



THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II GOLD SOVEREIGN

A PHOTOGRAPHIC GUIDE

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INTRODUCTION: GREAT BRITAIN'S GREATEST COIN

The gold sovereign is the most famous gold coin the world has ever seen. At its zenith it was used or accepted as currency in more than 30 nations or territories around the world. No other gold coin has ever had such global reach.

The origins of the sovereign date back to the reign of King Henry VII. This first English sovereign was introduced to impress the world with its size, purity and splendour. It was a statement of the success of the new Tudor dynasty and it was named the sovereign as it was the 'king' of the coinage - larger and more valuable than any other coin in England at that time - and a statement of the power and wealth of the Kingdom of England.

The sovereign was worth twenty shillings, or one pound, a face value it retained throughout its history as an English coin (to the end of the reign of King Charles I in slightly modified forms) and that which was also adopted when it was first struck as a British coin in 1817.

The early English Sovereigns of King Henry VII and his successors were struck entirely by hand by 'hammering' a thin disc of gold between two dies. As a result their exact size and shape varied but their gold content remained constant.



THE MODERN GOLD SOVEREIGN

The Great Recoinage of 1816 in the reign of King George III saw the triumphant return of the sovereign as a replacement for the gold Guinea which had circulated for over 150 years. This new coin differed from its medieval predecessor in several ways: it was around half the weight of the first sovereigns of Henry VII and just over half the diameter. Its fineness was set at 22 carats, a standard that has remained fixed for all gold sovereigns since. In addition, the modern sovereign was struck at the Royal Mint's new premises in Tower Hill, using powerful new steam powered coining presses produced at the height of the Industrial Revolution. This produced coins of precise shape and identical weight, and it was the strict adherence to these standards that inspired confidence in the sovereign both at home and abroad. The gold content of every modern sovereign could be completely relied upon, and it was this reliability that contributed greatly to its worldwide popularity.

Another key feature of the modern sovereign is its now legendary design. In the same way that the 1489 sovereign had been used as a political tool to demonstrate the grandeur of the ruling house, so too did the 1817 sovereign boast an exceptional design that made a bold statement about English might and nobility. For the first time, the image of St George slaying the dragon appeared as the motif on a coin and it was truly impressive. Designed and engraved by a talented young Italian engraver, Benedetto Pistrucci, this classical rendition of the chivalrous tale has since become one of the most famous designs in history.

MODERN SOVEREIGN STRUCK BY EVERY CROWNED BRITISH MONARCH

With the exception of the uncrowned King Edward VIII, the sovereign has been struck by every British monarch since King George III. In over 150 years, there have only been two new adaptations of the St George and the dragon design and two subtle re-workings, all of which have occurred in the reign of our present queen, Elizabeth II. Four monarchs have also used a shield motif: King George IV, King George V, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II. The sovereign has a worldwide reputation for purity and excellence and a large part of this is due to the familiarity of its design, which is recognised the world over. This is why the design is so rarely varied.

THE SOVEREIGN RETURNS IN THE REIGN OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The outbreak of the First World War brought the days of the circulating sovereign to a shuddering halt. It saw the end of the Full Gold Standard, as governments replaced gold with paper money to fund the war effort. Although the production of sovereigns was briefly resumed in 1925 when Churchill took Britain back onto the Gold Standard, the coins minted in that year were not released into circulation. By 1931, Britain had suspended the Gold Standard entirely.

Following the Second World War gold was in high demand especially in countries suffering post-war inflation. However, Britain had not minted sovereigns for the gold market since 1925. A consequence of the inaccessibility of British gold sovereigns and the increase in their demand led to widespread counterfeiting, especially prevalent in Italy and Syria. Although sovereigns had been struck to commemorate the coronation of George VI in 1937 they were collector issues minted to Proof quality (with a plain edge) and were never intended for circulation. Even in 1953, the year of Elizabeth II's coronation, no gold coins were released by the Royal Mint, a handful only going into national collections.

The British Government tackled the problem of forgery by the resumption of bullion sovereign production in 1957. The first gold sovereigns of Queen Elizabeth II's reign used a right facing uncrowned profile of the young Queen by Mary Gillick, the first woman to commemorate a British monarch on the modern sovereign. This portrait featured on the gold sovereign between 1957 and 1968 and was also the last to be used on British predecimal coinage.

