

MEMBER RESOURCE · THE VAULT

Retired Crayola Thrift Guide

Every retired color worth pulling, with real eBay comps — turn donation-bin crayons into cash.

14 OFFICIAL RETIREMENTS	1990–2017 RETIREMENT WINDOW	\$5–\$200+ PRICE RANGE	100+ COLORS COVERED
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SECTION 01

The Flip

Buy low, sell higher — the names are where you win.

Crayola has officially retired 14 colors since 1990, and quietly renamed or dropped dozens more. These crayons turn up constantly at Goodwill, Salvation Army, and estate sales — mixed into beat-up boxes that most thrifters walk right past. Knowing the retired names, and what they sell for, is your entire edge. This guide covers every retired and renamed color with real eBay comp prices, how to spot them, which boxes to grab, and how to list for top dollar.

SECTION 02

1990 Retirement Class — 8 Colors

The first-ever Crayola retirement. Pulled in 1990, placed in the "Hall of Fame."

Briefly re-released in limited packs (1991, 1998, 2008, 2025) but never returned to the standard line. Vintage pre-1990 singles command the most. Four of these came back in the 2025 limited pack — that lowers value on modern-packaged singles, so check the box year.

Color	Single Used	Single Unused	Lot 5–10	Notes
Blue Gray	\$5–\$8	\$10–\$15	\$20–\$40	Cool blue-gray; often mistaken for plain gray
Green Blue	\$5–\$10	\$10–\$18	\$20–\$45	Teal-ish; not the same as Teal Blue (2003)
Lemon Yellow	\$5–\$10	\$12–\$20	\$25–\$50	Re-released 2025 — check box date
Maize	\$5–\$12	\$12–\$18	\$20–\$45	Corn yellow; predates Dandelion
Orange Red	\$5–\$10	\$10–\$18	\$20–\$45	Re-released 2025 — check box date
Orange Yellow	\$5–\$10	\$10–\$15	\$18–\$40	Compare label vs plain Orange carefully
Raw Umber	\$4–\$8	\$8–\$15	\$15–\$35	Brown family; easy to overlook
Violet Blue	\$5–\$12	\$12–\$20	\$25–\$50	Re-released 2025 — check box date

Vintage pre-1990 singles hold full value; 2025 re-release singles sell ~\$3–\$6.

SECTION 03

1999 Retirement — Thistle & Indian Red

Two high-profile retirements, both actively collected.

Color	Change	Single Used	Single Unused	Why It Matters
Indian Red	1999 → Chestnut	\$8–\$15	\$15–\$20	Original "Indian Red" label = pre-1999; collectors want the old wrapper.
Thistle	1999 → Indigo	\$2–\$10	\$10–\$19	Light purple from 1949. One unused sold for \$18.95.

SECTION 04

2003 Retirement Class — 4 Colors

Voted out by fans for Crayola's 100th birthday.

Magic Mint, Mulberry, Teal Blue, and Blizzard Blue. Re-released in limited packs in 2003, 2008, and 2025. Pre-2003 originals carry a premium.

Color	Single Used	Single Unused	Lot 5–10	Notes
Blizzard Blue	\$8–\$15	\$15–\$20	\$30–\$60	Icy light blue; wrapper fades — inspect. Re-released 2025.
Magic Mint	\$12–\$20	\$18–\$25	\$40–\$70	Pale mint-green; strong demand. Re-released 2025.
Mulberry	\$12–\$20	\$18–\$25	\$35–\$65	Deep rose-purple. Re-released 2025.
Teal Blue	\$12–\$18	\$18–\$22	\$35–\$60	Distinct from Green Blue. Re-released 2025.

SECTION 05

2017 Retirement — Dandelion

The most famous Crayola retirement of all time.

Given a national farewell tour in 2017, replaced by Bluetiful. Media hype created massive collector demand. Re-released in a 2025 limited pack, then permanently restored to the standard 64-count box in 2026 — the first retired color ever brought fully back. Common modern singles will soften in value, but vintage and farewell-pack items stay collectible.

Format	Description	eBay Range
Single, used	Loose, any vintage box	\$8–\$15
Single, unused (pre-2017)	Full wrapper, unsharpened	\$15–\$20
Farewell Dandelion! 5-pack	2017 specialty farewell box	\$50–\$100
Farewell Dandelion! 24-pack	2017 large farewell set	\$150–\$200+
1990 intro-year 64 box	Box from year color debuted	\$20–\$55
2025 Limited Edition 8-pack	New retail re-release	\$12–\$30
2026 standard 64-count	Back in standard box	\$5–\$10

Gold rows = vintage / farewell = high value. 2025–2026 releases are worth far less.

