

# Collectible Fez Grading Guide

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## Fez Quality Guide

As with any collectible, fezzes come in various states of use and condition. In an effort to codify what kind of shape a particular fez is in, we have created this chart to explain the various levels of quality. This chart in no way reflects every type of problem that could occur with a fez, it should give the collector or owner a good idea of what kind of condition his or her piece is in when compared to other fezzes on the market. This chart was created by mutual agreement between collectors and is only used for reference.

| Score: 1<br>Poor  | Score: 2<br>Fair  | Score: 3<br>Used   | Score: 4<br>Near Mint  | Score: 5<br>Mint   |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Fez shows significant damage, including but not limited to tears, holes, severe pitting, large stains, missing tassel, loss of emblem or logo, or severe rhinestone loss. | Fez shows signs of significant wear or use, including but not limited to small stains, damaged tassel, minor pitting, smokey or foul odor, damage to design, pin holes, or missing sweatband. | Fez shows signs of average use. Design should be totally intact with only minimal damage. No stains or tears. Little to no pitting. Tassel and sweatband are complete and intact. No odor. | Fez shows little signs of use. Design is complete with no damage. Tassel shows no loss of shape. Original tassel holder is with the fez. | Fez is in perfect condition. There are no signs of damage or use. Tassel is perfect and includes applicable tassel holder. |

## Fez Rarity Guide

Fezzes come in many sizes and colors depending on organization and affiliation. Some fezzes may be from groups that are little known or were formed and disbanded long ago, making them more valuable, even if condition is poor. This rarity guide will give you a general idea of how hard it is to find a particular piece. Note: This is not an exhaustive list. Organizations are merely listed for reference and comparison.

| Score: 1<br>Very Common                               | Score: 2<br>Common  | Score: 3<br>Uncommon   | Score: 4<br>Rare  | Score: 5<br>Very Rare   |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| Shriners (Red), Grotto, Ladies of the Oriental Shrine | Elks (White and Purple), Alhambra (Red Tassel), DOKK, Daughters of Mokanna, Daughters of Isis, Shriners (Past or Current Officer), Grotto (Past or Current Officer) | Alhambra (White Tassel), AMOS, Nomads of Avrudaka, Shriners (White), Daughters of Mokanna (Past Officer) | Alhambra (Teal Tassel), DeMolay, LOSNA (Past Officer), Daughters of Isis (Past Officer), OOHP | Alhambra (tassel color other than listed), BPOR, Muscovites, UOSP, Woodmen, Knights of the All Seeing Eye, Nuwabian |

## Fez Age Guide

With any collection, a piece that is older is generally more sought after than one that is newer. Therefore, age can also factor into a piece's value.

| Score: 1<br>1980 - Present   | Score: 2<br>1960 - 1979  | Score: 3<br>1945 - 1959  | Score: 4<br>1925 - 1945  | Score: 5<br>1925 - Earlier  |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| Any fez produced in the last 30 years. Most will have sweatbands and machined embroidery. Usually made to fit in a fez case. | Most designs done with machine embroidery. Tassels are often longer than earlier versions, but shorter than modern fezzes. | Fezzes following the second World War. Often have sweatbands but tassels may be shorter. More prevalent use of bullion in designs. | These pieces are often shorter and done with less bullion and little to no rhinestones. Usually folds into a pouch or box. | Pieces are extremely small in comparison to newer fezzes. Little use of rhinestones or other decorations. Often come in pouches or boxes. |