FREE CHECKLIST · FROM THE INHERITED COIN COLLECTION KIT

Inherited Coins?

Do These 7 Things First



A calm two-day plan for families, before anyone sells, cleans, or splits up the coins.

You don't need to be a collector to do this well. You just need to keep the coins from being damaged or scattered, and write down what you have, before you accept any offer. Tick each box as you go.

1. **Never clean a coin.** ☐
   There are no exceptions. Leave dull, spotted, or tarnished coins exactly as they are. Polish, dips, toothpaste, baking soda, soap and water, a soft cloth, and "coin cleaner" all leave fine scratches or an unnatural shine that buyers spot right away, and the damage can't be undone. If a few coins were already cleaned, stop there and leave the rest alone.

2. **Keep everything together.** ☐
   Leave proof and mint sets in their government packaging, and keep rolls, albums, envelopes, receipts, and any handwritten notes with the coins they came with. They're clues to what the owner thought mattered. Never open a sealed grading holder (a "slab").

3. **Lock everything up in one place.** ☐
   Treat the coins like jewelry or cash when you don't know how much is there. Use a home safe, a locked cabinet, or a bank safe-deposit box, and limit who can get to it. If the coins are already at the bank, it's often smartest to leave them there until you have a plan.

   Keep it quiet: don't post photos or tell people outside the family that there's a coin collection until you have a plan.

4. **Photograph everything and write a short note.** ☐
   Photograph the container as you found it, then the groups, any labels, coins in plastic holders, and anything that looks like gold. Use daylight and a plain table, with no flash. Add a dated note: who owned the coins, where they were found, and any family story.

> **Next:** *the Kit's inventory workbook gives you a ready-made sheet, one line per coin or group, with the totals worked out.*



Why I made this. I've spent more than ten years buying and selling coins, and I've seen families lose money to rushed decisions. This list is what I'd tell a friend in the first two days. Questions? brian@brianrarecoins.com

— Brian Boltryk

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5 Sort into four piles, without cleaning anything.

- Coins in sealed plastic grading holders.
- Anything gold.
- U.S. silver: dimes, quarters, and half dollars dated 1964 or earlier, Kennedy halves from 1965–1970 (40% silver), and Morgan and Peace silver dollars.
- Everything else.

Just this sort usually shows where most of the value is.

> **Next:** *what's the silver alone worth, and what should a buyer pay? The Kit's workbook works out melt value for you.*

6 Don't accept a rushed offer.

A serious buyer can wait a few days. Ask for every offer in writing, itemized by coin or group, with the day's silver and gold price written on it, and compare more than one on the same coins. Coin apps and online asking prices aren't offers; a printed price guide and real written offers are better guides.

> **Next:** *the Kit has short, polite scripts for asking, plus an offer-comparison tab so you can line offers up side by side.*

7 Start a simple inventory, even a rough one.

One line per item or group is enough to begin: what it is, the date if you can read it, a photo number, and the certification number if the coin is in a grading company's holder (such as PCGS or NGC). Look those numbers up only on the grading company's own website, never a third-party app, and make sure the details shown match your coin.

> **Next:** *not sure whether anything is worth grading? Most coins aren't. The Kit's grading chapter shows when the fee makes sense.*

WHAT COMES NEXT

This checklist keeps the coins safe. The **Inherited Coin Collection Kit** helps you decide what to do with them: sort the box, work out the silver and gold value, decide whether grading is worth it, and compare written offers with confidence. It's a 39-page guide plus an inventory workbook, and it works no matter who you sell to.

Checklist readers: $14 (reg. $19) with code CHECKLIST14

brianrarecoins.com/kit

30-day refund: if it doesn't help you, email within 30 days for a full refund.

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By **Brian Boltryk**, rare coin trader with 10+ years of experience handling estates and large gold and silver deals.

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