

Moorcroft Pottery
Weekly Times Column
By Warren Joel

Moorcroft pottery is one of the most collectable of the English pottery and porcelains. Established in the late 1800's, it has continued to produce classic designs for over a hundred years. As with most collectables it has swung in and out of fashion and the price of these pieces has fluctuated accordingly. At the moment Moorcroft is on a bit of a low so making it very collectable and affordable at the moment.

The collectability of Moorcroft is determined very much by two key factors, being design and colour, and condition. Moorcroft comes in an enormous range of colours and designs and it is these variations that determine the price. Some of you will be familiar with the more common patterns like Pomegranate and floral designs. But, there are some fabulous and highly unusual designs that are highly collectable and sought after. These include Dawn, Eventide, Moonlit Blue and the very early Macintyre Ware.

Unfortunately many of the Moorcroft pieces I come across on a day to day basis have been used as flower vases. The glaze that was used on these vases was not designed to hold water and by using them the water has caused crazing to the ceramic. The effect on the price can be substantial. As an example an early Eventide vase 30cm tall could sell for up to \$1,500 but with crazing that will reduce to maybe half.

When you are out on the hunt or looking in the laundry cupboard all the Moorcroft items are clearly marked and signed on the base. There have been over the years a few imitations so keep your eyes open for those marks and signatures.

Next week: Christmas Collectables

Free Valuation for Weekly Times readers.

Byjoel will do a free valuation of your collectables via email. If you send a photo and description of your item to hwtvaluations@byjoel.com.au I will access the item and respond.

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Warren is a third generation auctioneer and valuer specialising in Art, Antiques and Collectables, accredited by the Commonwealth in 2002 different areas of collectables.

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