The production of sovereigns was again stalled by the Labour government's Gold Exchange Control Order of 1966, containing an amendment to the original 1947 act preventing the British public from owning more than four gold coins minted after 1817 without permission from the Bank of England. The strict licensing, designed to prevent the hoarding of gold by speculators, stifled the flourishing market ahead of decimalisation and destabilised London's position as the centre of the world coin market. It also led to the ludicrous situation where it was against the law for a British citizen to own his or her own national currency.

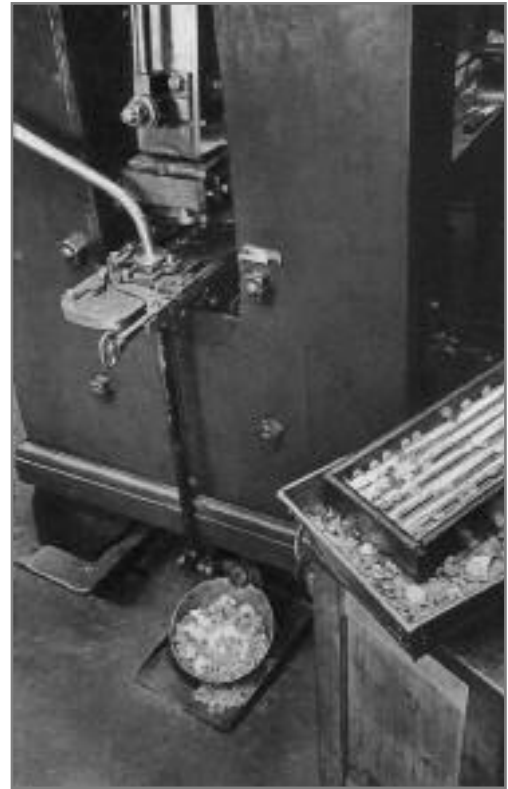
Sovereigns were not produced again until 1974, when a new portrait of the Queen by Arnold Machin was introduced. This effigy had been in use on other circulating British decimal coins since 1968, but the Gold Exchange Control Order had prevented the issue of sovereigns during this period. In Machin's portrait, the Queen is depicted wearing a tiara and appears a little older, to reflect more than 20 years on the throne.

When the Control Order was finally abolished by the Conservative government in 1979, the Royal Mint produced a special issue of proof sovereigns to satisfy the collector market, and a new era for the modern sovereign began.

In 1985, Raphael David Maklouf designed a third portrait of Elizabeth II, portraying a more mature Queen wearing a diadem, which featured on the sovereign until 1997. From 1982, no bullion sovereigns were issued so only proof versions of coins with the diadem portrait exist.

The current depiction of the Queen, introduced in 1998, was designed by Ian Rank-Broadley. In this realistic portrait, the modern likeness of Elizabeth II reflects her age and exudes an air of authority and control. The Queen wears the tiara given to her by her grandmother, Queen Mary, as a wedding present.

In 2000, the production of Uncirculated 'bullion' sovereigns recommenced, the first time that these had been issued since 1982. The Millennium year sovereign featured the classic St George and the dragon design that first appeared on the modern sovereign in 1817.



Steam powered presses, an innovation of the Industrial Revolution, made it possible to strike gold sovereigns to an incredible level of consistency of size, weight and purity. It is this reliability that made it a trusted currency around the world.

COMMEMORATIVES AND DESIGN CHANGES

The first commemorative sovereign in Britain was issued in 1989 to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the gold sovereign. The design by Bernard Sindall marked the first design change in over 150 years and reflected that of the original sovereign, introduced by Henry VII in 1489. The obverse featured Elizabeth II robed and seated on her throne, facing the front, instead of the familiar Queen's

head in profile. Similarly, Pistrucci's St George and the dragon was replaced by the crowned Tudor Rose with an updated royal arms at its centre. This design was issued for one year only.

The shield design was last used on a sovereign in 1887 for Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee but then, in 2002, Timothy Noad created an adaptation of the shield design for Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee. It was only struck for one year. The same designer was also commissioned for a new interpretation of Pistrucci's St George and the dragon design that appeared on the 2005 sovereign. In a bold break with tradition, the Royal Mint commissioned a new depiction of the battle between St George and Dragon and this modern version of a classic motif was issued for one year only. Although never officially confirmed, it has been suggested that this design was struck as a 'tribute' to the 200th anniversary of Lord Nelson's victory at Trafalgar, also celebrated in 2005.

