



Daisy Airgun Collector's Guide, , Daisy Outdoor Products, 2010, , . A comprehensive guide to Daisy airgun models..

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CO2 Pistols & Rifles , James House, Jan 7, 2004, Antiques & Collectibles, 224 pages. Current safety trends encourage shooters to opt for guns of less power, especially CO2-powered guns. Several airgun shooters are not required to go through the traditional

The Jim Corbett omnibus, Volume 1 , Jim Corbett, 1991, History, 588 pages. Man-Eaters of Kumaon, The Man-Eating Leopard of Rudraprayag, and The Temple Tiger and More Man-Eaters of Kumaon, the three classic collections of Corbett's hunting stories

The gunner's bible the most complete guide to sporting firearms : rifles, shotguns, handguns, and their accessories, Bill Riviere, Robert Elman, Apr 3, 1985, History, 190 pages. Provides the hunter with a practical guide to different types of guns, and shooting accessories.

Complete book of the air gun , George C. Nonte, 1970, Sports & Recreation, 288 pages. .

American Air Rifles , James E. House, Jan 1, 2002, , 204 pages. American air rifles and their respective ballistics, sights, games, and pellets are thoroughly explained to help shooters get the most out of their air rifle. Performance data

The Airgun from Trigger to Target , G. V. Cardew, Gerard Michael Cardew, Sep 1, 1995, Air guns, 235 pages. .

Air Gun Digest , J. I. Galan, 1995, , 288 pages. A stellar report on pneumatic, spring-piston, CO2, and other airguns. Get the low-down on hunting and airgun competition, plus airgun history, trends, and technology. Includes

Total Airguns The Complete Guide to Hunting with Air Rifles, Pete Wadeson, May 1, 2005, , 300 pages. Extensive details on all airgun shooting techniques A wealth of information for all levels of experience Airgun shooting is one the fastest growing and most popular shooting

Daisy Air Rifles and BB Guns 100 Years of America's Favorite, Neal Punchard, 2002, Antiques & Collectibles, 156 pages. Flash back to the days of your youth and recall fond memories of your Daisy. Daisy Air Rifles and BB Guns looks back fondly on the first 100 years of Daisy BB rifles and

Air Rifle Shooting for Pest Control and Rabbiting. John Bezzant , John Bezzant, Mar 31, 2009, , 192 pages. The air rifle is a very effective weapon for the control of rabbits and vermin. This comprehensive book is essential reading for all those who wish to become accurate, skilled

Advanced Metal-work: Lessons on the Speed-lathe, Engine-lathe, and ..., Volume 1 Lessons on the Speed-lathe, Engine-lathe, and Planing-machine, for the Use of Technical Schools, Manual-training Schools, and Amateurs; in Three Parts, Alfred George Compton, James H. De Groot, 1898, Metal-work, . .

Model Steam Engines , Bob Gordon, Jun 22, 2010, , 32 pages. Model engineering was popularized by pioneering steam enthusiasts, and rapidly grew into an exciting worldwide hobby for amateur engineers. This book describes how model steam

Air Rifle Hunting , John Darling, 1988, , 160 pages. This book is a captivating and highly informative guide to the techniques of being effective as a hunter with a modern precision air rifle in today's countryside..

Metal Lathe for Home Machinists , Harold Hall, Jun 1, 2012, , 168 pages. Metal Lathe for Home Machinists is a project-based course that provides a complete introduction to the lathe and lathe metalworking. It assumes no prior knowledge and works

Daisy Collectors is for people that appreciate the simplicity, nostalgia, and fun of those clean, sharpshooting Daisy BB Guns. Daisy Collectors is not about the break-barrel, high-power sniper rifles of today, but the lever or pump action, cowboy style plinkers that we grew up with, and now share with our children.

Then a local Plymouth Michigan Inventor showed his invention of the first airgun to Lewis Cass Hough (manager of the company). So the new airgun could be offered to farmers for free when they purchased a new Windmill. But it so happened the Farmers wanted the Airgun more than they wanted the Windmill. Then in 1889 the company decided to make the airgun it's principle line of business and stop making the windmills. In 1895 the Plymouth Windmill Company changed its name to Daisy.

Safari Buffalo Hunt metal target. When you shoot the 2 small buffalo targets down, you then shoot the silver target and it will stand the small buffalo targets back up. If you shoot thru the hole in the silver target it rings a bell. Comes with un-opened bag of replacement targets. The picture tells it all. I opened the box for the first time to take the picture.

Daisy model 1894 The State of Texas, Texas Rangers with wood stock and forearm. The bb gun is near mint, the box has a few issues like clear tape. Comes with a copy of the letter from the Texas Ranger Museum in Waco Texas endorsing this bb gun. Not to be confused with the Plastic stock Texas Ranger. Ask questions

Daisy model 95 Quick Skill set. The set is missing 1 of the pairs of shooting glasses and 2 tubes of bb's. Comes with a free 16 page copy of the Quick Skill book. This is the civilian model of the bb gun Daisy made for the government to teach troops instinct shooting with out sights on the gun The bb gun is near mint but the box has a few issues so ask questions

Daisy model 21 double barrel with original box. This bb gun has the light colored re-enforced stock and has 3 very small dings in the barrel. The box is in fair condition with a torn spot on the side pictured and 1 end flap is torn off. The end flap is in the picture. Ask questions about the bb gun and box before you buy. I want you to know just what you are buying

Daisy model 179 western pistol. The pistol shows finish wear on the high spots. This very hard to find Blue box has a tear in the lid just below the picture of the gun barrel, you have to look close to see it. The tear has been taped on the inside. Displays very nice. Comes with the original owners manual and a copy of a Daisy velocity chart

Daisy model 103-33 Super Buzz Barton Special. This bb gun was made about 1933. It is nickel plated with a cast iron reverse cocking lever. You can see 2 dark spots on the receiver where the

nickel is gone. The barrel looks dark in the picture but that is only a reflection. I am showing the worst side, the other side is much nicer. The bb gun has the correct sight tube and shoots good. I can send you a picture of the other side that shows the Buzz Barton star brand on the wooden stock.

Each of the items has some issues. The scope has been painted black and I do not think the rubber eye piece is correct. The bb gun is nice but missing some of its blueing. The Fred Harmon wooden stock has to be a factory error. Notice only the top half of the Red Ryder is lasered in the wood. The stock has not been sanded to remove the Red Ryder because you can feel the grain in the wood. The box is very sturdy but has several repaired places. As always ask questions. Sold

Daisy model 25 made in Plymouth Mi. about 1952. This bb gun shoots good and has a rare almost straight plastic stock. The receiver still has some of the gold paint in the engraving. The gun is nice but does show some play wear, more on the barrel than the receiver. The short take down box is the first one I have ever had for sale. The box is nice, the end flaps are a little weak but still all there.

If you purchase a toy from The Texas Antique Toy Collector and it is not as described, send me an email in 3 business days for information on how to return. Do not email me 3 weeks or 3 months later after your wife finds out the bb gun you bought was for you and not your grandson, or if a friend tells you he could have got you one that was a lot nicer, a lot older, a lot cheaper, or a lot whatever. You will know as soon as you take it out of the box if you are happy with your purchase.

Slightly modified from Rare Air, The Most Collectible Airguns of the Twentieth Century by Robert Beeman in the First Edition of the Blue Book of Airguns, 2001. Please see that article to view the large number of illustrations which appeared with the original article. Readers interested in airgun collecting should obtain a copy of The Art of Airgun Collecting by Robert Beeman. It is heavily illustrated and a collectors' item in itself. A few copies of this were still available at posting time, autographed if desired, from the Guns and Literature For Sale section.

When the Blue Book staff first asked me to write this chapter, the subject seemed quite straightforward. It simply would be a discussion of which airguns made in the twentieth century are the most desirable items for collectors. The tough job would be to decide which airguns are the most desirable. Then it became apparent that quite a different view could be applied to the concept of most collectible. The "most desirable" and "most collectible" terms could mean the same thing, but they also could refer to quite different groups of guns. The "most desirable" concept would cover those models which are the most sought after, the most desired of all. The other version of "most collectible" would include the airguns, which most realistically can be found and made into interesting collections. I will attempt to make a good consideration of both concepts.

Certainly the most prized of all airguns are those made in the three or four centuries prior to 1900. Most of those airguns are large bore (about .30" to .75" caliber) and generally were intended as serious hunting guns. They often were produced as cased sets of shooting equipment and many were beautifully engraved and the finest ones were inlaid with gold or silver. One of the most famous of these early airguns was carried by Captain Meriwether Lewis during the exploration of the Pacific Northwest in 1803 to 1806 (Beeman, 2000-2004). Some of these antique airguns were illustrated and discussed in Four Centuries of Airguns (Beeman, 1977). These amazing and wonderful early airguns are now very hard to obtain, very expensive, and generally were made to order - so they do not lend themselves to discussion as to which are the most collectible. Therefore, the present article will limit itself to the twentieth century. (For readers interested in the airguns made from 1600 to 1900, the key references are Hoff 1972 and Wolff 1958).

