

THE
ZIPPO LIGHTER
COLLECTORS' GUIDE



Zippos



“Build your product with integrity
... stand behind it 100% and
success will follow.”

George G. Blaisdell
Founder, Zippo Manufacturing Company



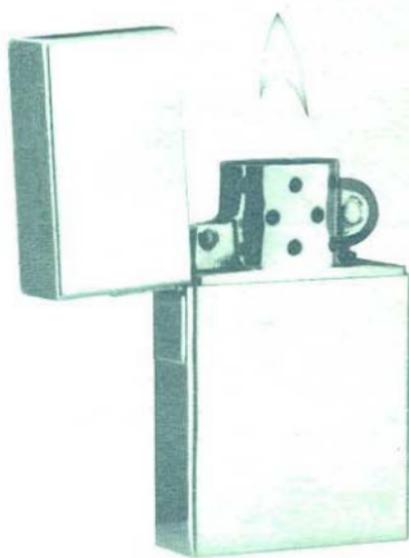
See the Zippo historical lighter collection and corporate memorabilia from Zippo and its subsidiary, Case Cutlery Co. at the Zippo Family Store and Museum.

The Zippo Family Store and Museum is located on Congress Street, next to the Zippo Factory in Bradford, Pennsylvania.

Hours are 9:00-5:00 Monday-Friday (Saturday hours are seasonal.)

Phone: (814) 368-2863

Welcome to the World of Zippo Collectibles



Please note that the Zippo lighters shown in this guide are for historical information only. Since we no longer produce these models, they are not available for purchase from Zippo Manufacturing Company.

Zippo windproof lighters represent one of the fastest growing categories in the world of collectibles. Zippo windproof lighters are bought, sold and traded by thousands of enthusiastic fans from nearly every continent.

Since 1932 Zippo Manufacturing Company has manufactured over 250 million windproof lighters. Unfortunately it is not possible to depict examples of all the different models of Zippo lighters. This guide illustrates a selection of the most popular collectibles. It is not our intention to tell you which lighters to collect. A collectible is any Zippo lighter that you feel is worth keeping.

The illustrations and coding chart, on pages 24-27, will help you determine the age of the lighters you collect. The coding chart indicates, through a dating process of dots and slashes, when lighters were manufactured. This information is located on the bottom of each Zippo lighter.

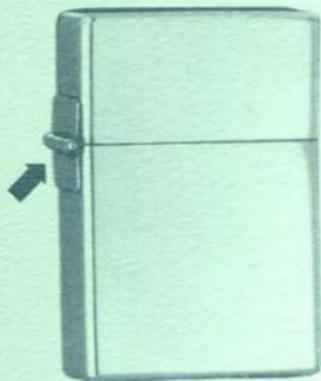
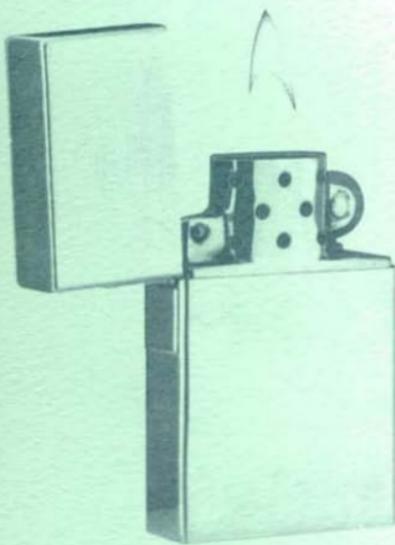
For further information contact:
Customer Service Department
Zippo Manufacturing Company
33 Barbour Street
Bradford, PA 16701

1932-1934

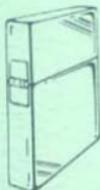
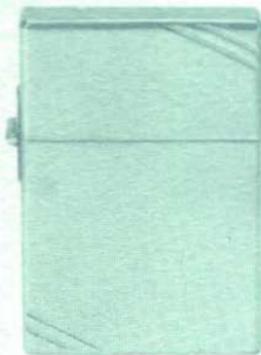
1932 - The first Zippo lighters were square-cornered and formed from rectangular brass tubing. Top and bottom pieces were soldered to the hollow tubing to form the lid and bottom of the case. The hinge was soldered on the outside and chrome-plated.

1933 - Although the lighter still had square corners and the hinge on the outside, it was shortened one-quarter inch.

1934 - Decorative diagonal lines were engraved across the top and bottom of the lighters.



The outside hinge makes these early lighters among the most collectible of all Zippos.



