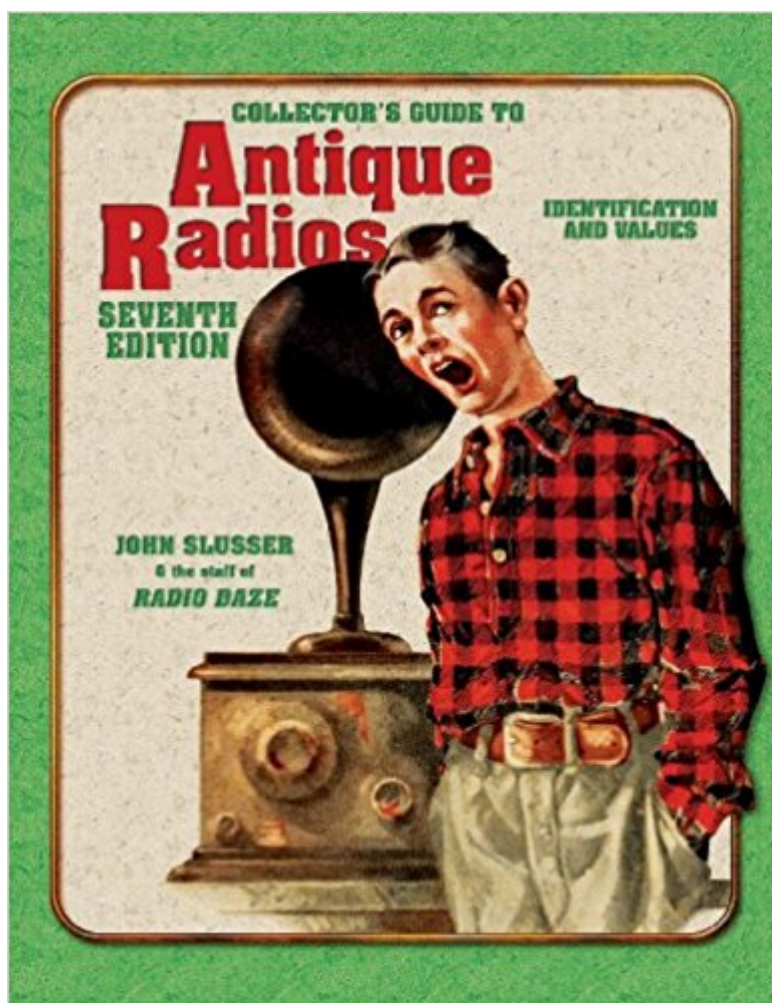


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Collector's Guide To Antique Radios: Identification And Values, 7th Edition



Synopsis

John Slusser, collector, full-time radio dealer, and well-known figure in the radio field, along with the staff of Radio Daze, have compiled this updated and expanded seventh edition of our popular series. Filling the need for an easy-to-use, complete price guide to these collectibles, Collector's Guide to Antique Radios, Seventh Edition, gives descriptions and current values for approximately 10,000 models of antique radios with over 800 full-color photographs. Our guide gives complete descriptions of every radio along with selected full-color photos and information about the radio manufacturers. The informative text provides explanations for the many confusing terms and abbreviations used in the radio field. Listed alphabetically by company, the radios are accompanied by current collector values. The book is devoted to the golden age of radios, the 1920s through the 1950s. Although the majority of these radios have long since vanished, many still remain as living examples of the quality and charm of products from this period. 2008 values.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Collectors who enjoy antique radios and specialty libraries catering to specialty collectors will have to have the updated 7th edition to Collector's Guide to Antique Radios by John Slusser: it packs in color photos of each antique to accompany the very latest values, organizes chapters by makers for quick and easy consultation, and includes plenty of reference material perfect for identifying the radios and their values. -Midwest Book Review

John Slusser pursued an education in electrical engineering and has been involved in the computer systems and telecommunications arena for over 27 years. He renewed his interest in radios as a casual hobby and quickly became obsessed. In the mid-1990s he started Radio Daze, LLC, in upstate New York to service and sell classic radios of the 1920s to 1950s.

