

SHELDON ADJECTIVAL COMPARISON.xls

14/04/2007

SHELDON GRADE	PCGS DESCRIPTION	ADJECTIVAL GRADE	ANDA DESCRIPTION
PO-1	Identifiable date and type		
FR-2	Mostly worn, though some detail is visible		
AG-3	Worn rims but most lettering is readable though worn		
G-4	Slightly worn rims, flat detail, peripheral lettering nearly full		
G-6	Rims complete with flat detail, peripheral lettering full	Good	Quite worn, but must still show the full outline of the design, even if only faintly. There may be many detracting marks, but some eye appeal should remain. With George V coins, all letters are readable except Advance Australia, which is worn flat or nearly so. A "true collectors coins" that is usually only worth bullion, plus a small reward that a dealer considers reasonable for his time and effort in selling this coin.
VG-8	Design worn with slight detail	Very Good	Wear is around 4/5 from what was the top of the feature design. There may be many detracting marks, but not to the extent that a coin appears damaged. On the Reverse of George V coins, Advance Australia may still be partly readable. This grade can still look attractive if shading (dirt) from everyday use highlights the outline of the design.
VG-10	Design worn with slight detail, slightly clearer	Very Good	
F-12	Some deeply recessed areas with detail, all lettering sharp	Very Good	
F-15	Slightly more detail in the recessed areas, all lettering sharp	Fine	Extensive Wear is evident on all design features, though the outline of the design is still fairly raised. detracting marks may be many, but should not be of an excessive nature. Prominent gauges or scratches are not acceptable. George V coins: Reverse: Flat emu body with virtually all feathers worn away. Advance Australia is still bold. Obverse: Centre Diamond is worn away, but six pearls are still present.
VF-20	Some definition of detail, all lettering full and sharp		
VF-25	Slightly more definition in the detail and lettering		
VF-30	Almost complete detail with flat areas	Very Fine	Moderate wear has resulted in flat spots on the high pints of the design, generally more evident on George V coins than later issues. detracting marks and minor edge nicks may be present, but if excessive, should be mentioned seperately. On the Obverse of George V coins, the centre diamond should show all four edges, but the pearls to the left have worn away. A pleasing collectors coin.

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VF-35	Detail is complete but worn with high points flat	Good Very Fine	
EF-40	Detail is complete with most high points slightly flat	Good Very Fine	
EF-45	Detail is complete with some high points flat	Extremely Fine	Light wear is apparent on the high points of the design on both sides. A fair number of small detracting marks are likely to be evident. lustre may still be present, but if so, then only in the legend around the rim. On George V coins, the Centre Diamond in the band of the Monarchs crown should be well raised, and the pearls to the left of it should be well separated.
AU-50	Full detail with friction over most of the surface, slight flatness on high points	Good Extremely Fine	
AU-53	Full detail with friction over 1/2 or more of surface, very slight flatness on high points	About Uncirculated	
AU-55	Full detail with friction on less than 1/2 surface, mainly on high points	About Uncirculated	
AU-58	Full detail with only slight friction on the high points	About Uncirculated	Mostly similar to UNC, though may still feature a good strike. The major difference is faint traces of wear on the high points of the design. Some mint lustre usually remains, particularly in the legends. Occasionally may have more eye appeal than UNC, but wear does not allow for a higher grade. Care must be taken not to mistake a weak strike for wear.
MS-60	No wear. May have many heavy marks/hairlines, strike may not be full. An often unattractive, possibly impaired coin with surface distractions and scuffed, heavily bagmarked surfaces. Yet, no signs of circulation.	Uncirculated	
MS-61	No wear. Multiple heavy marks/hairlines, strike may not be full. Heavily marked with dull, unappealing luster. A MS61 graded coin may look slightly better than a MS60, but the difference is marginal at best. A very below average, generally 'coin lacking appeal' area of mint state.	Uncirculated	

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MS-62	No wear. Slightly less marks/hairlines, strike may not be full. Slightly below average strike, luster and eye appeal. Bagmarks may be heavy and the coin's surfaces may have some large, detracting ones.	Uncirculated	May display some weakness of strike and a small number of detracting marks of a moderate nature. If any of the above are excessive in an otherwise uncirculated coin, (i.e. no wear is apparent), then such impediments should be mentioned separately, as they affect the coins value. Some mint bloom or lustre should still be present but may be subdued. Quite desirable due to the absence of wear.
MS-63	Moderate number/size marks/hairlines, strike may not be full. An average uncirculated coin for the issue. Full mint luster is not required, nor is full strike. Average eye appeal is sufficient to make this grade. Bagmarks are present and can be heavy at times, but they should not overwhelm the overall appeal of the coin.	Choice Unc	Quite well struck, and only minor detail may be missing from the high points of the design. A scattering of fairly insignificant detracting marks may be present, but should not attract undue attention. mint lustre or mint bloom should be of at least moderate presence. A very pleasing coin with much eye appeal.
MS-64	Few marks/hairlines or a couple of severe ones, strike should be average or above. The strike is average and preferably slightly better than average. Luster should be at least average for the issue. Full mint luster is not required. Average strike for the issue. Bagmarks are present, sometimes heavier than others.	Choice Unc	
MS-65	Minor marks/hairlines though none in focal areas, above average strike. The strike should be at least average for the issue and preferably sharp for the issue. The luster should be above average although full mint luster is not required like MS66 and MS67 grades are. Bagmarks can be present, but should not detract greatly from the coin's overall beauty. Generally, MS65's are above average for the issue with attractive luster and are appealing coins overall.	Gem Unc	A superior coin with an almost perfect strike. May show just a few minute detracting marks, barely visible to the naked eye. Virtually full lustre or mint bloom is present. An attractive toning (if present) may enhance eye appeal, on silver coins, but is less desirable on bronze coins. Overall, a close to perfect coin.
MS-66	Few minor marks/hairlines not in focal areas, good strike. Above average strike. Full mint luster is required for the MS66 level. A mint state 66 graded coin should have above average eye appeal and be considered attractive for the issue. A few, small scattered marks may be present, but not a single, large obvious mark that detracts from the overall nice appeal of the coin.	Gem Unc	

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MS-67	Virtually as struck with minor imperfections, very well struck. Above average strike. Full mint luster and attractive eye appeal. A few tiny marks may be present and even one single hidden mark near or at an important design area of the coin may exist. No more than one significant mark.	Gem Unc	
MS-68	Virtually as struck with slight imperfections, slightest weakness of strike allowed. An very prominent, well defined strike. Full mint luster. Outstanding eye appeal. No visible marks of any nature are present on the coins primary surfaces under average magnification power. A coin with outstanding surface quality.	Gem Unc	
MS-69	Virtually as struck with minuscule imperfections, near full strike necessary. Any imperfection, hairlines, etc, are virtually undetectable under magnification. Finding business strike U.S. coins graded this high is rare.	Gem Unc	
MS-70	As struck, with full strike. No imperfections under high magnification. A perfect coin.	FDC	