering is full. Rims are complete.	6
2	Design is visible, but faint in areas, with many parts worn flat. Peripheral lettering nearly full. Rims are slightly worn,	4
	1.5 - Some detail shows. Readable lettering although very heavily worn. The date and/or design may be worn smooth.	2 and 3
1	Clear enough to identify, date and/or design may be worn smooth. Pieces that are very badly corroded may also fall under this category.	1

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