Since 1817, there have been several minor changes to the dies for the Pistrucci design on the reverse of the sovereign. However, in 2007, this classic design was completely re-engraved using new master tools in order to achieve greater production efficiency, and as a result, the 2007 and 2008 sovereigns are noticeably different. The overall design is in lower relief, the muscles on both the horse and St George are accentuated, St George's helmet plumes, crest and cloak folds are altered, the horse has a longer tail and the border is different. Although not issued as a reworked design, the sovereigns from 2007/2008 can be seen as distinct from those produced between 2000 and 2006.

In 2009, the Royal Mint returned to using the unmodified original tools of the 19th century, restoring the version that first appeared between 1821 and 1887.

The Pistrucci St George and the dragon motif is synonymous with the sovereign and is recognised throughout the world. Only on rare occasions is this classic design replaced on the sovereign and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012 was one such occasion. The third tribute to St George and the dragon to appear on a sovereign was designed by Paul Day, and depicted a gothic knight slaying the dragon. This new design was issued for one year only.

QUALITY: A VISUAL GUIDE TO PROOF AND UNCIRCULATED STRIKING

The simplest way to explain the difference between Proof quality and Uncirculated is to look at the two finishes visually (see below). The two levels of quality are not two different points on a scale: rather they are on two different scales entirely. This means that even the best Uncirculated coin can never be Proof and, likewise, a Proof coin with some wear does not become Uncirculated.

If you examine the photographs shown here you will see that the Proof coins (shown on the right) have a 'cameo' effect where the design appears frosted and the background takes on a mirror-like quality. To achieve this requires a specialised production process with the coin being struck up to four times to achieve this depth of detail. Proof coins are considered to be the pinnacle of the minter's art - the highest quality coin possible.

Uncirculated coins (shown on the left) on the other hand are struck in much the same way as the coins we see in circulation but they are, as the name indicates, uncirculated; that is, not used in any way. Additionally, the Uncirculated coins the Royal Mint produce for collectors are generally speaking of a much higher standard than those for circulation, and greater care is taken in quality control to ensure they reach the collector in superb condition - literally in 'mint' condition.

Queen Elizabeth II, the 2002 commemorative, shown in Uncirculated (bullion) quality on the left, and in Proof (collector) quality on the right.



Queen Elizabeth II, the '19th century' St George, shown in Uncirculated (bullion) quality on the left, and in Proof (collector) quality on the right.



Queen Elizabeth II, the Fourth portrait, shown in Uncirculated (bullion) quality on the left, and in Proof (collector) quality on the right.



QUEEN ELIZABETH II Gold Sovereign with the First Portrait



Monarch:	Queen Elizabeth II (1952 to the present)		
Diameter:	22.05mm	Alloy:	22 carat gold 91.67% pure
Edge:	Milled (serrated)	Weight:	8 grams
Minted:	Minted only in Uncirculated quality and for just ten years: 1957, 1958, 1959, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967 & 1968.		
Obverse:	ELIZABETH II DEI GRATIA REGINA FD First Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II. Shows a bust of Her Majesty with her hair held in place by a chaplet of laurel leaves and tied with a ribbon. Designer: Mary Gillick. On her gold sovereigns this monarch <i>always faces right</i> .		
Reverse:	The design of St George and the dragon introduced on the coins of King George IV (Type 2), with St George as a classical horseman, unclothed but for a helm and cloak, with a sword and with a streamer on his helmet. The date appears below the design. Designer: Benedetto Pistrucci.		
Significance:	This is the first sovereign type of Her Majesty's reign. It was only minted in Uncirculated quality for the world bullion market - no Proof coins were released. The coins of 1957 feature a tighter edge milling than subsequent years making them a one year type.		
Rarity:	Of all British bullion sovereigns, this type comprises 53.72%.		





