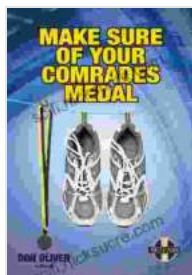


Make Sure of Your Comrades Medal: A Comprehensive Guide to Identifying and Collecting the Coveted Soviet Award

The Comrades Medal (Медаль «За боевые заслуги») is a prestigious military award of the Soviet Union, established on May 17, 1938. It was awarded to servicemen of the Red Army, Navy, and NKVD (secret police) for bravery, heroism, and exemplary performance in combat operations.



Make Sure of Your Comrades Medal

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1989 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 124 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Design and Variations

The Comrades Medal is made of brass and has a diameter of 32 mm. It features the profile of a soldier in a Red Army helmet on the obverse, surrounded by the inscription "За боевые заслуги" (For Combat Merit). The reverse bears the State Emblem of the USSR and the date "1938".

There are several variations of the Comrades Medal, depending on the period of issue and the type of suspension. The earliest medals had a

rectangular suspension with the inscription "СССР" (USSR) in the center. Later medals had a pentagonal suspension with a star at the top.

Criteria for Award

The Comrades Medal was awarded for:

- Courage and bravery in combat
- Successful completion of a combat mission
- Exemplary performance of duties in combat conditions
- Long and impeccable service in the armed forces

The medal could be awarded multiple times to the same individual.

Identification and Authenticity

Genuine Comrades Medals are made of brass and have a high-quality finish. The details of the design are sharp and clear, and the inscriptions are well-defined. Counterfeit medals are often made of cheap metals, such as aluminum or zinc, and have a rougher finish. The details of the design may be blurry or incomplete, and the inscriptions may be poorly struck.

Another way to identify a counterfeit Comrades Medal is to look for the manufacturer's mark. Genuine medals are marked with the initials of the mint that produced them. Counterfeit medals may not have a manufacturer's mark, or they may have a fake mark.

Collecting the Comrades Medal

The Comrades Medal is a popular collectible among numismatists and military historians. It is a relatively common award, but some variations are

more difficult to find. The value of a Comrades Medal depends on its condition, rarity, and historical significance.

When collecting the Comrades Medal, it is important to be aware of the different variations and to do your research to avoid purchasing counterfeits. It is also a good idea to purchase medals from reputable dealers.

Stories Behind the Medal

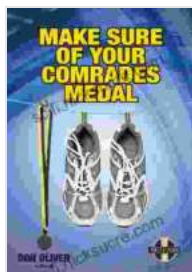
The Comrades Medal has been awarded to millions of Soviet servicemen over the years. Each medal has a story behind it, a story of courage, sacrifice, and camaraderie.

Here are a few stories about recipients of the Comrades Medal:

- **Ivan Vasilyevich Panfilov**, a general in the Red Army, was awarded the Comrades Medal for his leadership of the 316th Rifle Division during the Battle of Moscow in 1941. Panfilov's division was instrumental in stopping the German advance on the city.
- **Vasily Zakharovich Zaytsev**, a sniper in the Red Army, was awarded the Comrades Medal for killing 225 German soldiers during the Battle of Stalingrad in 1942. Zaytsev's exploits were immortalized in the book and film "Enemy at the Gates".
- **Lyudmila Pavlichenko**, a sniper in the Red Army, was awarded the Comrades Medal for killing 309 German soldiers during the Battle of Sevastopol in 1942. Pavlichenko is considered one of the greatest snipers in history.

The Comrades Medal is a symbol of the courage and sacrifice of the Soviet people during World War II. It is a reminder of the importance of camaraderie and the spirit of fighting together to overcome adversity.

The Comrades Medal is a prestigious military award that was awarded to millions of Soviet servicemen over the years. It is a symbol of courage, heroism, and exemplary performance in combat operations. When collecting the Comrades Medal, it is important to be aware of the different variations and to do your research to avoid purchasing counterfeits. It is also a good idea to purchase medals from reputable dealers.



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