EXTERNAL
HINGE

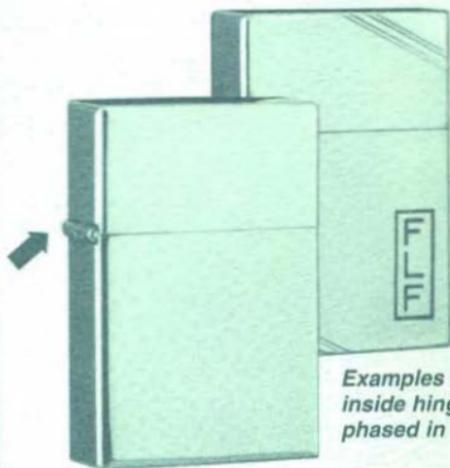


INTERNAL
HINGE

1935 – 1936

1935 - This year marked the beginning of the specialty advertising business for Zippo. Customer trademarks were designed from small metaliques that were glued to the case and color filled.

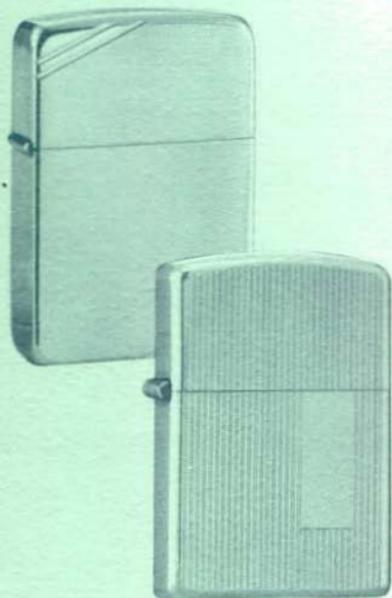
1936 - The hinge was removed from the outside of the case and placed on the inside. Only the hinge barrel was visible. This was one of the early samples of personalization. There have been many variations added since then.



Examples of an inside hinge, phased in in 1936.



1937 - 1943

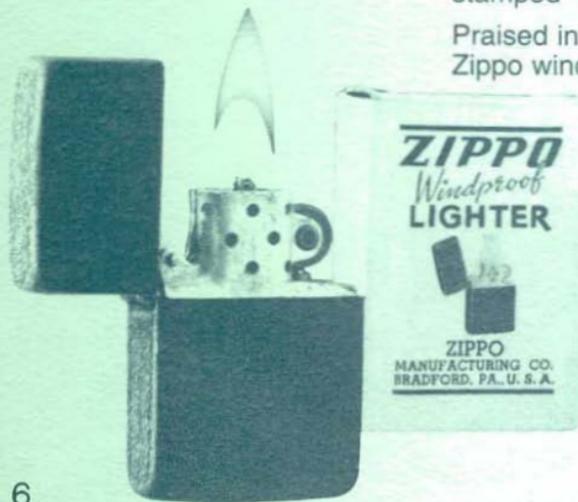


1937 - This was the beginning of the brass drawn case with a rounded top and bottom. As a result of the rounded edges, the lid and bottom could be formed as a whole, eliminating the soldering process necessary on earlier models.

1939 - The 14 karat solid gold lighter was introduced. It was available in both a plain model and an engine-turned model.

1943 - Due to shortages of brass and chrome during World War II, cases were made of porous steel and painted with a black crackle finish. Zippo's entire production was distributed to Army exchanges and Naval ships' stores. WWII black crackle lighters were stamped "PATENT #203695". Other lighters produced 1937-1950 were stamped "PATENT 2032695".

Praised in countless wartime stories, the Zippo windproof lighter played an important part in World War II lore. Ernie Pyle, the legendary war correspondent, wrote: "The Zippo lighter is in great demand on the battlefield . . . (it) is the most coveted thing in the Army."

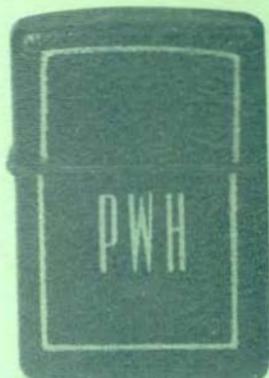
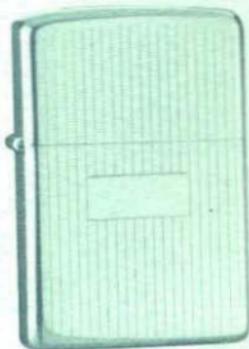
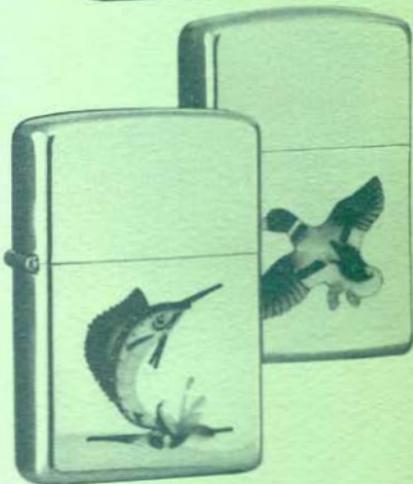


1946 - 1950

1946 - Following the war, cases were drawn from nickel silver only. An indented can style bottom was incorporated.