QUEEN ELIZABETH II Gold Sovereign with the Second Portrait



- Monarch: Queen Elizabeth II (1952 to the present)
- Diameter: 22.05mm Alloy: 22 carat gold 91.67% pure
- Edge: Milled (serrated) Weight: 8 grams
- Minted: Minted in Uncirculated quality for only seven years: 1974, 1976, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981 & 1982.
Minted in Proof quality for only six years: 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983 & 1984.
- Obverse: ELIZABETH II DEI GRATIA REGINA FD
Second Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II. Shows a bust of Queen Elizabeth II with her hair in a more elaborate setting, wearing a tiara of pearls and precious stones, a wedding gift from her grandmother, Queen Mary. Designer: Arnold Machin.
On her gold sovereigns this monarch *always faces right*.
- Reverse: The design of St George and the dragon introduced on the coins of King George IV (Type 2), with St George as a classical horseman, unclothed but for a helm and cloak, with a sword and with a streamer on his helmet. The date appears below the design. Designer: Benedetto Pistrucci.
- Significance: The first Proof (collector) quality sovereigns of Her Majesty's reign are this type, struck in 1979.
- Rarity: This type comprises 44.61% of British bullion sovereigns, and 37.45% of British Proof sovereigns.



Bullion (Uncirculated) quality shown



QUEEN ELIZABETH II Gold Sovereign with the Third Portrait



- Monarch: Queen Elizabeth II (1952 to the present)
- Diameter: 22.05mm Alloy: 22 carat gold 91.67% pure
- Edge: Milled (serrated) Weight: 8 grams
- Minted: Minted only in Proof quality in each year 1985 to 1997, excepting 1989 (see Type 15).
- Obverse: ELIZABETH II DEI GRA REG FD
Third Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II wearing the Royal Diadem which she wears to and from the State Opening of Parliament, along with drop pearl earrings and necklace. Designer: Raphael Maklouf. On her gold sovereigns this monarch *always faces right*.
- Reverse: The design of St George and the dragon introduced on the coins of King George IV (Type 2), with St George as a classical horseman, unclothed but for a helm and cloak, with a sword and with a streamer on his helmet. The date appears below the design. Designer: Benedetto Pistrucci.
- Significance: This type of sovereign was only ever struck in Proof quality for collectors - none were ever struck for bullion markets.
- Rarity: Of all British Proof sovereigns, this type comprises 24.19%.



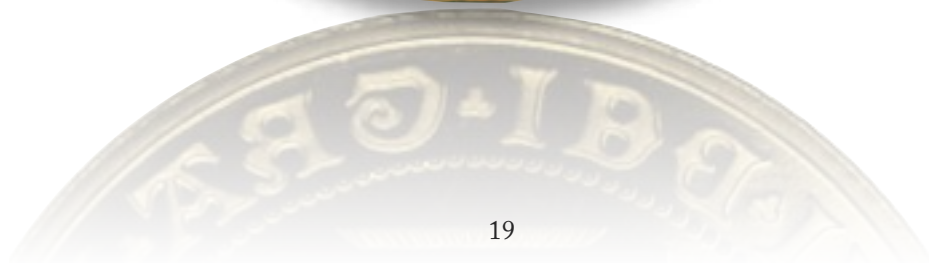


QUEEN ELIZABETH II Gold Sovereign the 1989 commemorative



Monarch:	Queen Elizabeth II (1952 to the present)		
Diameter:	22.05mm	Alloy:	22 carat gold 91.67% pure
Edge:	Milled (serrated)	Weight:	8 grams
Minted:	Minted only in 1989 to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the first English gold sovereign coin.		
Obverse:	ELIZABETH II DEI GRA REG FID DEF Full length bust of Queen Elizabeth II enthroned on her Coronation chair and in full regalia holding a sceptre in both hands with a stepped canopy behind. Designer: Bernard Sindall.		
Reverse:	ANNIVERSARY OF THE GOLD SOVEREIGN 1489 1989 An adaptation of the design on the original sovereigns of King Henry VII in 1489, with the Royal Arms crowned and set upon a double Tudor Rose. Designer: Bernard Sindall.		
Significance:	It is the first commemorative sovereign in history. This is the only sovereign on which Her Majesty has been depicted enthroned. It is the first - and currently only - coin to feature the word 'sovereign' as part of its design, and the only sovereign to have wording in English and not Latin. This type of sovereign was only ever struck in Proof quality for collectors.		
Rarity:	Of all British Proof sovereigns, this type comprises just 3.52%.		





