# Rare 2008 undated 20p coin could be worth up to £60, experts warn



An expert in numismatics is encouraging individuals to scrutinise their 20p coins, as a select few minted in 2008 could fetch up to £60 each. The attention surrounding these coins stems from a rare minting error that has greatly enhanced their value to collectors.

The specific coins of interest were produced during a limited run by the Royal Mint, during which a small number, approximately 250,000 out of 136 million minted that year, were inadvertently struck using an old obverse die in combination with a new reverse design, resulting in undated coins. This phenomenon has been identified as a "mule error," where mismatched dies lead to the absence of a date.

The Coin Collecting Wizard, an authority on the subject, emphasised the rarity of these undated coins, stating: “Stop spending your 20p coins without checking them first because one from 2008 with no date is worth £60.” According to the expert, although these coins are classified as rare, they are not entirely impossible to discover in everyday transactions. Many collectors continue to find them in circulation even years after their minting.

In 2008, the Royal Mint confirmed the occurrence of this error, which has made these coins highly sought after. Collectors have reported instances of undated coins exchanging hands at prices considerably beyond their face value. Some recent auction results highlight this phenomenon: undated 20p coins have sold for as much as £78 on platforms like eBay, greatly surpassing their nominal worth.

Notably, while these coins possess a legal tender value of 20p, their collector's value is stemming from their unique status as the first undated British coin in over 300 years. The Royal Mint has provided resources for identifying these coins, further aiding both collectors and the curious public in distinguishing between regular and potentially valuable coins.

As interest in coin collecting continues to flourish, driven by the thrill of discovery and the potential for profit, enthusiasts are urged to delve into their change. Those who have held onto these coins may be sitting on a hidden treasure; thus, the message from experts remains clear: check your coins before spending them, as you may hold a piece of numismatic history.

The allure of these undated 20p coins serves as a reminder of the unexpected treasures hidden in everyday transactions and the often-unrecognised intricacies of currency production.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/money/20p-coins-worth-60-expert-31719246), [[2]](https://www.royalmint.com/discover/uk-coins/undated-20p-coin/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[5]](https://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/24598942.royal-mint-undated-20p-coin-sold-almost-300x-value/), [[6]](https://www.forestryjournal.co.uk/news/24665620.royal-mint-rare-20p-mule-coin-sells-75---spot/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/24513729.royal-mint-error-rare-20p-sells-250x-face-value/), [[4]](https://ukpostcode.org/content/rare-20p-mule-coin-from-royal-mint-sells-for-78-how-to-identify-one/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[6]](https://www.forestryjournal.co.uk/news/24665620.royal-mint-rare-20p-mule-coin-sells-75---spot/), [[7]](https://www.theoldhamtimes.co.uk/news/24190980.royal-mint-rare-20p-error-sells-350x-face-value/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/money/20p-coins-worth-60-expert-31719246> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.royalmint.com/discover/uk-coins/undated-20p-coin/> - In November 2008, the Royal Mint accidentally produced a batch of 20p coins without dates, affecting less than 250,000 of the 136 million minted. This error occurred due to the use of an old obverse die paired with a new reverse design, resulting in undated coins. Despite the error, these coins remain legal tender with a face value of 20p. The Royal Mint provides images to help identify the undated coins.
3. <https://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/24513729.royal-mint-error-rare-20p-sells-250x-face-value/> - A rare undated 20p coin, minted in 2008 due to a Royal Mint error, sold for £50 on eBay, 250 times its face value. The coin was part of a batch where less than 250,000 undated coins entered circulation. The Britannia Coin Company describes this error as a 'mule' coin, resulting from mismatched dies used during minting. The coin's rarity has made it highly sought after by collectors.
4. <https://ukpostcode.org/content/rare-20p-mule-coin-from-royal-mint-sells-for-78-how-to-identify-one/> - The 2008 undated 20p coin, a 'mule' coin resulting from a minting error, has become a collector's item. Approximately 250,000 of these coins were produced and entered circulation before the error was discovered. The coin's value has risen significantly, with some selling for over £70. Collectors are advised to check their change for this rare coin, which is the first undated British coin in over 300 years.
5. <https://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/24598942.royal-mint-undated-20p-coin-sold-almost-300x-value/> - An undated 20p coin from 2008, minted due to a Royal Mint error, sold for £58 on eBay, nearly 300 times its face value. The coin was part of a batch where less than 250,000 undated coins entered circulation. The Royal Mint confirmed that these coins remain legal tender with a face value of 20p, despite their rarity and increased value among collectors.
6. <https://www.forestryjournal.co.uk/news/24665620.royal-mint-rare-20p-mule-coin-sells-75---spot/> - A rare 2008 undated 20p 'mule' coin sold for £75 on eBay, 350 times its face value. The coin was part of a batch where less than 250,000 undated coins entered circulation due to a minting error. The Royal Mint had introduced a new reverse design, but some coins were struck using the old obverse die, resulting in undated coins. These coins have become highly sought after by collectors.
7. <https://www.theoldhamtimes.co.uk/news/24190980.royal-mint-rare-20p-error-sells-350x-face-value/> - An undated 20p coin from 2008, minted due to a Royal Mint error, sold for £69.99 on eBay, nearly 350 times its face value. The coin was part of a batch where less than 250,000 undated coins entered circulation. The Britannia Coin Company describes this error as a 'mule' coin, resulting from mismatched dies used during minting. The coin's rarity has made it highly sought after by collectors.