1947 - Town and Country designs featuring a pheasant, mallard, geese, sailboat, trout, setter, and horse were added to the line. These designs were the first to be formed with plastic masks and air brushed. They were then colored with enamel paint and baked to harden the paint.

1950 - Full cover leather lighters were introduced. The colors available were red, blue, green, tan calfskin, and English Moroccan grain leather with a gold leaf border. A new series of sterling silver lighters also became available in a plain finish or an engine-turned design.

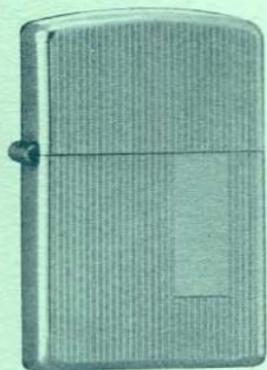


1951 – 1955



1951 - During the Korean War, Zippo cases were manufactured from steel until late 1953 when they returned to the chrome plated brass. The full cover leather lighter was replaced by a wrap-around application for the lid and bottom. These were available in brown alligator, red, brown and green reptile and black or blue Moroccan leather.

1955 - Silver filled and gold filled lighters were designed and introduced.

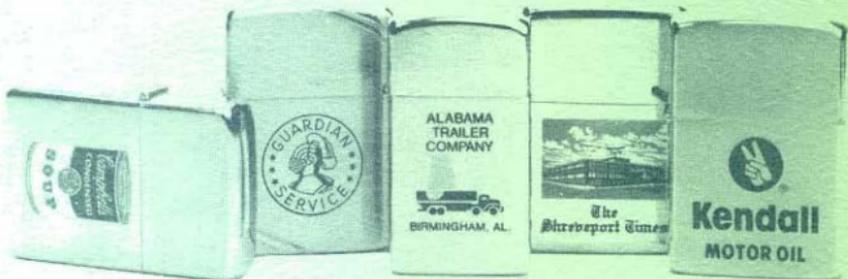
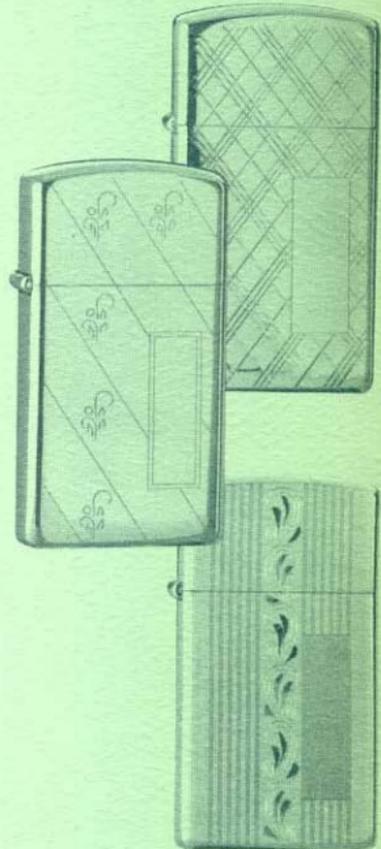


1956 – 1960

1956 - Late in 1956 the **slim** Zippo lighter was added to the line. It appeared as a drawn brass case with a high polish finish.

1957 - Slim lighters in gold filled and silver filled styles were manufactured. Commercial trademarks on lighters became available. The chemical etching and color fill process was perfected. This process enabled Zippo to produce the most intricate and detailed designs in any number of colors. A manufacturer's coding table was also developed in 1957. Various combination of dots and slashes are stamped on the bottom of all lighters. These marks indicate what year the lighter was manufactured (see pages 26 and 27).

1960 - The slim 14 karat gold lighter was introduced.

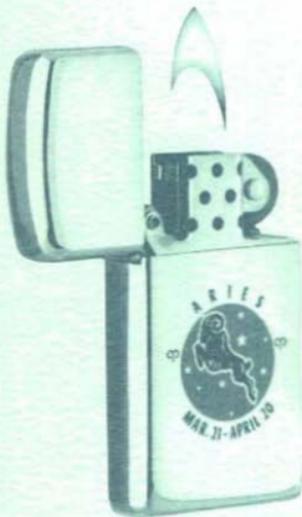
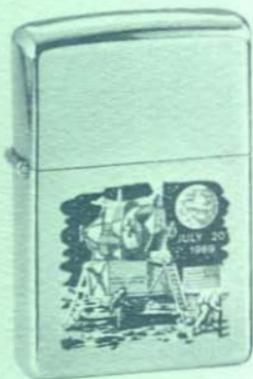


There are millions of Zippo lighters etched with trademarks in existence today.

