

OHIO BUTTON CLUBS

Akron Area Button Club

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
1361 W. Market, Akron, Ohio
Meets the 2nd Monday at 10:00 a.m. **August and October 2024 meetings will be held the 3rd Monday at 10:00am.**

ABC Study Group

Ontario Branch Library
2221 Village Mall Drive, Ontario, Ohio
Meets the 2nd Monday at 1:00 pm; August – May

Central Ohio Button Collectors (Columbus Area)

Hilliard Library
4500 Hickory Chase Way, Hilliard, Ohio
Usually meets on 4th Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Cleveland Button Society

South Euclid Library
1876 South Green, South Euclid, Ohio
Meets the 3rd Sunday at 1:15 p.m.

Lake County Button Club

Kirtland Library
9267 Chillicothe Road, Kirtland, Ohio
Meets the 2nd Saturday at Noon
Except for December – March

Polk Box Button Club

Polk Grove Church
9190 Frederick Road (and Route 40), Dayton, Ohio
Meets the 2nd Sunday from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Zane Trace Button Club

Muskingum County Center for Seniors
160 N. 4th St., Zanesville, Ohio
Meets 1st Thursday, except holidays
Gather at 11:00 a.m., meeting and program at noon.

For more information and specific date updates, please visit

[Ohio Clubs - Buckeye State Button Society \(ohiobuttons.org\)](http://OhioClubs-BuckeyeStateButtonSociety(ohiobuttons.org))

Buckeye State Button Society



The mission of the Buckeye State Button Society is to invite, inform, and inspire the continued study, preservation and enjoyment of garment buttons, fasteners, and related specialties.

Website: Buckeye State Button Society –

www.ohiobuttons.org

Facebook: Buckeye State Button Society - Ohio

Instagram: ohiobuttons



Vintage and antique apparel buttons can be made from a variety of materials, depending on the era and the fashion trends of the time. Common materials include:

1. **Bone:** Used in early buttons, often from the 18th and 19th centuries
2. **Wood:** A simple and inexpensive material used throughout history
3. **Metal:** Mostly Brass, copper, and steel, often decorated or embossed
4. **Glass:** Used in the 19th and early 20th centuries, sometimes with intricate designs or colors
5. **Mother of Pearl:** Popular in the 19th century, made from the inner shell layer of certain mollusks
6. **Ivory:** Used in high-end buttons, now less common due to conservation efforts
7. **Bakelite and other early plastics:** Popular in the early to mid-20th century, especially during the Art Deco period
8. **Horn:** Often used in the 18th and 19th centuries; sometimes carved or polished
9. **Leather:** Used for rustic or utilitarian buttons
10. **Ceramic and Porcelain:** Often hand-painted or decorated; popular in the 19th century



Fun Facts about Vintage and Antique buttons:

1. **Status Symbols:** In the 18th and 19th centuries, buttons were often used as status symbols. Wealthy individuals would have elaborate, hand-crafted buttons made from precious materials like gold, silver, and gemstones.
2. **Military Significance:** During the Civil War, soldiers' uniforms had unique buttons that often signified their rank and regiment. Collectors today highly value these military buttons.
3. **Bakelite Boom:** In the 1930s and 1940s, Bakelite buttons became incredibly popular. They were one of the first plastics, known for their bright colors and durability.
4. **Victorian Mourning Buttons:** In the Victorian era, mourning attire often included black buttons made from materials like jet, vulcanite, or black glass, to signify mourning after the death of a loved one.
5. **Button Bans:** During World War II, there was a restriction on using metals for civilian clothing buttons, as metals were needed for the war effort. This led to an increase in the use of plastics and other alternative materials.
6. **Artistic Expressions:** Many antique buttons are miniature works of art, featuring intricate designs, hand-painting, and even tiny inlaid mosaics. They showcase the craftsmanship of their time.
7. **Functional Innovations:** Some antique buttons had dual purposes, such as buttons that were also small compasses, picture frames, or even hidden compartments for carrying small items like needles or photographs.
8. **Button Industry:** In the 19th and early 20th centuries, button manufacturing was a significant industry in places like Birmingham, England; Waterbury, Connecticut; and Muscatine, Iowa.
9. **Eco-Friendly:** Before the advent of synthetic materials, buttons were often made from natural and biodegradable materials like bone, wood, and horn, making them environmentally friendly by today's standards.

Collecting vintage and antique buttons offers a glimpse into the fashion, history, and craftsmanship of past eras.