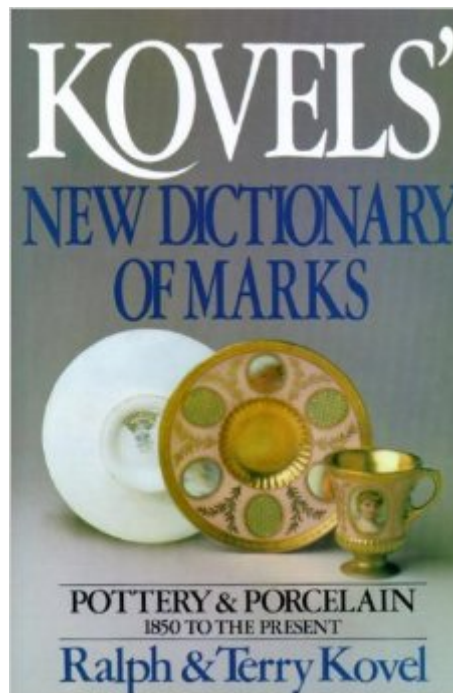


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Kovels' New Dictionary Of Marks: Pottery And Porcelain, 1850 To The Present



Synopsis

You may be the owner of a valuable piece of porcelain or pottery, but the cryptic symbol on the underside of the piece may be your only clue to its value. Kovels' New Dictionary of Marks: 1850 to the Present will help you identify your pieces. Kovels' New Dictionary of Marks provides the quickest and easiest way for professional and amateur collectors to identify more than 3,500 American, European, and Oriental marks. The perfect companion to the Kovels' original best-seller, Kovels' Dictionary of Marks -- Pottery and Porcelain: 1650 to 1850 (still in print after more than 42 years and 41 printings), Kovels' New Dictionary of Marks is the most comprehensive reference for nineteenth- and twentieth-century marks. Together, the two volumes are an indispensable guide to porcelain and pottery marks of the last four centuries. Also available from Three Rivers Press, Kovels' Dictionary of Marks--Pottery & Porcelain: 1650 to 1850

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Customer Reviews

While the layout, date code information, and index are very well done, many marks are dated incorrectly.... some off by decades. This is very misleading and frustrating. Due to the Kovels' apparent vast experience, collectors and dealers tend to believe whatever they write... right or wrong! As an author and china mark historian, I hope the Kovels remove any unverified mark usage dates in a future edition. To list a few examples, they say mark 195L is semiporcelain, 1886-1898. The correct information according to the manufacturer (now Syracuse China, then Onondaga Pottery) is vitrified china 1897-1946. Also they indicate mark 127J is a current mark, but this

backstamp was actually used 1930s - early 1950s. Then there is mark 105N listed as faience 1891+, which should be porcelain 1959-1969 according to the company. Other knowledgeable and observant collectors and dealers have noticed similar discrepancies.

This is the book I refer to first when I get a new piece of porcelain. 90% of the time I find the mark in this book. U.S. Marks are not as well represented, however I do get some good information about the marks I do find. I like the way the book is organized. You can look in the index if you know a name. This leads you to locations in the book where this name is listed. Or you can search by the shape, design, or letters used in the mark. I am a beginner and I still found this book to be very helpful in my research. My only request for an updated version is to include more U.S. Marks. The U.S. Pottery and Porcelain markets are getting very hot and it would be helpful to be able to quickly identify them.

The authors of this book have been writing it for almost 50 years. It is not a replacement for their "Kovels' Dictionary of Marks: Pottery and Porcelain", which was first published in 1953 and is still in print. This book is an addition to the first book, having about 10% of the marks shown in the first book because of new information or for completeness. The other marks are newer and not shown in the old book. There are two sections of marks, the first section is marks that look like objects and the second is alphabetical by initials and words. There is also a section called: "Some Additional Information". It has a glossary of terms, dating systems, foreign words commonly used in the marks, fakes and forgeries, a list of "Selected Reading", and an index. This book alone is not enough for accomplished collectors, but is excellent for beginners and used in combination with the first book (as the authors apparently intended) will cover a large percentage of the "Pottery and Porcelain" marks.

Many dates and body materials are incorrect. Volume has been reprinted over and over with obviously no effort to make corrections. Most serious collectors and knowledgeable dealers are aware of these problems.

I was truly not happy with this book. All I know of the Kovels what I've seen of them on TV. This is the first book I picked up authored by the pair and it will probably be the last. The last twelve marks I have tried to identify have not been in this book. Though I find the chapter layout of the book helpful, what is missing is content.

I purchased this book to find information on porcelain manufacturers because I'm just getting started on collecting porcelain tea cups and demitasse sets. It has great info, it's well organized and easy to use. It has domestic manufacturers as well as foreign and will be a big help to anyone who uses it. It also has a great helper in the back: an explanation of and chart for dating the old-style English registry marks. I found out I have a plate made Dec. 3, 1855 from looking in this book. Buy it. It's a big help.

This book was my first porcelain reference book and I purchased it with the idea of identifying and dating items in my growing cup and saucer collection. It did not disappoint me. It doesn't have all the marks(an impossible feat), but it is an excellent reference and I use it extensively! I highly recommend this as an important addition to the library of any one collecting porcelain!

Book has been VERY helpful w/collecting Royal Albert cups/saucers. Especially helpful is the English china registration list of dates. Thanks for a great reference source.

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