QUEEN ELIZABETH II Gold Sovereign with the Fourth Portrait



- Monarch: Queen Elizabeth II (1952 to the present)
- Diameter: 22.05mm Alloy: 22 carat gold 91.67% pure
- Edge: Milled (serrated) Weight: 8 grams
- Minted: Minted in Proof quality for only seven years: 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004, & 2006.
Minted in Uncirculated quality for only five years: 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004, & 2006.
- Obverse: ELIZABETH II DEI GRA REGINA FID DEF
Fourth Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II wearing the tiara from Type 13, and occupying more of the coin due to the reduced size of contemporary circulating coinage. Designer: Ian Rank Broadley.
On her gold sovereigns this monarch *always faces right*.
- Reverse: The design of St George and the dragon introduced on the coins of King George IV (Type 2), with St George as a classical horseman, unclothed but for a helm and cloak, with a sword and with a streamer on his helmet. The date appears below the design. Designer: Benedetto Pistrucci.
- Significance: Both bullion and Proof types represent very small proportions of their respective types.
From the year 2000 the purchase of these coins became free of VAT.
- Rarity: This type comprises 0.36% of British bullion sovereigns, and 13.01% of British Proof sovereigns.



Proof quality shown



QUEEN ELIZABETH II Gold Sovereign the 2002 commemorative



- Monarch: Queen Elizabeth II (1952 to the present)
- Diameter: 22.05mm Alloy: 22 carat gold 91.67% pure
- Edge: Milled (serrated) Weight: 8 grams
- Minted: Minted only in 2002 to celebrate the Golden Jubilee (50th anniversary) of Her Majesty's reign.
- Obverse: ELIZABETH II DEI GRA REGINA FID DEF
Fourth Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II wearing the tiara from Type 13, and occupying more of the coin due to the reduced size of contemporary circulating coinage. Designer: Ian Rank Broadley.
On her gold sovereigns this monarch *always faces right*.
- Reverse: An adaptation of the Royal Shield of Arms surrounded by a laurel wreath, the two branches bound together with a ribbon tied in a bow, date below. Designer: Timothy Noad.
- Significance: The last monarch to strike the shield design on a sovereign was Queen Victoria. The use of the same motif on this coin ties the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II to that of the previous monarch to celebrate this same milestone: her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria.
This is the fourth type of Shield design sovereign.
Struck in both bullion and Proof (collector) quality.
- Rarity: This type comprises 0.09% of British bullion sovereigns, and 2.92% of British Proof sovereigns.



Proof quality shown



QUEEN ELIZABETH II Gold Sovereign the 2005 one year design



- Monarch: Queen Elizabeth II (1952 to the present)
- Diameter: 22.05mm Alloy: 22 carat gold 91.67% pure
- Edge: Milled (serrated) Weight: 8 grams
- Minted: Minted only in 2005: rumoured to be a tribute to the 200th anniversary of Lord Nelson and Trafalgar.
- Obverse: ELIZABETH II DEI GRA REGINA FID DEF
Fourth Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II wearing the tiara from Type 13, and occupying more of the coin due to the reduced size of contemporary circulating coinage. Designer: Ian Rank Broadley.
On her gold sovereigns this monarch *always faces right*.
- Reverse: A modern stylised version of St George slaying the dragon. There has been no official reason why this design was created or struck for only one year. It has been theorised that it may be a tribute to the 200th anniversary of Lord Nelson's victory at Trafalgar: policy would ordinarily preclude a national event being commemorated on gold sovereigns. However, by treating this as a modified St George design it was able to be struck as a one year only 'commemorative'. Designer: Timothy Noad.
- Significance: This is the first new adaptation of St George and the dragon on sovereigns in over 180 years.
Struck in both bullion and Proof (collector) quality.
- Rarity: This type comprises 0.05% of British bullion sovereigns, and 2.32% of British Proof sovereigns.



Proof quality shown



QUEEN ELIZABETH II Gold Sovereign with the re-cut dies of St George



- Monarch: Queen Elizabeth II (1952 to the present)
- Diameter: 22.05mm Alloy: 22 carat gold 91.67% pure
- Edge: Milled (serrated) Weight: 8 grams
- Minted: Minted in Uncirculated and Proof quality for only two years: 2007 & 2008.
- Obverse: ELIZABETH II DEI GRA REGINA FID DEF
Fourth Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II wearing the tiara from Type 13, and occupying more of the coin due to the reduced size of contemporary circulating coinage. Designer: Ian Rank Broadley.
On her gold sovereigns this monarch *always faces right*.
- Reverse: The design of St George and the dragon introduced on the coins of King George IV (Type 2), but with considerable changes to the design such as longer horse tail, different mane, longer helmet plumes, created by the re-cutting of the master dies. The Royal Mint used a hand-engraved Pistrucci original model for the 1818 silver crown as a starting point and re-engraved a number of features. Designer: Benedetto Pistrucci with modifications by the Royal Mint engravers.
- Significance: Few people realise this type is different to the regular Queen Elizabeth II Fourth Portrait (Type 16). Only ever struck for 2 years and both bullion and Proof types are tiny proportions of their types.
- Rarity: This type comprises 0.18% of British bullion sovereigns, and 4.06% of British Proof sovereigns.