1969 - 1970

1969 - In honor of the NASA moon landing, a Moon Landing lighter series was developed. The series continued through the years into the 1980's with the latest in the line being the Space Shuttle design.

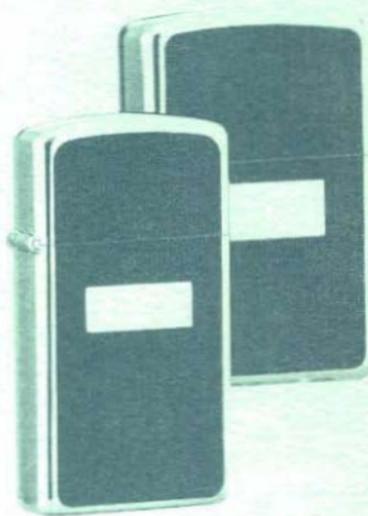
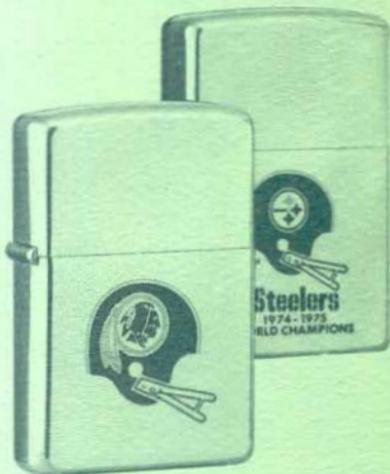
1970 - In keeping with the interests of the early 70's, Zippo introduced a Zodiac lighter series. All twelve Zodiac signs were available on slim lighters only.



1972-1974

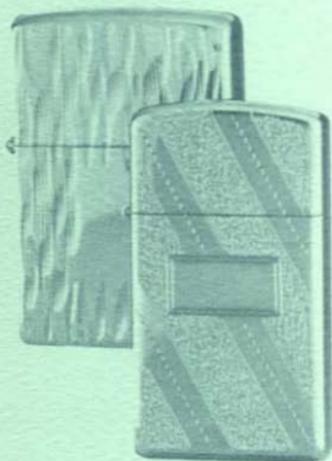
1972 - Zippo developed a new and lasting concept in the application of lighter designs when the woodgrain model was introduced. Pressure sensitive vinyl appliques, simulating a woodgrain design, were placed on the lighter case. Lighters featuring National Football League helmets were introduced this year.

1974 - During this year, the Venetian design lighter became available.



1976

1976 - In celebration of our nation's 200th birthday, a commemorative Bicentennial lighter was manufactured. Also in 1976, the Golden Elegance series was introduced. In keeping with the clothing fashion at that time, Zippo developed a denim-look lighter.

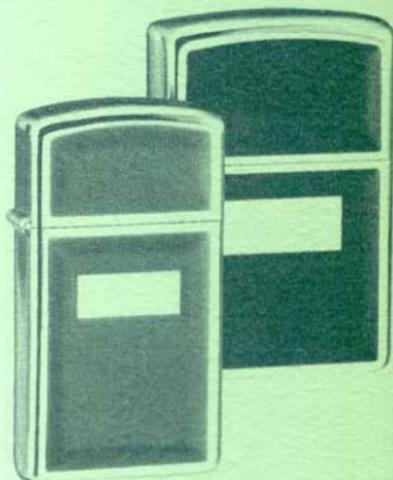
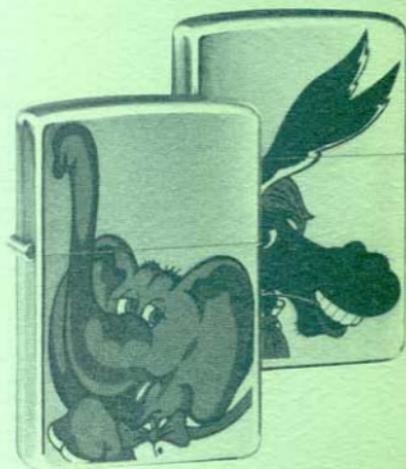


1977 – 1980

1977 - The handsome Golden Tortoise was added to the Zippo line this year. An acrylic chip was attached to a lighter case, transforming it into the attractive Tortoise. A small area of the lighter was reserved for initials.

1978 - An acrylic chip is again used to make the colorful Ultralite series.

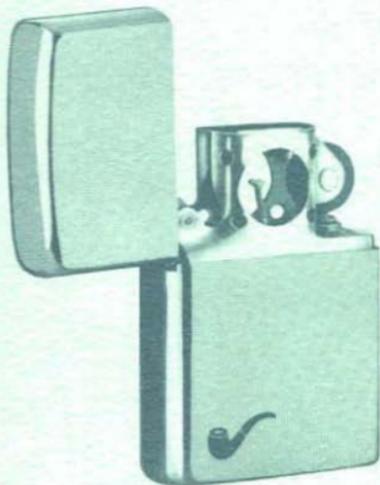
1980 - During this presidential election year, Zippo introduced two political motif lighters. One design featured a donkey's head in representation of the Democratic party and the other design featured an elephant's head for the Republican party.



