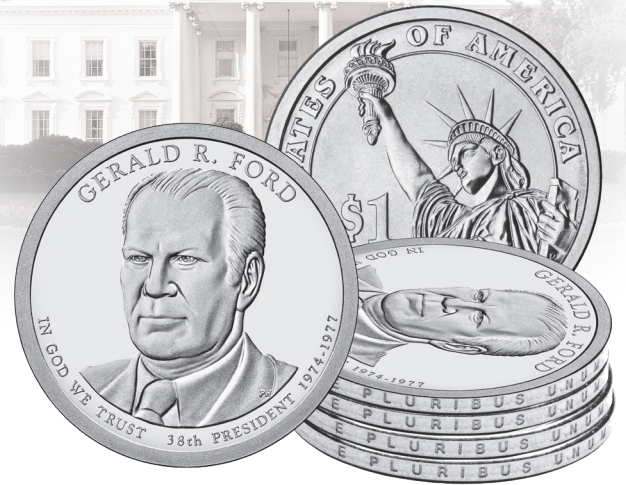


Collector's Journal

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2016 Gerald R. Ford Presidential Dollar

Thirty-Eighth in the Presidential Dollars Collection



The second Presidential Dollar of 2016 honors Gerald R. Ford. Released in the Spring of 2016, the Ford coin is the 38th in the overall series because Ford was the 38th President. It was preceded by the Richard M. Nixon coin and will be followed by the coin for Ronald Reagan.

Presidential Dollars are issued in the order in which the Presidents served; only deceased Presidents can be included, however, which is why the series moves from Ford to Reagan while skipping Jimmy Carter, the 39th President. The Reagan coin will therefore also round out the complete collection that started in 2007 with the coin for the first President, George Washington, since all Presidents after Reagan were still alive in early 2016. Each coin is made for only about 13 weeks.

The golden-colored Presidential Dollars are struck in the same alloy as the Sacagawea Dollars (and later, the Native American Dollars) that were first produced in 2000. Coins in the first few years of the series were intended to be standard circulating issues, but all coins in 2012 and later were made in small quantities that were not released into circulation. Many collectors have found it difficult to keep their collections up to date and to assemble a complete collection.

The forward-facing portrait of Ford on the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Dollar was based on photographs from the era of his Presidency. Inscriptions under the portrait include "38th President" to show the order of Ford's Presidency and "1974-1977" to indicate the beginning and end of his brief term in office.

Presidential Dollars are struck in uncirculated condition at both the Philadelphia and Denver Mints. The two different versions can be identified by the mint mark ("P" for Philadelphia or "D" for Denver) on the edge.

In addition to Presidential Dollars, the U.S. Mint also creates First Spouse \$10 gold coins and bronze medals featuring each President's respective First Lady; in Ford's case, the First Spouse design honors Betty Ford.

Gerald R. Ford

Gerald R. Ford was born in Omaha, Nebraska, as Leslie Lynch King Jr. on July 14, 1913; when his mother remarried, he adopted his step-father's name. A gifted athlete, he played on the University of Michigan's 1932 and 1933 undefeated national championship football teams.

After serving with the U.S. Navy in the Pacific in World War II, Ford won election to the U.S. House of Representatives as a Republican from Michigan. One of the most respected House members, he won reelection in each of the next 12 cycles and became House minority leader in 1964.

When Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned in 1973, President Richard Nixon appointed Ford as his new Vice President and Ford was sworn in on December 6, 1973. Less than eight months later on August 9, 1974, Ford unexpectedly became President when Nixon was forced to resign due to his attempted cover-up of the Watergate scandal. He is the only President who was never elected as either President or Vice President.

Ford granted Nixon a pardon for his role in the Watergate scandal and was President during the nation's bicentennial celebrations in 1976. He was the Republican nominee for President in 1976, but he lost to Democrat Jimmy Carter. His term lasted less than two-and-a-half years – making his the fifth-shortest Presidency in history. He died on December 26, 2006.

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