Proof quality shown



QUEEN ELIZABETH II Gold Sovereign with the 19th century St George



- Monarch: Queen Elizabeth II (1952 to the present)
- Diameter: 22.05mm Alloy: 22 carat gold 91.67% pure
- Edge: Milled (serrated) Weight: 8 grams
- Minted: Minted in Uncirculated and Proof quality for only four years to date: 2009 to 2011, & 2013.
- Obverse: ELIZABETH II DEI GRA REGINA FID DEF
Fourth Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II wearing the tiara from Type 13, and occupying more of the coin due to the reduced size of contemporary circulating coinage. Designer: Ian Rank Broadley.
On her gold sovereigns this monarch *always faces right*.
- Reverse: The design on the re-cut dies introduced in 2007 (Type 19) was not considered a success and so in 2009 the Royal Mint restored the design of St George and the dragon introduced on the coins of King George IV (Type 2), with St George represented as a classical horseman, unclothed but for a helm and cloak, holding a sword. The date appears below the design. Designer: Benedetto Pistrucci.
- Significance: Few people realise this type is different to the regular Queen Elizabeth II Fourth Portrait (Type 16). Queen Elizabeth II is the first monarch since Queen Victoria to strike this version of the St George and dragon design.
- Rarity: This type comprises 0.70% of British bullion sovereigns, and 10.08% of British Proof sovereigns.



Proof quality shown



QUEEN ELIZABETH II Gold Sovereign the 2012 commemorative



- Monarch: Queen Elizabeth II (1952 to the present)
- Diameter: 22.05mm Alloy: 22 carat gold 91.67% pure
- Edge: Milled (serrated) Weight: 8 grams
- Minted: Minted only in 2012 to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee (60th anniversary) of Her Majesty's reign.
- Obverse: ELIZABETH II DEI GRA REGINA FID DEF
Fourth Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II wearing the tiara from Type 13, and occupying more of the coin due to the reduced size of contemporary circulating coinage. Designer: Ian Rank Broadley.
On her gold sovereigns this monarch *always faces right*.
- Reverse: A romantic adaptation of the St George and the dragon theme: a medieval knight of Arthurian style, with a dragon of more threatening attitude and size, its wings have a harp-like quality, in contrast to the realism of the knight and horse, date to the left. Designer: Paul Day.
- Significance: This is the first British Diamond Jubilee commemorative sovereign ever.
This is only the fourth time St George and the dragon has been redesigned.
Struck in both bullion and Proof (collector) quality.
- Rarity: This type comprises 0.29% of British bullion sovereigns, and 1.61% of British Proof sovereigns.



