



Grading United States Coins EPISODE 9

Something's Not Right: Reasons Coins Don't Grade, Part II

INTRODUCTION

In this episode, Don and Jim take a deep dive into some of the reasons coins don't grade with grading companies. Specifically, they look at scratches, environmental damage, and other types of damage.

Grading companies will assign non-numeric grades to coins that have been damaged and/or altered. Coins can be labeled as Improperly Cleaned, Harshly Cleaned, Altered Surfaces, Tooled, Environmental Damage, Whizzed, etc.

Scratches

Scratches are the most common reason why a coin will not grade. Many things can cause scratches on coins, but they are often the result of polishing coins with a cloth. Cleaning coins was very popular with collectors around the turn of the century.

Environmental Damage

Environmental damage can result from a variety of circumstances. Moisture and humidity can cause corrosion. Likewise, PVC (polyvinyl chloride) holders can cause environmental damage.

Other Types of Damage

There are many reasons a coin will not grade. It is important to check coins for rim damage, tooling, graffiti, plugging, and/or wheel marks. Don't forget, it is also essential to make sure your coin is genuine and not a counterfeit.

COIN OF THE EPISODE

1916 Barber Quarter Dollar

- Light wear
- Issues on the neck

Graded VF Details-Scratches



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