

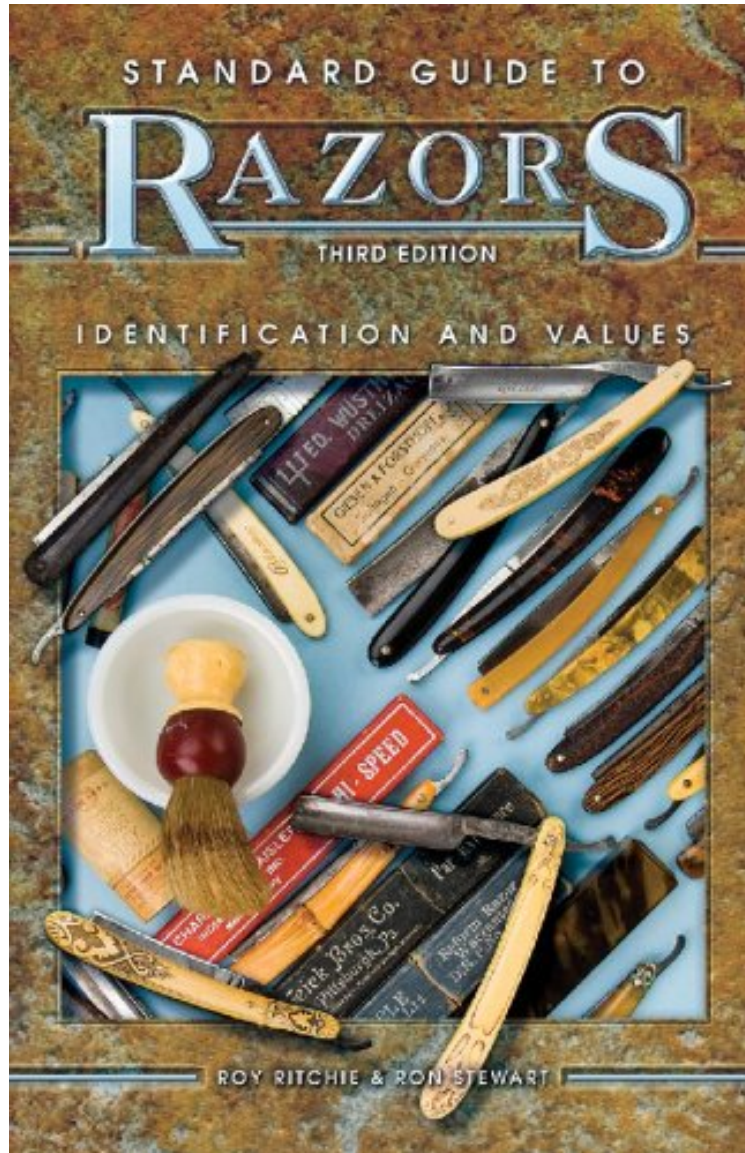
#2073521 in Books 2007-05-15Format: IllustratedOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.50 x .50 x 5.50l, .95

#File Name: 1574325507256 pages | File size: 53.Mb



*Roy Ritchie, Ron Stewart*

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(Mobile book) Standard Guide to Razors: Identification and Values, 3rd Edition

## **Standard Guide to Razors: Identification and Values, 3rd Edition**

**Roy Ritchie, Ron Stewart : Standard Guide to Razors: Identification and Values, 3rd Edition** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Standard Guide to Razors: Identification and Values, 3rd Edition:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. DecentBy amznrvws10I think this is a good effort by some very passionate, dedicated and well meaning straight razor enthusiasts, but frankly, a wholly incomplete compendium.The preface is amusing and fun to read, there is a history of shaving that's quite good, and a study of scales and the