1982 – 1984



1982 - Zippo celebrated its 50th Anniversary with an original design brass lighter, which featured the first diagonal lines and a seal reading, "Fifty years and glowing stronger". The Scrimshaw design lighters were also introduced. For those who smoke pipes, Zippo developed a pipe lighter. This lighter was different from others because it was produced with one large hole in the chimney rather than several smaller ones. The large hole makes it easier to light a pipe by allowing the flame to be drawn through it and into the pipe.



PRESIDENTIAL LIGHTERS

Among the special lighters developed by Zippo is a patriotic series that commemorates the Presidents of the United States.

EMBLEMS

Also making a handsome addition to your collection are lighters decorated with the emblems of many fraternal organizations and the military.

1984 - The black powder coat was introduced. It is applied electrostatically to the brass case. Soon after, four more colors were introduced; blue, burgundy, green and grey. A year later the imprinted Zippo logo and a border were added.

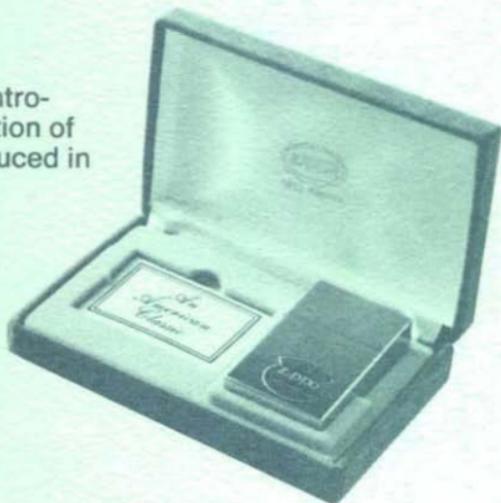


1986 – 1988

1986 - The camouflage lighter was introduced. The design is surface printed in two colors on the matte green powder coat. It is available in regular and slim models. Many powder coat lighters are surface imprinted with logos.



1988 - The 1932 replica was introduced. It is an exact reproduction of the original Zippo lighter produced in 1932.



1990 – 1992

1990 - In the Wild West Indians, gunfighters and sheriffs became legends. This series of six lighters depicts the pony express, covered wagons and the railroad opening new territories in America.



1990 - Presidential Series

Zippo honored six popular presidents:

George Washington
Dwight D. Eisenhower
Ronald Reagan
John F. Kennedy
Franklin D. Roosevelt
Abraham Lincoln



1991 - Civil War Series

This collection featured beautiful color illustrations of those courageous soldiers who fought for the Union and Confederate armies of the U.S. Civil War.

Union Army:

Militiaman - Infantryman - Cavalry
Trooper - Petty Officer

Confederate Army:

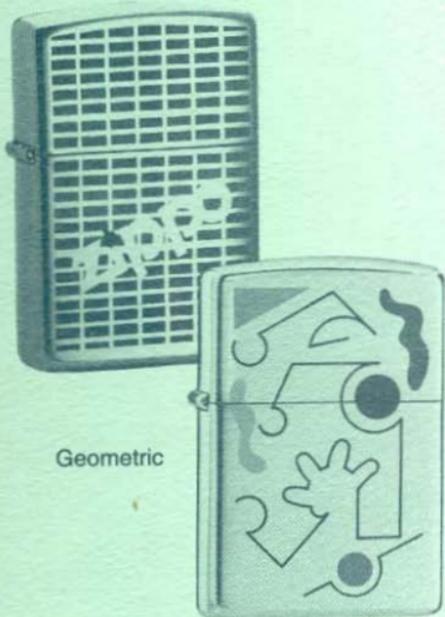
Cherokee Rifleman - Cavalry Trooper
- Infantryman - Prison Guard



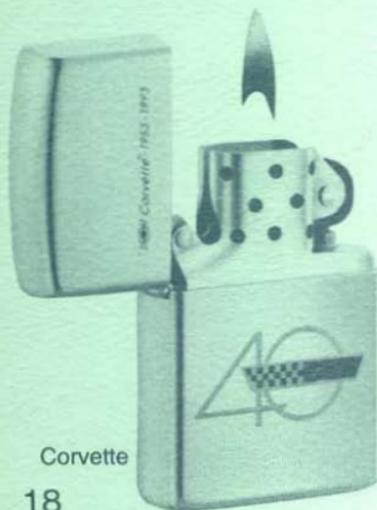
1993 – 1994

Cool and contemporary, the Geometric Collection featured an exotic group of six Zippo lighters consisting of — orange grid, symmetric circles, assorted symbols, varied geometrics, modern abstract and cartoon abstract.

