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Anchor Hocking Catalogs, 1940-Present (Schiffer Book For Collectors)



Synopsis

Explore over half a century of colorful, innovative glassware. Crisp, clear photos of catalog pages and advertisements from Anchor Hocking present dinnerware, punch sets, giftware, salt and pepper shakers, bowls, and glasses. Established patterns and etched glassware are illustrated. Store displays and original catalog pricelists are also featured. The text includes useful information concerning resources available to collectors, a history of the company, catalog identification, and much more. An index and values for the wares displayed in the catalog pages and advertisements are also provided. This book will be a valuable addition to the library of every glass enthusiast.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Philip L. Hopper has been collecting Anchor Hocking glass for years and currently has over 9,000 pieces in his collection.

The title fully misrepresents the book. 'Catalogs 1940 - Present' - NOT EVEN! BY my rough count, Catalog pages come out in this proportion: 1940s = 7% (and these from 1949); 1950s = 17%; 1960s = 17%; 1970s = 48% (heavily concentrated on 1978); 1980s = 2%; 1990s = 0%; 2000s = 2% (from 2002); unidentified years = 7%. I collect ashtrays and was hoping to garner info on a wide range of ashtrays from Anchor Hocking through the catalog pages in this book. The ashtray pages were from 1964 (a couple pages) then 1972-1979 (a few pages - mostly redundant). Nothing at all on older ashtrays - or newer, for that matter. The book is broken into sections so more items in any given full

line simply don't appear or only by coincidence. And, of course, the age ranges covered in any given section vary considerably. Sections include: Established Patterns, Punch Sets, Dinnerware Sets, Giftware, Storage Containers, Ashtrays, Etched Glassware, Salt & Pepper Sets, Misc. Bowls, Misc. Glasses. Also some store displays from catalogs and example catalog pricing pages (this sort of pages not included in my rough tally). The book is OK if you're focused to certain types for the 1970s especially; if you're looking for any appreciable info for 1940s or 1950s or even after the 1970s - you'll be very disappointed. I guess I should have known better - this is a Schiffer Book and I have seldom seen any Schiffer publications that were worth much. The rare exception is when the author is really good and does a really great job. It would seem the publisher will accept anything at all it thinks will sell to collectors and pays no heed to completeness or accuracy of information presented.

From the promotions and preface, we learn that Col Hopper, founder and owner of the A-H glass museum, has over 2,500 catalog pages showing Anchor Hocking products. Do not expect to find more than 200 of them in this book. Many of the images used have been published before by Gene Florence and others. The book does not reproduce even one year's complete catalog. It is organized by pattern and type, somewhat eclectically, making it difficult to navigate. There is a tremendous spread on ashtrays, but not even one page devoted to coffee cups. The Wexford pattern is given short shrift, limited to a mere two pages. The values are listed by Anchor Hocking serial number, a code which the average reader may not be able to decipher, even with the useful alphanumeric keys provided in the front of the book; these values (2002?) are nowhere near comprehensive for even a single pattern. Col Hopper does not provide commentary on the patterns, not even the duration of their production. That's the bad news. The good news is that this volume, in full color, is filled with fun, professional images prepared by Anchor Hocking's photographers. It is a feast for the eye, a treat for the kitchen historian in us all, and a walk through sixty years of time (if you don't mind emphasis on the Seventies). Buy it for the memory trip. The serious collector will find some information on recent patterns (for example, Presence) that is not yet available elsewhere.

This is the most useful book I have on Anchor Hocking glassware. It is not the only book on Anchor Hocking that I have, of course. But the information it contains is accurate and shows original catalog pages to prove it. For those expecting to see 60 years of complete catalogs in one regular size book for \$29.95, your expectations are very unrealistic!

Excellent Book

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