



Nazi 10 Reichspfenni Coin

This is a German/Nazi 10 Reichspfennig ZINC coin from 1940 - 1944 with the Nazi Eagle holding the Swastika. In 1939 Hitler Succeeded by putting Poland under the swastika, and thus precipitated WW2. With war came many changes, the production of Nazi coins being just one. WW2 coincided with German mints ceasing production altogether of the silver Reichsmark Nazi coins. Further, all Reichspfennig Nazi coins were now produced in cheaper zinc. Production of Silver Nazi coins may have ceased with the start of WW2 but the swastika clearly remained, emblazoned on zinc and copper Reichspfennig Nazi coins, most of which were destroyed after the war along with the factories that made them.

The Third Reich started issuing clearly identifiable "Nazi" coins (ie with swastika) from 1936. Although the Nazi's were in power from 1933, the designs for the smaller denomination coinage were simply a continuation of "Weimarer Republik" designs. It was only from 1936 that the smaller denomination Third Reich coins had the Nazi Reichsadler and Hakenkreuz (swastika) incorporated into the coin's design. Prior to 1940, small denomination coins were minted from "superior" metals ie copper (1 & 2 Reichspfennig), Brass Alloy (5 & 10 Reichspfennig), and depending upon the year either Nickel or Aluminium (50 Reichspfennig).

Things radically changed after the 1939 and the start of the Second World War however. After 1939, no more large denomination silver coins were minted (2 and 5 Reichsmark). Smaller denomination coins continued to be minted but no longer using the "superior" metals. From 1940, almost all the small denomination coins were minted from an zinc base metal. The exception to this were 50 Reichspfennig coins which were instead minted from an aluminum base metal.

The 3rd Reich had a number of mints and each had its own identifiable letter. It is therefore possible to identify exactly which mint produced what coin by noting the mint mark (letter) on the coin. Not all mints were authorized to produce coins every year. The mints were also only authorised to produce a set number of coins with some mints allocated a greater production than others. Some of the coins with particular mint marks are therefore scarcer than others. On the smaller denomination Reichspfennig coins, the mint mark is found on the bottom centre of the coin.

- A = Berlin
- B = Wien (Vienna)
- D = München (Munich)
- E = Muldenhütten (Dresden)
- F = Stuttgart
- G = Karlsruhe
- J = Hamburg