Richly opulent, the Toledo Collection featured the ancient art of damascene engraving. Damascene is the technique of encrusting gold, silver or copper wire on a surface of iron, steel or bronze. This technique reached its pinnacle in design and beauty through the craftsmanship of the artisans of Toledo, Spain. Zippo commissioned four damascene designs, each with plaques on the front and back of the lighter.



Geometric



Corvette



Toledo

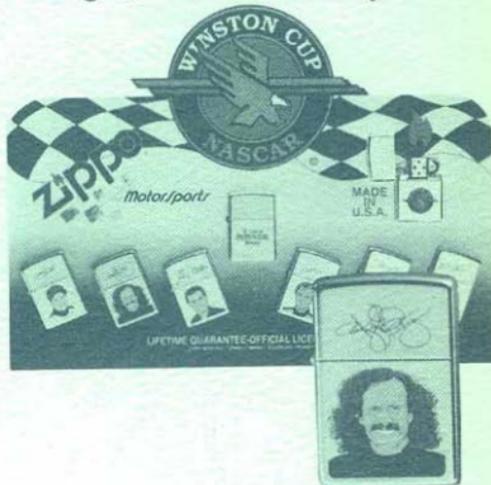
The Corvette Collection commemorated the 40th anniversary of the popular American sports car. Featured in the series were the 1953-57-63-69-78-86 and the 1991 models.

Zippo®

MotorSports

1993 – 1994

Zippo entered the exciting world of motor-sports in 1993 with sponsorship of the U.S. Vintage Grand Prix of Watkins Glen. Also new in 1993 was the Zippo Motorsports Collection featuring popular NASCAR drivers and Winston Cup graphics. The following year, Zippo signed on with Team Kendall as an associate sponsor of Sabco Racing's #40 NASCAR entry.



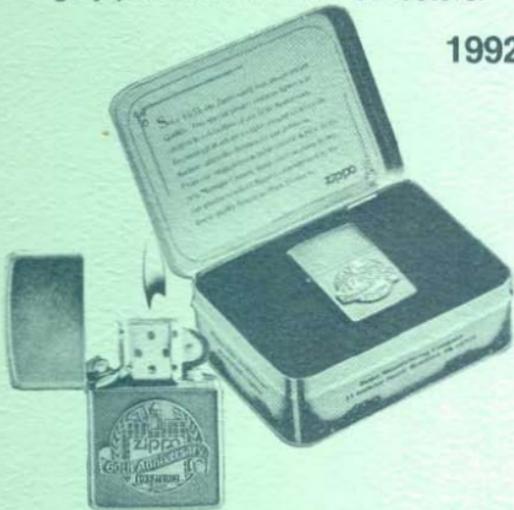
In tribute to Watkins Glen and the U.S. Vintage Grand Prix, Zippo created a Vintage Collection of thirteen special edition products imprinted with one of three racy Watkins Glen logos.

Zippo commemorated the breaking of an 83-year tradition at Indianapolis Motor Speedway as NASCAR drivers took the track in the Inaugural Run of the Brickyard 400.



COLLECTIBLE OF THE YEAR

In 1992, its 60th Anniversary year, Zippo introduced the 60th Anniversary Commemorative Lighter in a collectible tin. Customer and collector response was so great that the tradition has continued with a new collectible lighter each year. Available for only a limited time, the early sets have already become highly-prized editions for collectors.



1992 - 60TH ANNIVERSARY LIGHTER

Zippo introduced this limited edition midnight chrome lighter with pewter 60th Anniversary emblem. Each lighter was displayed on plush velour platform in a decorated tin.

1993 - THE VARGA LOOK

The Varga Girl, Windy, was introduced in 1937 in Zippo's first national ad. The 1993 collectible lighter featured Windy cast in pewter and attached to the lighter as a two-surface emblem. She was also pictured on the lid of the collectible tin.





1994 - D-DAY COMMEMORATIVE LIGHTER

Zippo saluted the 50th anniversary of D-Day with its 1994 commemorative lighter. Its black crackle surface replicated the famous World War II finish, and the antique brass emblem was patterned after the sleeve patch worn by Allied troops. Gen. Eisenhower's inspirational June 6, 1944 message to the troops is reprinted inside the lid of the round collectible tin.



Also introduced in 1994 was the Allied Heroes Set which saluted these legendary war heroes: Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Gen. Charles de Gaulle, Gen. Bernard L. Montgomery, and Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley (see page six for additional information about Zippo wartime lighters).