This is an excellent and fairly comprehensive guide to antique radio prices and identification. The author took over this series from Marty and Sue Bunis and continued in the same format.

Unfortunately, this is probably the last in the series. The book is organized by manufacturer and model number and has a brief description of each radio - tube count, knobs, radio type, cabinet, and there are plenty of pictures to help in identification. It certainly does not list EVERY model manufactured but has a lot of them. Some previous editions of the book list radios and have pictures that are missing from other editions so the key is to get your hands on all the back editions and you'll have a really good set of references that cover a heck of a lot of different models. What is missing in one book can probably be found in one of the others in the series. As a radio collector and refurbisher, these books have been of particular help to me in identifying some of the more esoteric models I've found in flea markets and auctions. If you really need more comprehensive identification, a specialized book about a particular manufacturer like "Philco Radio: 1928-1942" by Ramirez and Prosis may be better, but this collector's guide is absolutely a requirement for any collector's reference library. These editions are a little dated now and the listed estimated market prices are somewhat obsolete but they can give you a very rough idea of the value of that Philco Model 60 cathedral radio that belonged to your great grandmother.

When I first started searching for tube radios to buy, I knew I needed a price guide. And, I had doubts about this volume after reading some negative reviews. Now, I find it invaluable and can't imagine shopping without it. Any buying guide must be portable to be useful. This book is about as big as a practical buying guide can be. With 317 pages (7th edition) printed on 8.5 x 11 inch paper, you cannot stuff this guide into your shirt pocket. However, you can carry it in your briefcase or a shipping bag. (I hope that a future editions will be available in a digital format for use on portable electronic devices.) I had some concerns about omissions. Well, after shopping at eBay, radio swap meets, flea markets, yard sales and Craigslist, my experience is that the omissions are not overwhelming relative to the radios I have seen. Several times I have found data on similar models that gave me valuable insights into a model not listed. The book presents several pages explaining its approach to valuation. After reading the detailed comments, you will be better equipped to make

adjustments for unique situations and your buying interests. No guide can account for all variables, but I can tell you that this guide can help you to avoid costly mistakes. Many sellers have no clue about market value, and are wildly optimistic about what they think their antique tube radio should sell for. I always define a "bargain" or "too costly to buy" by reference to this guide. There are 800 color photographs in the 7th edition. Do I wish there were more? Sure, and typically each guide has more photos than the previous edition. Again, a buying guide must be portable and cannot contain photographs of all tube radios ever produced. If you are buying, don't leave home without it. There are few buying situations where a buyer would not be helped by referring to this book. This is a superb presentation of otherwise rare data on a niche hobby. I respect the years of research and data accumulation that have gone into the production of this unique work. If either the author or publisher ever stop producing this guide, it would be a huge loss to radio hobbyists. Moreover, this superb guide keeps getting better ... even as the population of collectors is likely diminishing.

My husband has gotten into fixing up old radios (and collecting some for future hobby work), and he finds this reference book helpful in identifying and determining whether or not some radios he's interested in are worth even getting or fixing up. The book itself has thick, glossy pages with some smaller vivid pictures of certain radio models, but not all of them as that would make a huge book to lug around. As it is, this is more like a thicker magazine that can easily be taken on a trip if needed. The whole book is organized alpha by company/maker, and lists models numbers and years after that, with some details along with estimated values at the time the book was published. Now, of course, those values fluctuate, so it's more useful as a tool, not a guarantee. I do wish they had tabs for quicker look ups. Also, because there are so many models out there, they couldn't possibly fit them all in one edition, so I recommend collecting a few of these for anyone with a keen interest in radio collecting or repair.

The seventh edition isn't much different from the first. I really don't see any changes except from a different cover as my fifth edition and seventh has only a new cover. No new samples, models, or photographs and the same outdated price values that were probably established in 30 years ago. A radio that is valued at \$50.00 sells for double and triple that on eBay and sometimes more. Lacks in vital information for radios and skips many models. If you have one, don't bother buying a new edition unless you like the new cover.

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