

Guide to Pin Trading at the Disney Parks

HOW TO TRADE PINS

Trade with Cast Members:

Look for Cast Members wearing a black pin lanyard or hip belt patch. These Cast Members do not personally own the pins they're trading with so they will never deny a trade to you - so ask for whatever you want!

Rules for Trading with Cast Members, Pin Boards or Pin Books

- You are allowed to trade up to two pins per transaction
- Pins must have the Copyright Disney stamp on the back in order to be eligible to trade anywhere in the parks.

Trade on Pin Boards or Books:

- *Pin boards* are cork boards with Disney pins displayed for trade. You can find pin boards throughout the parks and shops, and at the resort hotels.
- *Pin books* are usually only found at the Disney resort hotels by asking the front desk or concierge desk.

Trade with Other Park Guests:

There are no official rules for trading with other guests - just be kind and respectful! Also, understand some pin fanatics are very picky about their trades.

WHERE TO GET DISNEY PINS

Walt Disney World:

- **Magic Kingdom:** Frontier Trading Post, and the Main Street Emporium
- **Epcot:** Pin Central Kiosk behind Spaceship Earth and MouseGear
- **Animal Kingdom:** Island Mercantile on Discovery Island
- **Hollywood Studios:** The Dark Room, and Sunset Ranch Kiosk
- **Disney Springs:** Disney Pin Traders

Disneyland:

- **Disneyland:** Westward Ho Trading Co, and Buzz Lightyear Store Command
- **California Adventure:** Julius Katz and Sons, and Off The Page
- **Downtown Disney:** Disney Pin Traders

Beginners Purchasing Tips:

- Consider a starter set to begin pin trading with. These sets include a lanyard and some pins to trade with and can be found at any of these stores.
- Booster packs, concealed mystery boxes, and mystery bag sets are also a great buy if you need more pins to trade in the parks. The booster packs and concealed mystery bag sets usually come with five pins to trade or keep. Mystery boxes usually have two pins.
- Be careful with online pin purchases, especially on Ebay. Many bulk lots of pins on Ebay are counterfeit pins not eligible for trading. Instead, check the Shop Disney website for these sets online, or look for other sellers offering *unopened* mystery or booster sets.

QUICK REFERENCE OF THE VARIOUS TYPES OF PINS FOUND IN THE PARKS

Open Edition Pins:

- Often also referred to as "rack pins." These are pins that can be found in the gift shops and pin trading carts all over the parks. These pins are not limited in edition size and anyone can purchase them.

Hidden Mickey Pins:

- These pins are always marked with a small silver mickey head etched on the pin. Hidden Mickey pins are typically pin sets with a few pins per set that are released every year for Cast Members to trade on their lanyards. You can also purchase mystery blind bags of Hidden Mickey pins from previous years at most of the stores listed in this guide.

Limited Edition Pins:

- Often referred to as "LE pins." These pins are often only found in the parks at the stores listed in this guide and are usually kept behind glass. They are exclusive pins that are limited in production to a certain number, usually between LE100 to LE5,000.

Limited Release Pins:

- Often referred to as "LR pins." These are pins that are not limited in edition size, but a limited in that they are only produced for a short time. They are often for special holidays or events and are only sold during that holiday or event with a new design each year. They are often found behind glass at the pin stores like the limited edition pins.

Specialty Group Pins:

- These are pins only eligible for purchase if you belong to a special group like Annual Passholders, DVC members, or Disney Visa Cardholders, or Disney Cast Members only for example.

PIN TRADING ETIQUETTE

- Trade one pin at a time, hand to hand.
- Be very careful of the sharp pin backs when trading and exchanging pins. Trade with the back on if possible.
- Always refrain from touching another person's lanyard or pins. If you need a closer look, ask the person wearing the pins for a better view. Be respectful of everyone's personal space.
- When trading with Cast Members, you should offer a pin that is not already on the Cast Member's lanyard.
- Money, or other gifts, should never be exchanged for a pin in the Disney parks.
- Counterfeit pins (or low quality pins) will not be accepted for trading. The Cast Members ultimately have the final say as to what is or is not a tradeable pin.

The Most Important Etiquette Tip:

- ***Have fun!!***
- Pin trading is a great way to meet Cast Members and other park guests and is fun for the whole family. The pins you collect on your trip can also be a great souvenir of your vacation!

