

glass hen on nest covered dishes

identification value guide

Glass hen on nest covered dishes identification value guide is a fascinating topic for collectors and enthusiasts alike. These charming pieces of glassware not only serve a practical purpose but also hold historical significance and aesthetic appeal. Originating in the late 19th century, glass hen on nest dishes have evolved in style, shape, and color, making them a delightful addition to any collection. This guide will delve into their history, identification tips, types, and current market value.

History of Glass Hen on Nest Dishes

Origins

Glass hen on nest dishes first gained popularity in the late 1800s, largely due to the innovations in glass manufacturing techniques. Early examples were crafted from opaque glass, often featuring intricate designs. The concept was inspired by the traditional practice of using real hen nests to store eggs, which gave these dishes their unique shape.

Manufacturers

Several manufacturers have produced glass hens on nests over the years, each with distinctive styles. Some notable names include:

1. Westmoreland Glass Company - Known for its milk glass hens with detailed feather designs.
2. Fenton Art Glass Company - Famous for colorful and whimsical designs, often featuring hand-painted details.
3. Indiana Glass Company - Produced a variety of styles, particularly during the mid-20th century, often in clear or colored glass.
4. Jeannette Glass Company - Known for their clear glass hens that were commonly found in American households.

Evolution of Design

Over the decades, the designs of these dishes have varied significantly. The initial opaque white glass transitioned into a variety of colors, including blue, pink, green, and amber. Some versions featured textured surfaces, while others showcased smooth, glossy finishes. As the market evolved, so did the designs, leading to a vast array of styles that appeal to diverse tastes.

Identifying Glass Hen on Nest Dishes

Characteristics to Look For

Identifying glass hen on nest dishes requires an understanding of key characteristics. Here are some features to consider:

1. Color - The color of the glass can provide significant clues about the piece's origin and age. Collectors should familiarize themselves with the typical colors produced by various manufacturers.
2. Texture - Look for variations in texture. Some pieces have intricate designs with raised details, while others are smooth and polished.
3. Size - Most hens on nests are similar in size, but there can be slight variations. Standard dimensions usually range from 6 to 9 inches in length.
4. Base - The base of the dish can often indicate the manufacturer. Some bases are flat, while others have a slight dome.
5. Lid Fit - The lid should fit snugly on the base. Poorly fitting lids may indicate a reproduction or a mismatched set.

Common Types

Here are some of the most commonly encountered types of glass hen on nest dishes:

- Opaque White Milk Glass - A classic style produced by many manufacturers, often featuring a glossy finish.
- Colored Glass - Hens made from colored glass, such as blue or green, are particularly sought after for their vibrant appearance.
- Pressed Glass - This type showcases intricate patterns, often seen in pieces produced by Indiana or Jeannette Glass Companies.
- Hand-Painted - Some Fenton pieces feature hand-painted designs, which can significantly increase their value.

How to Determine Value

Factors Influencing Value

The value of glass hen on nest dishes can vary widely based on several factors:

1. Condition - Pieces in excellent condition with no chips, cracks, or repairs will command higher prices.
2. Rarity - Limited editions or discontinued patterns are more valuable due to their scarcity.
3. Manufacturer - Items produced by well-known companies like Fenton or Westmoreland are often more sought after.
4. Market Demand - The popularity of certain styles can fluctuate, influencing the overall

value.

5. Provenance - Any documented history or previous ownership can enhance a piece's value.

Assessing Market Trends

To gauge current market trends, consider the following:

- Online Auctions - Websites like eBay can provide insights into recent sales and current prices.
- Collector Shows - Attending glass collector shows can help assess demand and connect with other collectors.
- Price Guides - Reference books and online resources can offer valuable information on the historical prices of various pieces.

Care and Maintenance

Cleaning Glass Hen on Nest Dishes

Proper care of glass hen on nest dishes is essential to maintain their beauty and value. Here are some tips for cleaning:

1. Gentle Cleaning Solution - Use a mild dish soap mixed with warm water.
2. Soft Cloth - Avoid abrasive materials; instead, use a soft microfiber cloth to prevent scratches.
3. Avoid Dishwasher - Hand wash the dishes to avoid extreme temperatures that could lead to cracking.

Storage Recommendations

Proper storage is critical for preserving glass hen on nest dishes. Consider these guidelines:

- Avoid Direct Sunlight - Store away from direct sunlight to prevent fading or discoloration.
- Use Padding - When stacking, use soft padding between dishes to prevent scratches.
- Maintain Stable Temperature - Keep in a climate-controlled environment to avoid temperature fluctuations.

Conclusion

The glass hen on nest covered dishes identification value guide provides an essential framework for collectors and enthusiasts to appreciate these unique pieces of glassware. With a rich history, diverse designs, and varying values, these charming dishes can

enhance any collection. By understanding the key characteristics, factors influencing value, and proper care techniques, collectors can make informed decisions and enjoy the beauty of these delightful glass creations for years to come. Whether you're a seasoned collector or a curious novice, the world of glass hens on nests offers endless opportunities for exploration and enjoyment.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the key characteristics to identify a glass hen on nest covered dish?

Key characteristics include the shape of the hen, the design of the nest, and the glass color or clarity. Look for specific details like the hen's head position, wing design, and the texture of the nest.

What is the historical significance of glass hen on nest covered dishes?

These dishes became popular in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, often used as decorative pieces and for serving food. They represent a blend of art and functionality in glassware.

How can I determine the value of my glass hen on nest covered dish?

To determine value, consider factors such as age, condition, rarity, manufacturer, and market demand. Research similar items sold at auctions or consult with a glassware appraiser for accurate valuation.

What are some popular brands or manufacturers of glass hen on nest dishes?

Popular manufacturers include Westmoreland, Fenton, and Indiana Glass, each known for specific styles and colors that can affect the value and collectibility.

Are there specific colors or patterns that increase the value of these glass dishes?

Yes, certain colors like cobalt blue, milk glass, or rare patterns can significantly increase value. Limited edition pieces or those with unique designs are also more sought after by collectors.

How should I care for and clean my glass hen on nest

covered dish?

Clean your glass dish with mild soap and water, avoiding abrasive materials. Dry it gently with a soft cloth to prevent scratches. Store it in a cool, dry place to prevent damage.

Where can I find a price guide or resources for collecting glass hen on nest dishes?

You can find price guides in collector books, online auction sites like eBay, and specialized glassware websites. Joining collector groups on social media or forums can also provide valuable insights and resources.

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