

# Franklin Mint's Thimbles of the World's Greatest Porcelain Houses

The August 1980 Franklin Mint "Thimbles of the Worlds' Porcelain Houses" set has proved to be a very popular set with collectors. Nearly 40 years after its release, this set is still marks the beginning of the collectable thimbles interest. It covered most of the thimble china and porcelain brands of England and Europe of the time. With the popularity of the Franklin Mint set, many of these china houses first made thimbles for this set and went on to produce thimbles for the next 10-15 years.

Lladro of Spain produced their only thimble for the set and the Noritake and Lladro thimbles are the most sought after of the set. The Lladro differs markedly from the rest of the set. It is of bisqueware and the Lladro maker's mark or backstamp is incorporated within the design of two children playing. Love it or hate it?

There are 25 thimbles in the set and I have placed them together for those collectors who do not have access to Antique & collectible thimbles and accessories by Averil Mathis, where the full collection is illustrated. There is nothing tho in her text, to link the 25 thimbles as a set.

Each thimble has its own explanatory leaflet, which identifies some of the names of the thimble design. The original price of each thimble back in 1980, was AU\$19.50. That was a big outlay for a set of 25 - which would rarely be recouped today?

See also: [copies of the accompanying certificates](#)



set of 25



**Adams**  
England  
English Scene



**Bernardaud**  
France  
Empire Motif



**Coalport**  
England  
white rose affixed



**Crown Staffs**  
England  
Fruit Basket



**Franciscan**  
USA  
handpainted green  
& red flowers



**Franklin  
Porcelain**  
USA  
gold swan,  
butterfly & roses



**Ginori**  
Italy  
Italian Fruit



**Hammersley**  
England  
pink flowers in  
cameo



**Haviland**  
France  
pink roses



**Hutschenreuther**  
Germany  
Blue Onion



**Johnson Brothers**  
England  
mauve & yellow  
flowers



**Lladro**  
Spain  
3 children in relief



**Mason's**  
England  
Nabob



**Mosa**  
Holland  
windmill



**Noritake**  
Japan  
white vertical  
ridges



**Okura**  
Japan  
blue male playing  
child in Chinese  
dress



**Rorstrand**  
Sweden  
Gripsholm



**Royal Adderley**  
England  
sprigs of flowers



**Royal Albert**  
England  
Old Country Roses



**Royal  
Copenhagen**  
Denmark  
Flora Danica



**Royal Doulton**  
England  
pink rose



**Royal Tara**  
Ireland  
shamrocks



**Royal Worcester**  
England  
pink rose



**Spode**  
England  
Girl at Well



**Wedgwood**  
England  
Josiah Wedgwood

## **Contributors**

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DO YOU KNOW ANY MORE DETAILS ABOUT FRANKLIN MINT'S THIMBLES OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST PORCELAIN HOUSES?

EMAIL [thimbleselect@bigpond.com](mailto:thimbleselect@bigpond.com) TO SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE.