

Thimble Collectors Club Thimbles

Takiro Pottery <--> Trillium Fine Bone China

Thimble Collectors Club

Fujiyama Thimble

滝呂
TAKIRO
JAPAN

TAKIRO POTTERY - Japan

A snow-covered scene of Mount Fuji, dramatically presented against a gold-washed background, decorates this finely crafted porcelain thimble from the Takiro Pottery. The majestic, cone-shaped "Fujiyama" is sacred to the Japanese people. The pine trees and cranes in the scene are symbolic of long life and peace.

Founded in 1968, the Takiro Pottery is located in Terai, Kutani, Japan. This small and prestigious porcelain house is dedicated to Japan's ancient and highly developed traditions of art in all forms. Many of the designs on the exquisite porcelain pieces produced by this firm — including the "Fujiyama Thimble" — have been inspired by treasured paintings from the 15th and 16th centuries.

Takiro's high standards of quality, as well as its reverence for Japanese art, can be seen in this thimble's snow-white porcelain and meticulously painted details. The "Fujiyama Thimble" is available exclusively from The Thimble Collectors Club.

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Peacock
TAKUYA, Japan

The most exotic and flamboyant of all birds, the glorious peacock inspires admiration the world over for the breathtaking beauty of its feathers. Showing off to the dowdier female, the male struts proudly to and fro, puffing out his magnificent metallic blue chest and raising his long train of tail feathers to form a shimmering fan above his back, the iridescent 'eye' markings ringed with brilliant blue and black. No wonder that in ancient times the peacock was carried to all parts of the world, and prized as a great treasure. It reached Japan from its native India in the eighth century, and is regarded there as a symbol of beauty, dignity and, above all, prosperity.

The producer of this rich and ornately decorated thimble, the porcelain house of Takuya, was established as an independent manufacturer in 1958 and is based in Japan's Tajimi City. Employing highly skilled craftsmen in the application of traditional oriental design, Takuya specialises in the creation of porcelain vases, boxes, plates and other decorative items.

Thimble Collectors Club

Peacock Thimble

琢也
TAKUYA

TAKUYA CHINAWARE CO., LTD. — Japan

Thimble Collectors Club

Ancient Egypt

A thimble in tribute to THOMAS GREEN, England

An Ancient Egyptian frieze, richly delineated in gold on a pure white ground, adorns this strikingly beautiful thimble. The seated and standing figures show two kings and a queen, while on the opposite side a figure rows a boat. Both in the cartouche and interspersed throughout the design, we see 'letters' from the hieroglyphic alphabet, and other symbols, representing water, the double flowering reed, the vulture, the open mouth, the falcon, the tethering rope, the bolt, and the ankh. Stylised flowering plants complete this handsome design. Painted friezes such as this are still being discovered in Egyptian tombs, where they have lain unseen for nearly five thousand years.

The company to which this thimble is a tribute was founded by Thomas Green in Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent, in 1847. Producing both porcelain and pottery, the company became well known for its attractive wares with printed decoration. It remained in production for only about twelve years, until 1859. The hallmark is very distinctive: it has the famous Staffordshire rope knot, entwining the founder's initials and the location of the factory, and is surmounted by a royal crown.

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Butterflies Thimble



THOMAS GREEN POTTERY - England

The beauty and grace of colorful butterflies has been expertly captured on a thimble of pristine white bone china from Thomas Green Pottery in England.

Founded in 1847, the Thomas Green Pottery was originally located in the Fenton Area of England's noted porcelain-making district of Stoke-on-Trent. Their skilled artisans' mastery of the potter's art and meticulous attention to detail resulted in gift items and dinnerware of exceptional beauty. Items bearing their unusual hallmark – the famous "Staffordshire" knot, encircling the owner's initials topped by a royal crown – quickly became sought after by collectors worldwide.

The beauty of this "Butterflies" thimble – its colorful motif and its butterfly shape – has been further enhanced by a band of gleaming gold. This unique thimble is a magnificent addition to your collection, and has been made exclusively for members of the Thimble Collectors Club.

Thimble Collectors Club

Peacock

With the mark of THOMAS GREENE, England

His magnificent colouring, beautiful tail feathers, elegant crest and dignified gait gave rise to the simile 'proud as a peacock,' and this is indeed an apt description of so handsome and stately a bird. At home in the sandy deserts of Rajasthan, in north-west India, he is a protected species – and in fact has become rather a pest, having to be shooed away from the temptations of the carefully tended and watered flower beds around Rajasthan's sumptuous palaces! Prized for his appearance, the peacock has over the years been introduced into aviaries and private parks in very many parts of the world. Our thimble shows him parading in the grounds of an eighteenth-century English country house. The thimble's rim is embellished with a fine gold band to set off the picture.

The crowned Staffordshire knot – an attractive rope design – was the only mark used in its early days by the pottery of Thomas Greene and Company, which was founded in 1848 at the Minerva Works, Park Street, Fenton. Later the company was known as T. A. and S. Greene, and concentrated on the manufacture of fine bone china.

