

## COMPOSITION OF CANADIAN COINS

The following information, available from the Canadian Mint, is invaluable for teachers wishing to make up a lab involving the analysis of currency. Thank you to Gordon Gore for referring me to this web site.

Reference: [http://www.mint.ca/en/collectors\\_corner/circulation](http://www.mint.ca/en/collectors_corner/circulation)

Value	Years	Mass (g)	Composition
1¢	1908-20	5.67	95.5% Cu, 3.0% Sn, 1.5% Zn
	1920-41	3.24	95.5% Cu, 3.0% Sn, 1.5% Zn
	1942-77	3.24	98.0% Cu, 0.5% Sn, 1.5% Zn
	1978-79	3.24	98.0% Cu, 1.75% Sn, 0.25% Zn
	1980-81	2.8	98.0% Cu, 1.75% Sn, 0.25% Zn
	1982-96	2.5	98.0% Cu, 1.75% Sn, 0.25% Zn
	1997-99	2.25	98.4% Zn, 1.6% Cu plating
	2000-	2.35	94.0% steel, 4.5% Cu, 1.5% Ni, (*) (NOTE: Magnetic!)
(*) Note that some pennies in 2000-01 had copper-plated steel compositions, as evidenced by a small "P" under the Queen.			
5¢	1908-19	1.167	7.5% Cu, 92.5% Ag
	1920-21	1.167	20% Cu, 80% Ag
	1922-42	4.54	99% Ni
	1942-43	4.54	88% Cu, 12% Zn
	1944-45	4.54	chrome plated steel
	1946-51	4.54	99.9% Ni
	1951-54	4.54	chrome plated steel
	1955-81	4.54	99.9% Ni
	1982-99	4.6	75% Cu, 25% Ni
	2000-	3.95	94.5% steel, 3.5% Cu, 2% Ni plating
10¢	1908-10	2.32	7.5% Cu, 92.5% Ag
	1910-11	2.33	7.5% Cu, 92.5% Ag
	1920-67	2.33	80.0% Ag; 20.0% Cu
	1968-77	2.07	99.9% Ni
	1978-99	2.07	99% Ni
	2000-	1.75	92% steel, 5.5% Cu, 2.5% Ni plating
	25¢	1908-10	5.81
1910-19		5.93	7.5% Cu, 92.5% Ag
1920-67		5.83	80.0% Ag; 7.5% Cu
1967-68		5.05	50.0% Ag; 50.0% Cu
1968-99		5.05	99.9% Ni
2000-		4.4	94% steel, 3.8% Cu, 2.2% Ni plating
\$1	1987-	7	91.5% Ni electroplated with 8.5% bronze plating
\$2	1996-	7.3	outer ring = 99% Ni Inner core = 92% Cu, 2% Ni, 6% Al