The year 1900 is an arbitrary breaking point, not related to the development of various airguns. We will dip down into the end of the 19th century to pick up models that, like the first model Daisy, really belong to series of airguns developed in the twentieth century. And, although many collectors find great interest in including, or even specializing in, recent airguns, this brief review will stress airguns made in the first half, or first three-fourths, of the 20th century. A general, very useful, very interesting, but rather inaccurate and badly dated, reference on collectible airguns is Smith's

Standard Encyclopedia of Gas, Air, & Spring Guns of the World (W.H.B. Smith, 1957). Many of the references, which I will mention in this article, can be found on the worldwide web at www.usairgun.com/books.html and dtfletcher.safeshopper.com. Of course, I feel that the most useful guide to modern and vintage airguns now is the Blue Book of Airguns -you should try to obtain the full series as each issue contains basic and advanced material, not just on values, but a continuing series of text and explanatory material.

Many collectors prefer to specialize in one brand. In America, Daisy clearly leads the pack in popularity with the models made in Plymouth, Michigan being of greatest interest. An extensive Daisy collection generally requires a very considerable investment of time and money but it is the very passion of many airgun collectors. The American BB Gun - A Collector's Guide (Dunathan, 1971) gives the best picture of American BB guns and remains as one of the very best sources of Daisy information. Even more than information, Dunathan's book gives an absolutely delightful insight into the role of the BE gun in the emotional life of the early 20th century American boy. Every airgun collector must have this book. Unfortunately, this charming book now is badly out of date and rather incomplete. An illustrated chronology of Daisy guns was given by Fletcher (1998c). A definitive book on the Daisy models has yet to be written, but collectors are aware of so many variations of the scores of models that no hard-core Daisy collector ever feels that he has enough. This has tended to bid up the prices and reduce availability, but Daisy collecting is still a very viable sport if you have the stamina and funds. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th models are, of course, especially desired, but there are a few models that stand out among all the later versions that perhaps could be labeled as "most desirable". The leader among these would certainly be the Model 104 double barrel BB gun. These unusual guns were introduced just as the United States entered World War II. Whether the change to wartime production priorities, or the potential liability of these guns closing suddenly during cocking, thus cutting off a user's fingers, killed this model is not known, but they quickly disappeared from the market. A plastic stocked, double barrel BB gun made in the 1960's is highly desirable, but not as sought after, except for a version which is even rarer than the original: hand made salesman's samples with carved, checkered walnut stocks - only 25 were made, only a handful may exist today. Other most desirable Daisys include the Number 140 Military Model, produced only in 1941, the first year of America's involvement in World War 2. This model is especially rare with the original sling and rubber-tipped bayonet because that bayonet usually was "lost" - most probably by the users' mothers. My own favorite of the many other Daisys is a pair of guns: the 1905 Masonic Initiation Guns. They fired, not BBs, but water. One fired a jet of water forward; the other member of the pair, reserved for persons taking the Rough Masonic Initiation ceremony - fired water back into the shooter's eyes. Certainly not a model for OSHA or political correctness!

Within the Daisy circle, two model groups stand out as being very "collectible", so much so that new collectors realistically can still expect to develop special collections of the many variations of these models at reasonable prices: they are the Red Ryder BB guns, which are described and priced in this price guide, and the Model 25 pump action BB guns. The Red Ryders arguably are the best known airguns in the world - a display of Red Ryder variations always draws a large number of remarks like "I used to have one like that when I was a kid". While Red Ryder BB guns were produced in enormous numbers, reportedly with a peak of one million made in 1949, there are enough less common, and even rare, variations to make collecting them very interesting indeed.

The Markham/King BB guns are, to a large degree, as discussed so well by Dunathan, a part of the Daisy story. From 1886 to 1916 they were Daisy's main competition. From 1916, to the end of the King models in 1940, Markham/King was part of the Daisy Company. There are a large number of Markham and King models, and they are now highly collectible, but certainly the most interesting is the all wood BB guns of Markham's earliest production: the 1888 Chicago. It is rare. However, with its all-wood body, hardware-store style cocking hinge and red stained stock, searching for it is well worth the effort.

The First Edition of the Blue Book of Airguns introduced Blue Book's first value listing for vintage Benjamin airguns. This largely is the result of the recent greatly increased popularity of Benjamins among airgun collectors. And we are especially fortunate to now have an excellent guide to the

Benjamin models in *The St. Louis and Benjamin Air Rifle Companies*, 1999, D.T. Fletcher - Publisher, ISBN-1-929813-04-X (dtfletcher.safeshopper.com). Even more fortunate, a revision of this key work should appear rather soon. George E. Benjamin (second son of Walter Benjamin, founder of the Benjamin company) wrote an interesting article about the Benjamin and other American airgun companies (Benjamin, 1982).

