

## Grading Proof Coins

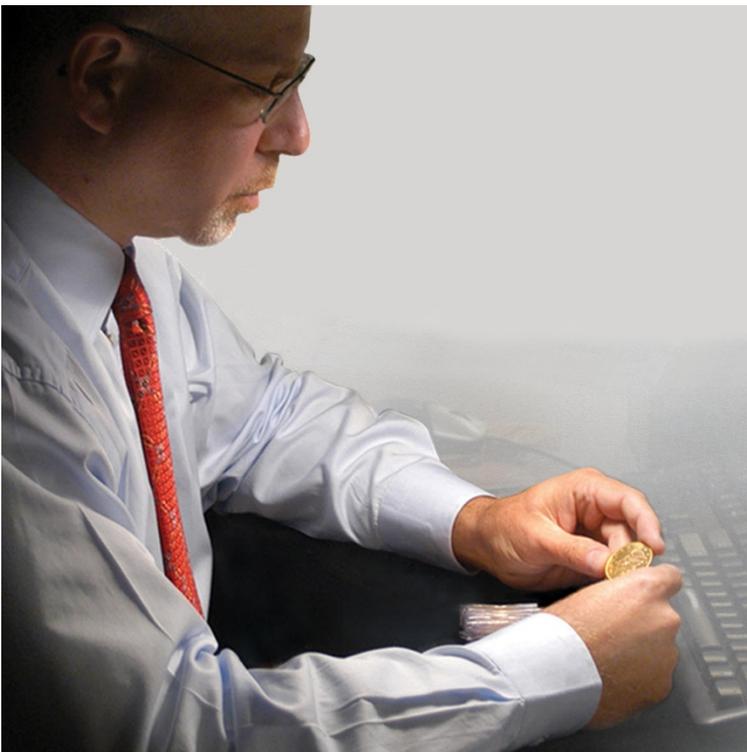
Grading proofs is similar to the grading process for uncirculated coins Mint State coins (MS-60 to MS-70). The attribute "PR" or "PF" stands for "proof" and is used instead of the MS (mint state) to indicate a proof coin. Uncirculated proofs are graded from Proof-60 to Proof-70.

**PCGS** - Professional Coin Grading Service uses the "PR" grade designation.

**NGC** - Numismatic Guaranty Corporation uses the "PF" grade designation.

Proof refers to the method of manufacture and is not a condition. There are 11 grades of proof coins, ranging from Proof-60 to Proof-70. Here are a few of the popular called grades:

- **Proof-70** The perfect coin, with a full mirror surface and highest quality strike. No flaws are visible or post-production imperfections at 5x magnification.
- **Proof-65** is sometimes called "Gem Proof" with a high quality mirror surface and a few noticeable hairline scratches. The strike of the coin will be well struck, above average.
- **Proof-63**, which is sometimes referred to as "Choice Proof." The mirror field may be slightly impaired and it will have several hairline marks. The strike of the coin may be slightly weak or average.
- **Proof-60** is the lowest grade on the upper proof grading scale. The coin will have little if any mirror characteristics and have many marks. The strike of the coin will either be weak or average.



### Cameo Proofs

"Cameo" is a term applied to proofs and prooflike coins that have deeply mirrored fields, frosted devices and lettering that contrast with the fields.

There are variations, such as "Ultra Cameo" (CAM) or "Deep Cameo" (DCAM), where the fields are deeply mirrored and the devices are heavily frosted for bold contrast on both sides of the coin, which gives these coins incredible eye appeal.

