

Counting Coins from Different Eras

United States coins and currencies periodically go through design changes. Below is a chart that explains some of the changes that pennies, nickels, and dimes have gone through over the past 80 years or so. Learn about the different kinds of coins and then calculate the amounts on the next page.



“Steel Penny” – 1 cent

Because copper was needed for equipment and supplies in World War II, the United States Mint temporarily changed the composition of pennies from copper to steel in 1943 and 1944.



“Buffalo Nickel” – 5 cents

Featuring a Native American on the front and an American bison on the back, the “Buffalo” or “Indian Head” nickel was produced from 1913 to 1938. This nickel, however, proved susceptible to wear and tear and the dates easily rubbed off. In 1938, they were replaced by the Jefferson nickel.



“Mercury Dime” – 10 cents

The “Mercury Dime” actually features a bust of Liberty, who was often confused with the Roman God Mercury. This dime was in circulation between 1916 and 1945, but was replaced by the Roosevelt dime largely because the Mercury Dimes worked poorly in coin-operated vending machines.

How well can you count old coins and new coins together? Tell how much money?



\$ _____



\$ _____



\$ _____

Answers:

\$0.31

\$0.39

\$0.35