One of the key challenges is finding Benjamin specimens with the original finish. So many users, and even some unknowing collectors, felt that they could greatly improve the looks of their pet guns by polishing them until the brass shone - unfortunately that brass is beneath the original black finishes so dear to knowledgeable collectors. "Making it shine" just may kill 75% of the value of such a gun!

The collecting of Benjamins is still one of most affordable and rewarding areas of airgun collecting. The first decade of the 21st century is the window of opportunity for building a satisfying collection. Such a collection certainly will show excellent appreciation of value as the most desirable models become less available. Repeating models always cost a few dollars more, back in days when a few dollars meant a lot. So now all repeaters, but especially pistols, are much less common and rapidly are increasing in desirability. Be willing to pay a premium whenever you can find Benjamins with original bright nickel finish and seek out guns in the much less common .22" caliber.

Although I generally shy away from current models, an exception would seem to be found in the polished brass Model 87 "Centennial" model with the special 00xxxx-sequence serial number. The H17 pistol with bright nickel finish and the HB20 (.20" caliber!) black finish pistol also would seem to be especially collectible. Study the Benjamin model list in this guide and the descriptive information in Fletcher's Benjamin book; versions made during the transition period of Crosman ownership with the Wisconsin address should also be increasingly collectible.

For Sheridan collectors, the Model A generally is considered THE basic item. However, as soon as you have that first model, the most desirable item is the much less common Model B. Both of these models are the foundation of any Sheridan collection. Although the list of Sheridan models may seem rather limited, there are enough variations and other Sheridan items to make this brand a quite challenging area. The fact that only a limited number of collectors have taken this brand seriously as a collecting area means that availability, pricing, and value appreciation should be especially good during this next decade. Left-hand versions are especially rare and some Sheridan collectors are willing to pay large premiums for them. A single example of a left-handed gun would satisfy most collectors.

As with the recent Benjamin special models, there is good reason to seek out specimens of the very collectible C9PB rifle (find one with the medallion inset into the stock) and H20PB pistol. Both were special runs with highly polished brass (PB) finishes, produced only in 1998. In the year 2020, and probably before, collectors should be clamoring for small numbers of available specimens of these handsome guns. In the meantime, you can enjoy their unusual beauty. If a dealer still has one of these under-appreciated guns in stock, you may be able to manage a closeout price.

The second most popular brand for American airgun collectors is Crosman. Spanning over three-quarters of a century, the number of Crosman models and variations is topped only by Daisy. Collectors who enjoy shooting their guns consider Crosman as even more desirable. More Crosman airguns offer the advantage of power that is suitable for field use. The leading authority on Crosman airguns, Dean Fletcher, considerably expands the idea of "most collectible" and offers some excellent suggestions. He states (personal communication) that:

I tend to agree with Dean's ideas except for the thought that it is no fun to hunt for the very hard-to-find specimens. Many collectors feel that such hunts are the most exciting parts of the game and there is that feeling of finding hidden treasure when one unearths a particularly desirable specimen at a bargain price. My super rare Crosman 1923 rifle, the first of the Crosmans, came from a car collector who wanted to "get rid of the BB gun" that he found under the seat of a vintage Cord roadster that he was restoring. He wanted twenty dollars for the gun and was glad to be rid of

it!

Many collectors would opt for searching for a broad range of airguns instead of a highly concentrated group. For them the Model 1923 Crosman is a prize that they really don't expect to find, but for which they always will be watching (watch out for specimens cobbled up from old parts and non-original receivers!). Among the other Crosman models some of the very most desirable include the models which came right after the Model 1923: the first and second Model 1924 Lever Model rifles. The second version of the 1924 Lever Model introduced the pump style that is still found on most pump-up airguns. The pre-1927 Crosman rifles are especially desirable because of their blued steel barrels (probably made by Remington Arms Co.). Later rifles have painted bronze barrels made by Crosman.

There are many other very desirable Crosmans. Among the favorites of myself, and many other collectors, are the short-lived (1949), wonderfully-solid, well-built Town and Country Models 107 and 108, the delightful, and much sought-after Crosman "45 Auto Repeater" Model 451 - built like a Colt .45 Government Auto firearm, but which actually is a gas operated revolver, the revolutionary Model 600 Semi-Automatic pistol, and the Plink-O-Matic Model 677 semi-auto BB pistol. Spice and visitor interest is added by some of the more unusual Crosman guns: the Model 380 Rocket Spear Sea Gun for use underwater, the Crosman Jet-Line pistols that shoot carbon dioxide cylinders (they doesn't shoot from cylinders; they actually project the cylinders themselves as projectiles to jet along in big electrical conduits to aid in pulling electrical wiring), and the Cap-Chur guns that are used to project tranquilizer darts into animals ranging from mad dogs to elephants and even human criminals.

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