materials used is very well done. But the section on actually collecting razors comes across as pedantic and spoon fed. The author states nothing in my opinion that the novice collector would not already know, or just innately assume. This little guide has the potential to be much, much better. And as the straight razor "bible" as it is becoming regarded by many in the community, it has a responsibility to be much better. And this is the 3rd edition? If you're going to write a guide to collecting items from a vast range of years, hundreds of manufacturers, and distinct decorative styles from different regions - do it right. I'm a relative novice, and I actually learned very little from reading this guide cover-to-cover. There are thousands of unique, rare, forgotten or just overlooked examples out there, but I think this volume falls too short regardless of how many or few examples there are. I have a decent collection of razors - 35 or so. Most are if not plentiful, at least readily found on eBay; brands that are well known within the community. When I got the book, I was excited to look through and find some of my razors. I found (maybe) one of my pieces in here. Seriously. And I don't own any one-offs. How could a casual collector with 35 fairly common pieces very nearly struck out when consulting what is regarded as the best source out there? How about a section on metallurgy? Honing, lapping and stropping? Different whetstones and techniques? Brushes? Maybe? These aren't "razors", sure. But if your catalogue section contains so little information, at least flesh out the copy. The photographs of razors are of items from primarily two, maybe three collections, and the rest are blurry photographs that look as if they were reproduced from 19th-century catalogues. This could be why the book seems narrow and insular: It is narrow and insular. A few hobbyists got together and wrote a pretty darned decent little book, by golly. Did they offer anything important, or just show off their collections and then fill the rest of the book with copy? So I guess my point is; it's a pretty decent effort, but take a year or three, send out feelers, research, collect data and interviews and photographs, historical facts and anecdotes - and get it right. REALLY right. Don't just publish a book of pretty pictures from yours and your friends' razor collections and pawn it off as a definitive guide to identifying and collecting razors. Because a half-baked guide on anything is little more than a shelf marker. A footnote: Your collections, by the way, are quite simply wonderful. The pieces pictured in this book are absolutely sublime. They inspire me to go out looking. Worth the price of admission, but not what I was looking for. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Standard Guide to Razors By Ron Spolar Very good guide to the history and evolution of straight razors as well as models by manufacturer and suggested pricing. Probably very valuable to the collector. Color photos. Detailed information regarding how to tell difference between bone and plastic handles, base razors and what additions increase value, proper maintenance and storage, collecting and accessories. A very thorough guide I would think for most collectors. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. QUESTIONABLE VALUES By A CUT ABOVE I question the accuracy of the pricing.

Often made of very precious materials and embellished with the finest artwork of their time, razors are found in elaborate displays at knife shows, antique shops, and flea markets. The authors have broadly revised and expanded their detailed price guide, updating all values. This new third edition delivers a discussion of factors that determine collector value, an appraisal chart of razors, notes on extended appraisals, and listings of companies and base values, making this the best scale available to determine a comparative collector value for every razor. Over 200 companies, new pictures and illustrations, a chapter to help in identifying handle materials, and a chapter to aid in determining razors' ages have all been added to this value guide. 2007 values.

It may seem too specific a subject for more general collector's reference shelves, but many collect razors and will find this specific guide to their identification and value and important reference. Black and white and color photos of selected antiques accompany charts and graphs of values packaged in a format perfect for take-along tote. -Midwest Book About the Author Roy Ritchie was a noted expert on knives, and provided certified appraisals of knives and collections as well as assisted insurance companies with appraisals and adjustment evaluations. He and co-author Ron Stewart published one of the earliest books for collectors, the Kentucky Knife Traders Manual. They went on to publish the bestselling Standard Knife Collector's Guide, and later books followed. Roy has since passed away. Ron Stewart is a noted expert on knives, and provides certified appraisals of knives and collections, as well as assists insurance companies with appraisals and adjustment evaluations. He and co-author Roy Ritchie published one of the earliest manuals for collectors, the Kentucky Knife Traders Manual. They went on to publish the bestselling Standard Knife Collector's Guide, then others like Big Book of Pocket Knives, Cattaraugus Cutlery Company, and Standard Guide to Razors.