

Unveiling the Allure: How Baseball Cards Captivated America

Mint Condition: How Baseball Cards Became an American Obsession

DESCRIPTION

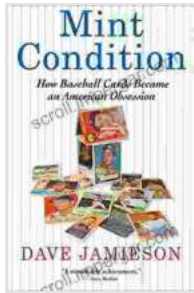
COPY LINK : <https://pdf.bookcenterapp.com/slide/B011402JM8> When award-winning journalist Dave Jamieson's parents sold his childhood home a few years ago, he rediscovered a prized boyhood possession: his baseball card collection. Now was the time to cash in on the investments of his youth! But all the card shops had closed, and cards were selling for next to nothing online. What had happened? In *Mint Condition*, his fascinating, eye-opening, endlessly entertaining book, Jamieson finds the answer by tracing the complete story of this beloved piece of American childhood. Picture cards had long been used for advertising, but after the Civil War, tobacco companies started slipping them into cigarette packs as collector's items. Before long the cards were wagging the cigarettes. In the 1930s cards helped gum and candy makers survive the Great Depression. In the 1960s royalties from cards helped transform the baseball players' association into one of the country's most powerful unions, dramatically altering the game. In the '80s and '90s, cards went through a spectacular bubble, becoming a billion-dollar-a-year industry before vanishing but disappearing, surviving today as the rarified preserve of adult collectors. *Mint Condition* is a charming original history brimming with colorful characters, sure to delight baseball fans and collectors.

Mint Condition: How Baseball Cards Became an American Obsession

by Dave Jamieson

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English



File size	: 5269 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 289 pages
Lending	: Enabled



In the annals of American history, there are few pastimes that have captured the hearts and minds of the nation quite like baseball. And at the heart of this beloved pastime, lies a humble object that has become synonymous with the game itself: the baseball card.

From their humble beginnings as simple advertising inserts, baseball cards have evolved into an iconic phenomenon that has enthralled generations of fans. In his captivating book, "How Baseball Cards Became An American Obsession," author David Krell uncovers the fascinating story behind these treasured collectibles.

A History of Baseball Cards

The history of baseball cards dates back to the late 19th century, when they were first issued as promotional giveaways by tobacco and candy companies. These early cards featured black-and-white photographs of players and team logos, and were often packaged with other collectibles, such as chewing gum or candy.

As the popularity of baseball grew, so too did the demand for baseball cards. By the early 20th century, specialized card companies were

emerging, producing high-quality cards featuring full-color images. These cards quickly became a hit with fans, who began to collect and trade them with fervor.

The Golden Age of Baseball Cards

The 1950s and 1960s are often considered the "golden age" of baseball cards. During this time, the hobby exploded in popularity, thanks in part to the emergence of star players like Mickey Mantle, Willie Mays, and Hank Aaron.

The cards from this era are highly prized by collectors today, and some can fetch astronomical prices. In 2021, a mint-condition 1952 Mickey Mantle rookie card sold for a record-breaking \$12.6 million.

Baseball Cards as Cultural Artifacts

Beyond their collectibility, baseball cards have also played an important role in American culture. They have been used as teaching tools, historical documents, and even as works of art.

For generations of fans, baseball cards have provided a tangible connection to the game they love. They have captured the likenesses of legendary players, preserved iconic moments, and sparked countless memories.

The Future of Baseball Cards

In the digital age, baseball cards have continued to evolve. Today, fans can collect both physical and digital cards, and participate in online trading platforms.

While the future of baseball cards is uncertain, one thing is for sure: these cherished collectibles will always hold a special place in the hearts of fans.

David Krell's "How Baseball Cards Became An American Obsession" is a must-read for anyone interested in the history, culture, and enduring appeal of baseball cards. This fascinating book provides a comprehensive look at these iconic collectibles, and offers a unique glimpse into the American pastime they represent.

Whether you're a seasoned collector, a casual fan, or simply curious about the allure of baseball cards, this book is sure to captivate and inspire you.

Free Download Your Copy Today!

Click here to Free Download your copy of "How Baseball Cards Became An American Obsession" today.



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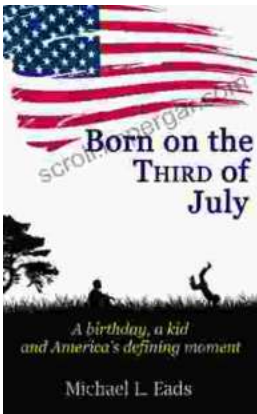
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