

WHERE DID



**THE PENNY GO**

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# Where Did the Penny Go?



After 232 years of making pennies, the United States Secretary of the Treasury decided to stop producing the one-cent coin on November 12th, 2025. This decision was made because pennies cost more to make than they are worth. A penny is made mostly of Zinc, with a thin layer of copper coating. As the price of Zinc has increased, the cost of making a penny has gone up from 1.42 cents to nearly 3.69 cents. At the same time, more people are using digital payments, such as credit cards and mobile apps, and are using cash less often.

There are around 300 billion pennies in the United States today. The Treasury believes that half of those are in jars, drawers, and piggy banks.

As pennies are used less, prices may be rounded up to the nearest nickel. This means prices may end in a 0 or a 5 instead of 99. The United States Treasury estimates that stopping penny production could save around 56 million dollars per year.

Source: [usmint.gov](https://www.usmint.gov)

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