COLLECTIBLE OF THE YEAR

1995 - MYSTERIES OF THE FOREST™

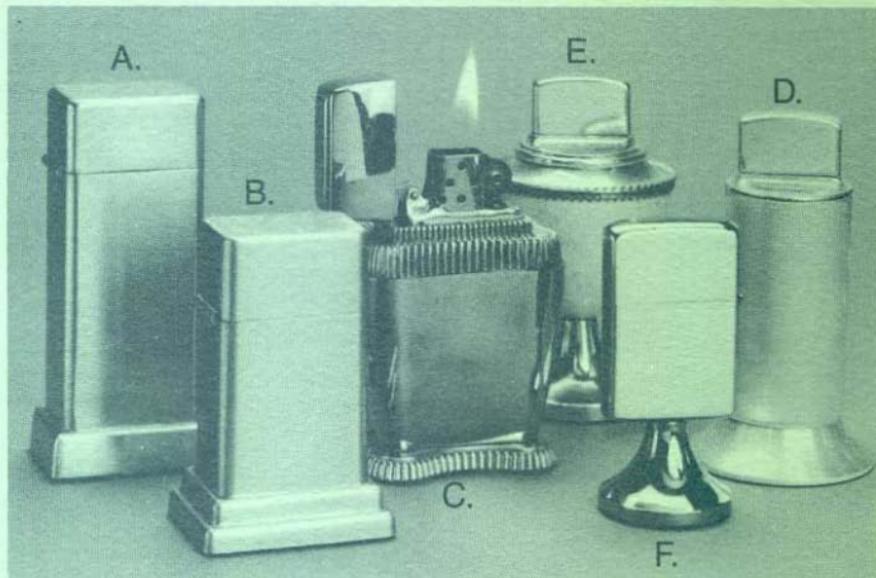
The 1995 Limited Edition collectibles marked several firsts for Zippo. For the first time, the images on the lighters in a set combined to present a larger picture. It was the first Limited Edition to use Zippo's exciting new Technigraphic™ process. And for the first time, the single lighter, Jaguar and Cub at Turtle Falls™, shared a graphic connection with the four lighter Mysteries of the Forest™ set.



1996 - ZIPPO SALUTES PINUP GIRLS

Sixty years ago, a beautiful young woman introduced the Zippo windproof lighter to the world in Zippo's first national advertisement. Zippo Salutes Pinup Girls paid tribute to "Windy" and the "windproof beauties" that followed her. Zippo's Pinup of the Year was Joan, the 1996 Collectible. The Four Seasons four lighter companion set introduced Holly, April, Sommer, and Ida Redd, a collectible beauty for each season of the year.

ZIPPO TABLE LIGHTERS



A. Barcroft

Zippo's first table lighter, the #10 Tall Table Lighter was produced between 1938 and 1941. It was 4.5" tall and held four times as much fuel as a pocket lighter.

B. A slightly shorter #10 was introduced in 1947 as the Deluxe All Purpose Table Lighter. In 1950, it was shortened to 3.5", and in 1953, began to utilize the same inside unit as a Zippo pocket lighter. The #10 was renamed the Barcroft in 1954, and was produced until 1979.

C. Lady Bradford

The elegantly curved Lady Bradford was introduced in 1949. It had no base, and used a large inside unit, both features that were changed in the 1950 model. The Lady Bradford was discontinued in 1951.

D.,E. Moderne and Corinthian

The Moderne and Corinthian table lighters were both introduced in 1960, each in three different finishes. Both were discontinued in 1966.

F. Handilite

In 1979, Zippo introduced the Handilite, a pedestal base that transformed almost any pocket lighter into a table model.

LIGHTER MUSEUMS

Man's first discovery was fire; his first invention was a way to make it. As explained in the book, *The Birth of the Lighter*, "The history of the lighter can be traced back to the harnessing of fire, one of humankind's most essential and powerful discoveries. Since the first sticks and stones were rubbed together in caves across Africa, Asia and Europe, fire played an unprecedented, pivotal role in the economies and religions of countless early civilizations."

Several museums are dedicated to lighter preservation and education about the history of portable flame. Lighter museums featuring Zippo and other lighters are:

Zippo Family Store and Museum

Located on Congress Street adjacent to the Zippo factory in Bradford, PA.

Mailing address:

33 Barbour Street

Bradford, PA 16701

Phone: (814) 368-2700

National Lighter Museum

107 South 2nd Street

Guthrie, OK 73044

Phone: (405) 282-3025

Lighter Museum of Holland

Postbus 27

5670 AA Nuenen

The Netherlands

BOTTOM STYLES

As the style of Zippo lighters has changed over the years, so has the design of the Zippo logo that is engraved on the bottom of each lighter.

Since the late 50's, the bottom of every Zippo lighter has featured a series of dots and slashes which serve as code marks. When matched to the manufacturer's coding chart on the following pages, you can determine what year the lighters were produced. Here are representative samples.