SECTION 06

Renamed Colors — The Old Label Is the Value

Never officially retired — renamed. The original wrapper makes it collectible.

Original Name	Renamed To	Year	Single Range	Why Collectors Want It
Flesh	Peach	1962	\$10–\$25	Pre-1962 label; civil-rights-era change. Very old stock.
Prussian Blue	Midnight Blue	1958	\$15–\$30	Extremely old; teacher-requested change. Rare.
Indian Red	Chestnut	1999	\$8–\$20	Strong premium over the "Chestnut" label.

SECTION 07

Unofficially Retired & Hard-to-Find

Never in the Hall of Fame, but gone from production. All sell on eBay.

Color	Era	Single	Lot	Notes
Goldenrod	1990s	\$5–\$12	\$15–\$35	Deep yellow — not Dandelion
Bittersweet	1949–90s	\$4–\$10	\$12–\$30	Salmon-orange
Unmellow Yellow	1990s	\$5–\$10	\$12–\$28	Fluorescent neon series
Wild Watermelon	1990s	\$5–\$10	\$12–\$28	Fluorescent pink-red
Tickle Me Pink	1990s	\$5–\$10	\$12–\$25	Fluorescent; limited runs
Hot Magenta	1972–90s	\$5–\$12	\$15–\$30	OG 1972 fluorescent
Ultra Blue / Red / etc	1972–90s	\$5–\$12	\$15–\$35	Any "Ultra" = 1972 fluoro set
Chartreuse	1972–90s	\$4–\$10	\$12–\$28	1972 fluorescent series
Sky Blue	1990s	\$5–\$12	\$15–\$30	Binney & Smith label = premium
Cerulean (vintage)	1990–00s	\$5–\$12	\$15–\$30	In production, but vintage B&S adds value
Periwinkle (vintage)	1949–00s	\$4–\$10	\$12–\$25	Old B&S stock collectible
Macaroni & Cheese	1993+	\$4–\$8	\$10–\$22	Fan-named 1993; nostalgic premium
Razzmatazz	1993+	\$4–\$8	\$10–\$20	Fan-named 1993 contest
Timber Wolf	1993+	\$3–\$7	\$8–\$18	Fan-named 1993; muted gray
Purple Mtn's Majesty	1993+	\$4–\$8	\$10–\$20	Fan-named 1993; strong search term
Granny Smith Apple	1993+	\$3–\$7	\$8–\$18	Fan-named 1993 contest
Copper (metallic)	1990s	\$4–\$8	\$10–\$22	Bundle with Gold + Silver
Gold (metallic)	1990s	\$4–\$8	\$10–\$22	Bundle metallic set
Silver (metallic)	1990s	\$4–\$8	\$10–\$22	Bundle metallic set
Mystic Maroon	2001–07	\$4–\$8	\$10–\$20	Silver Swirls glitter set
Fuzzy Wuzzy Brown	1998+	\$3–\$7	\$8–\$18	Quirky name = high eBay traffic
Banana Mania	1998+	\$3–\$6	\$8–\$15	Pastel; 120-count era
Wild Blue Yonder	2003+	\$3–\$7	\$8–\$18	Named in 2003 fan contest
Inch Worm	2003+	\$3–\$6	\$7–\$15	Named in 2003 fan contest
Jazzberry Jam	2003+	\$3–\$6	\$7–\$15	Named in 2003 fan contest

SECTION 08

Vintage Box Value Guide

Sometimes the whole box is the flip. "Binney & Smith" on the label = pre-2007 = inspect every crayon.

Box Type	Era	Condition	eBay Range	Flag
Farewell Dandelion! 24-pk	2017	Sealed	\$150–\$200+	HOLY GRAIL
Farewell Dandelion! 5-pk	2017	Sealed	\$50–\$100	High priority
64-ct Binney & Smith	1958–70s	Used, complete	\$40–\$120+	Pre-corporate era