Proof quality shown

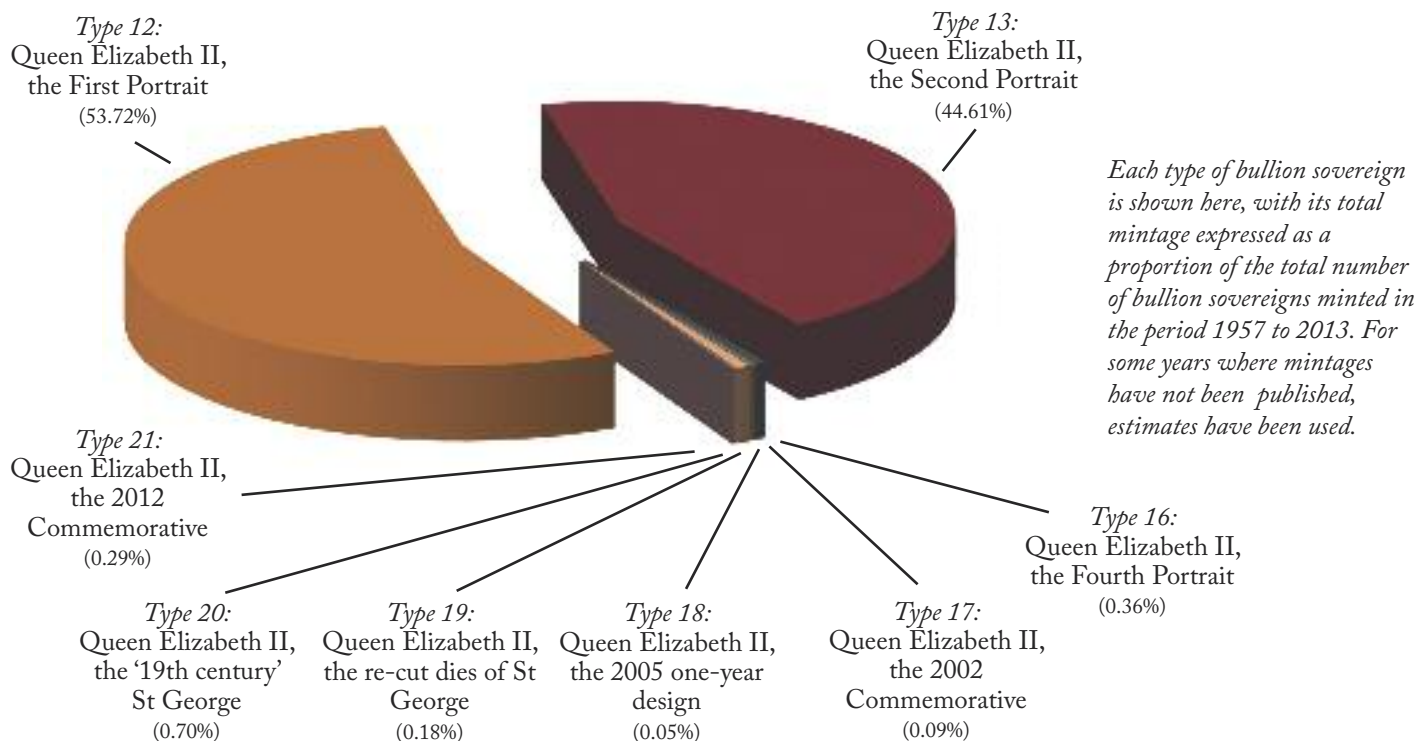


RARITY OVERVIEW OF THE TWO MAIN CLASSES OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II SOVEREIGN

BULLION COINS

Nations around the world left the gold standard after the financial chaos of the Great Depression. Britain withdrew sovereigns from circulation during the First World War. After the Second World War a global market for gold bullion emerged - especially with all the uncertainty around currencies - and the sovereign with its unrivalled reputation was in considerable demand. From 1957 Uncirculated quality gold sovereigns were struck for bullion markets.

The chart below shows that the first two issues (Types 12 and 13) were of a different proportion to more recent ones. This is because the sovereign had a considerable share of the demand for bullion coins. Over time, other coins such as South Africa's kruggerand have come to rival the dominance of the sovereign which is why the later issues (Types 14 onwards) have much smaller mintages reflecting the fact that the sovereign now shares the bullion market with many other coins.