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The spelling of the surname is slightly different

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The Thimblemakers

In the style of THOMAS GREEN, England

What more appropriate decoration for a thimble could there be than this delightful illustration of thimblemakers engaged in their task? Executed by Jost Amman in the sixteenth century, the scene depicts two craftsmen hard at work producing these little items that were so essential to every household in the days when clothes, curtains, bedlinen – everything you can think of made from fabric – had to be painstakingly stitched by hand. Today, when we have sewing machines, department stores overflowing with every type of furnishing one could possibly desire, and insufficient time to patch and repair worn clothes, thimbles are regarded more often as charming little ornaments than as indispensable friends to help us with our daily chores. Yet there is still a special pleasure to be gained from using one for the purpose for which they were intended – a feeling of continuing a long tradition of patient, skilled needlework that has encompassed everything from shepherds' smocks to exquisite Honiton lace.

Thomas Green was founded in 1847 in Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent, and became particularly well known for porcelain and earthenware products with appealing printed designs. Although its lifespan was brief – a mere twelve years – it made an indelible mark on the history of Staffordshire porcelain houses.

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Floral Spray THUN, Czechoslovakia

A fresh spray of softly colourful flowers adorns this delightful thimble. The magnificent rose at its centre is a Bourbon rose, 'La Reine Victoria', an old-fashioned favourite, loved for its rich, intense fragrance and deep pink blooms which appear from June until the first frosts of Autumn. It is here set off to perfection by the simple little flowers beside it.

There has been a ceramics house at Klasterec, in Czechoslovakia, since the eighteenth century, and from 1803 until 1945 it was owned by the Counts Thun, who gave it their family name, along with their enthusiasm, connoisseurship and innovative flair. In the mid-nineteenth century the company - after a considerable growth in expertise and prosperity - produced the wonderfully extravagant 'Imperial Service' commissioned for the Imperial Court at Vienna; a similarly lavish service bearing the coat of arms of the Counts Thun; and large and beautiful virtuoso pieces for the great exhibitions in Paris and Munich. Recently the building has undergone a complete reconstruction, and is one of the largest and most up-to-date ceramics houses in the world. It has lost none of its traditions of excellence, and is well known and respected by porcelain collectors everywhere.

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Summer Blossom Thimble



TIRSCHENREUTH - Germany

Flowers native to the German countryside - the Speedwell, the Rose, and the Wild Convolvulus - resplendent in their natural hues of red and purple are captured in exquisite detail on this lovely thimble from Tirschenreuth of Germany.

The Tirschenreuth china factory, a subsidiary of Hutschenreuther AG, celebrated its 150th anniversary on June 29, 1988. Over the years their steadfast commitment to excellence has made Tirschenreuth china one of the most sought after collectibles in the world. Originally noted for their breathtakingly beautiful tea and coffee services, their expanded collection includes hand-decorated boxes and dainty vases. Discriminating collectors in over 100 countries have searched for just the right Tirschenreuth item to grace their collection.

This thimble, with its magnificent array of flowers presented on a thimble of the finest German porcelain exemplifies the fine craftsmanship for which Tirschenreuth is noted and is available exclusively to members of the Thimble Collectors Club.


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Nouveau Butterfly TOZAN, Japan

Who can resist the charm of this most delicate and colourful of nature's creatures, herald of spring and summer, of warmth and golden sun and long lazy days? Jewel-like butterflies flitting busily from flower to flower to seek out the nectar on which they feed bring a feeling of joy to everyone's heart. An ancient myth claimed that the soul leaves the body after death in the form of a butterfly, perhaps to fly happily for ever among the flowers of paradise.

This exquisite scene has been created for you by the artist and illustrator Angela Mills, who lives in the heart of the English countryside and spends much of her time illustrating children's books for publishers worldwide. It has been lovingly reproduced on porcelain by the small, specialised factory of Tozan in the ancient porcelain manufacturing city of Tajimi, in Japan. Tozan, meaning 'mountain peak', is justly proud of its reputation for producing classical, highly decorated porcelain.

Thimble Collectors Club
Red-Headed Woodpecker Thimble

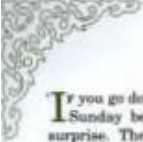


TRILLIUM FINE BONE CHINA - Ontario, Canada

A Red-Headed Woodpecker, poised to begin work on a tree limb, stunningly contrasts with the pure white bone china from Canada's Trillium Fine Bone China Company.

Trillium China takes its name from the official flower of Canada's Ontario Province. The firm was established in 1988 by Dennis Salt – a Fellow of England's Institute of Ceramics and winner of five medals for ceramic technology. Before moving to Canada, Dennis mastered the art of making exceptional porcelain at the prestigious English houses of Royal Doulton, Wedgwood and Royal Worcester. His work at Trillium China, which combines traditional English methods of making bone china with decorative designs inspired by the Canadian countryside, has already earned him international recognition.

Trillium Fine Bone China is proud to offer their first thimble, replete with a glistening band of 22kt gold, exclusively to members of the Thimble Collectors Club.



Fruit Pickers TULIP FINE CHINA, Holland

If you go down to the woods today, you're sure of a big surprise! Dressed in their Sunday best, three of our picnicking teddy bears have planned yet another surprise. They have scampered away from the main party to fill their picnic baskets with a treat of ripe red berries to finish off the feast with their friends ... or will the fruit be presented to their mummies and daddies, when they come to take them home to bed at six o'clock? A charming small gift for a child, this thimble is decorated with two fine golden bands and surmounted with a traditional 'strawberry' indented crown.

Tulip Fine China was founded in 1847 in Holland, in a region well known to potters for its desirable clay deposits. The company became renowned worldwide for its collectable china, which, with its elegant backstamp, is widely sought after by collectors. This pretty thimble is the most recent of Tulip's long line of attractive and original designs.