ZIPPO MFG. CO. BRADFORD, PA.

ZIPPO

PAT. PENDING MADE IN U.S.A.

1932

ZIPPO MFG. CO. BRADFORD, PA.

ZIPPO

PAT. PENDING MADE IN U.S.A.

1936

COLLECTORS CLUBS

If you're interested in learning more about the world of lighter collecting, please contact one of these clubs. Members collect Zippo lighters and many other types of lighting devices.

On The Lighter Side (OTLS)

International Lighter Collectors
P.O. Box 536
Quitman, TX 75783-0536 USA
Attn: Judith Sanders
Tel: 903-763-2795
Fax: 903-763-4953

Pocket Lighter Preservation Guild (PLPG)

11220 W. Florissant, #400
Florissant, MO 63033 USA
Attn: Ronald Eyerkuss
Tel: 314-731-2411
Fax: 314-831-3182

Lighter Club of Great Britain

351A, Whitehorse Road
Croydon, Surrey
CRO 2HS ENGLAND
Attn: Richard Ball
Tel: 081-665-9578
Fax: 081-665-9579

Funke und Flamme (FUF)

International Lighter Collectors' Club

Postfach 30
CH-9413 OBEREGG
SWITZERLAND
Attn: Rolf Muller
Tel/Fax: 071 91 1322

Zippo Club Italia

Int. 295
Via Ciro Menotti, 2/A
20129 Milano
ITALY

L'Accendino

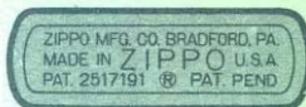
via L. Sartoria No. 5
31100 - Treviso
ITALY
Attn: Umberto de Concilio
President
Tel/Fax: 010 39 422 30 17 99

Lighter Club of Japan

3-39-2 Nakano
Nakano-Ku
Tokyo, JAPAN
Attn: Yuji Hirayama
Tel: 03 5385 5801
Fax: 03 5385 5804



1943



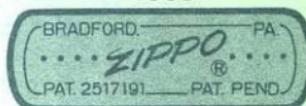
1953



1980



1946



1958



1986

zippo LIGHTER IDENTIFICATION CODES

YEAR	REGULAR		SLIM	
	LEFT	RIGHT	LEFT	RIGHT
1932	Patent Pending			
1937	Patent 2032695 *			
1950	Patent 2517191			
1957	Full stamp with patent pending		....	....
1958	Full stamp, no patent pending			

1959	....	...	...	...
1960	...	...	...	..
1961	...	..	..	..
1962	..	..	..	.
1963	..	.	.	.
1964	.	.	.	
1965	.			
1966	IIII	IIII	IIII	IIII
1967	IIII	III	IIII	III
1968	III	III	III	III
1969	III	II	III	II
1970	II	II	II	II
1971	II	I	II	I
1972	I	I	I	I
1973	I		I	
1974	////	////	////	////
1975	////	///	////	///
1976	///	///	///	///
1977	///	//	///	//
1978	//	//	//	//
1979	/	//	//	/

zippo LIGHTER IDENTIFICATION CODES

YEAR	REGULAR		SLIM	
	LEFT	RIGHT	LEFT	RIGHT
1980	/	/	/	/
1981	/		/	
1982	////	////	////	////
1983	////	///	////	///
1984	///	///	///	///
1985	///	//	///	///
1986	//	//	//	//

EFFECTIVE 7-1-86 THE ABOVE SYSTEM WAS REPLACED BY YEAR/LOT CODE. YEAR IS NOTED WITH ROMAN NUMERAL/ LETTER DESIGNATES LOT MONTH (A=JAN., B=FEB. etc.)

1986	A to L	II	SAME AS REGULAR
1987	A to L	III	SAME AS REGULAR
1988	A to L	IV	SAME AS REGULAR
1989	A to L	V	SAME AS REGULAR
1990	A to L	VI	SAME AS REGULAR
1991	A to L	VII	SAME AS REGULAR
1992	A to L	VIII	SAME AS REGULAR
1993	A to L	IX	SAME AS REGULAR
1994	A to L	X	SAME AS REGULAR
1995	A to L	XI	SAME AS REGULAR
1996	A to L	XII	SAME AS REGULAR
1997	A to L	XIII	SAME AS REGULAR
1998	A to L	XIV	SAME AS REGULAR
1999	A to L	XV	SAME AS REGULAR
2000	A to L	XVI	SAME AS REGULAR

THE FAMOUS
ZIPPO®
GUARANTEE

This lighter or any Zippo, when properly used, will be put in first-class mechanical condition for use as long as you have yet to change your mind, regardless of age or condition.

ZIPPO MANUFACTURING CO.

Blaisdell



Zippo founder George G. Blaisdell surrounded by Zippo memorabilia.