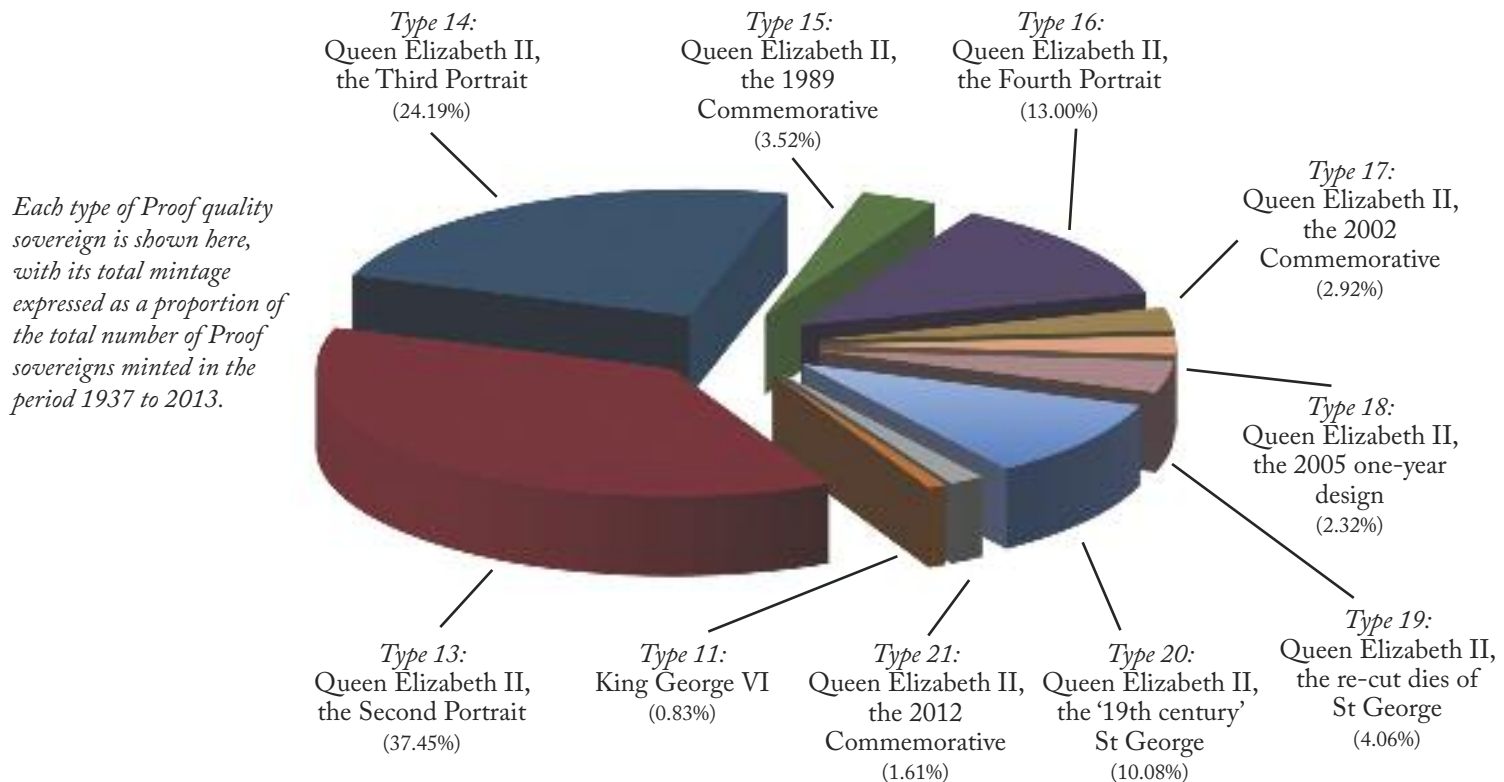


PROOF (COLLECTOR) QUALITY COINS

Proof is a special quality of coin usually offered only to collectors. These coins are struck in a different way to regular circulating coins and they take on a different appearance as a result. They are the finest quality coins possible.

The 1937 gold sovereign of King George VI was struck only as a Proof quality issue for collectors. This is the first time a Proof sovereign had been issued without a currency version and it signalled the growing importance of collector issues.

The next Proof sovereign issue was struck in 1979 and they have been struck every year subsequent to this. The chart below makes for an interesting comparison of the various types that have been issued and a collection of all ten types of Proof British sovereign would make for a worthwhile pursuit.



DESIGN: A VISUAL GUIDE TO THE DEPICTIONS OF ST GEORGE AND THE DRAGON

The image of St George slaying the dragon has become synonymous with the British sovereign. There have been seven depictions of St George since the introduction of the modern sovereign in 1817 - five of them in the reign of Queen Elizabeth II - some of them subtle changes from Pistrucci's original, while others have been entirely new interpretations.



Slight modifications including a streamer on St George's helmet.

Minted 1957-2006.



Re-engraved version of an 1818 Pistrucci crown engraving.

Minted 2007 & 2008 only.



Return to the modified Pistrucci art of the 19th century.

Minted 2009 to 2013.



New interpretation rumoured to be for the 200th anniversary of Trafalgar.

Minted 2005 only.



New interpretation for the Diamond Jubilee.

Minted 2012 only.

DISPLAYING YOUR COLLECTION

Having acquired some of Great Britain's greatest coins over time, each of the coins will most likely be packaged separately. However, it can be more enjoyable to have them presented as one coherent theme or series, especially if you are sharing it with loved ones or close friends.

There are a number of cases available ranging from a four coin version that will house the four types of Queen Victoria sovereign, right up to a luxurious museum-quality case that will house the entire set from Type 1 right through to the most recent types. Many of the cases come with certificates which detail the history of the sovereign series and provide technical data on each of the types.

If you have a good coin advisor he or she should be able to assist you secure cases such as these.



