

British Pre-Decimal coinage 1662 -1971

£1 was divided into 20 silver shillings (20/-)
One shilling (1/-) divided into 12 pennies (12d)

Gold Coins

Pre 1800 – **guinea** (21/-), **half guinea** and variations
From 1800 - **sovereign** (£1) and **half sovereign** (10/-)
and sometimes multiples (£2 or £5)

Silver Coins

were sterling silver (92.5% pure) up to 1919
then 50% silver 1920 to 1946
finally cupro-nickel from 1947.
One **crown** (5/-) was five shillings
(in regular use to 1902, occasionally after
and more recently for commemorative coins)

half crown (2/6d)

Florin or two shillings (2/-) from 1849

One **shilling** (or *bob*) (1/-)

sixpence (or *tanner*) (6d)

threepence (3d) up to c1945

'Copper' Coins

minted in **brass**

threepence (1937+) (*thruppenybit*) (3d)

minted in **copper** up to 1860, then **bronze**

penny (1d)

halfpenny (½d)

farthing (= '*fourth-thing*') - used up to 1950s (¼d).

Kings & Queens of Britain from 1660

Charles II	1660-1685
James II	1685-1688
William III & Mary II	1688-1694
William III (sole reign)	1694-1702
Anne	1702-1714
George I	1714-1727
George II	1727-1760
George III	1760-1820
George IV	1820-1830
William IV	1830-1837
Victoria	1837-1901
Edward VII	1901-1910
George V	1910-1936
Edward VIII	1936 (no coins)
George VI	1936-1952
Elizabeth II	1952-

Charles II refused to face the same way on his coins as Oliver Cromwell who had faced left, so Charles II faced to the right. From then on, each king or queen faced the opposite way to the previous one.

For each coin, there are variations of design and portrait, particularly in a long reign like George III's and Victoria's. Other coins were occasionally introduced. Up to Victoria's reign, groats (4d) and half groats (2d) were regularly issued. Victoria issued a double-florin between 1887 and 1890 and also fractions of a farthing (for use in some colonies).

Coins are priced according to their rarity and condition.

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