Box Type	Era	Condition	eBay Range	Flag
24-ct w/ "Flesh" label	Pre-1962	Any	\$25–\$75+	Extremely rare
64-ct Binney & Smith	1980s	Used, complete	\$20–\$55	Check all 64
64-ct (Dandelion debut)	1990	Any	\$20–\$55	Dandelion intro year
64-ct Binney & Smith	1990s	Sealed / NOS	\$25–\$60	Unopened premium
64-ct Binney & Smith	1990s	Used, complete	\$15–\$45	Most common find
96-ct Binney & Smith	1990s–00s	Sealed	\$35–\$80	More retired colors
96-ct Binney & Smith	1990s–00s	Used, complete	\$18–\$50	Inspect all
120-ct w/ Dandelion	1990s–2017	Any	\$15–\$40	More potential gems
Fluorescent 8-pack	1988	Sealed / NOS	\$20–\$50	OG fluoro series
Limited Edition Tin (B&S)	1978–2003	Complete	\$30–\$80	Display value
2025 Ltd Ed 8-pack	2025	New	\$12–\$30	Re-release — lower
Modern box (current logo)	2008+	Any	\$2–\$8	Skip unless sealed

Gold rows = top-priority grabs. Bottom rows = lower resale — check comps before buying.

SECTION 09

30-Second Field Guide

In the bin you have seconds. Make the call.

If the label says...	Call	Est. Value
"Farewell Dandelion" on box	BUY — top priority	\$50–\$200+
"Dandelion" (pre-2025 vintage)	BUY	\$8–\$20
"Magic Mint" / "Mulberry" / "Teal Blue"	BUY	\$12–\$25
"Blizzard Blue"	BUY	\$8–\$20
"Indian Red" (not Chestnut)	BUY	\$8–\$20
"Prussian Blue" / "Flesh"	BUY — very rare	\$10–\$30
"Thistle" (unused)	BUY	\$10–\$19
"Maize" / "Blue Gray" / "Violet Blue"	BUY	\$5–\$20
"Lemon Yellow" / "Orange Red" / "Raw Umber"	BUY	\$5–\$15
Any "Ultra [color]" (fluoro)	BUY	\$5–\$12
"Binney & Smith" box, pre-1990s	BUY — inspect all	\$20–\$120+
"Binney & Smith" box, 1990s	INSPECT, likely buy	\$15–\$60
Fan-contest name (Macaroni, etc.)	CHECK comps first	\$3–\$10
Loose crayon, no wrapper	SKIP — zero value	\$0
Current logo (post-2007), opened	SKIP	\$0–\$3

SECTION 10

How to Identify in the Wild

Where to look

- Toy bins, craft bins, donation baskets — never skip a beat-up box.
- Bag-by-the-pound bins: crayons get dumped loose, dig through them.
- Estate and church sales — older sellers, older crayon stock.
- Thrift school-supply sections, especially late summer and fall.

Reading the box

- "Binney & Smith" branding = pre-2007 = always inspect. Primary trigger.
- 64-count and 96-count 1990s boxes are the richest hunting ground.
- Back panel lists every color name — compare against this guide in seconds.
- Box condition does not equal crayon condition. Pull it anyway.

Reading the crayon

- No wrapper = no value. The printed name is everything.
- "Indian Red" vs "Chestnut": same color, different label, different price.
- Fully wrapped, unsharpened, full-length = top dollar.
- Unusually bright/vivid hue or "Ultra" prefix = 1972 fluorescent series.
- Metallics (Copper, Gold, Silver) are worth bundling as a set.

SECTION 11

Listing & Flipping

Pricing

- Always check eBay **Sold** listings (Filter → Sold Items), not active asks.
- High-value retirements (Dandelion, Magic Mint, Mulberry): list individually.
- Low-value colors (Raw Umber, Blue Gray, Orange Yellow): bundle 5–10 per lot.
- Metallic trio (Copper + Gold + Silver): list as a set — worth more together.

Title keywords that sell

- Include: exact color name + "Retired" + "Discontinued" + "Binney & Smith" or "Vintage."
- Example: *Dandelion Crayola Crayon Retired Vintage Binney Smith Unused*
- Spell the full color name — buyers search for it specifically.

What to pay at the thrift

- Loose crayons: under \$0.50 each. A known retired color at \$0.25 is a strong buy.
- Old 64-count box with retired colors: \$1–\$3 solid, up to \$5 sealed.
- Farewell Dandelion pack: pay up to \$10–\$15 — still flips at \$50+.
- Not sure? Check eBay sold comps on your phone before committing.

2025–2026 watch-outs

- Crayola re-released 8 retired colors in 2025 limited packs (\$12–\$30) — not vintage value.
- 2026: Dandelion is back in the standard box; common modern singles will drop over time.
- Reprints and fakes exist — real vintage has period-accurate Binney & Smith branding.
- Mold, wax-melt damage, or color bleed onto the wrapper = unsellable.

You now know every name worth pulling. Drop your finds in the server. — The Vault

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