

## GOLD MAPLE LEAF

ROYAL CANADIAN MINT

### SECTIONS

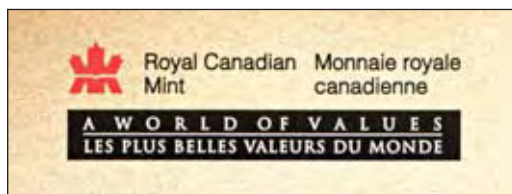
<b>Royal Canadian Mint</b>	
Background	2
Gold Bar Manufacturer	2
International Communication	3
<b>Gold Maple Leaf</b>	
Authorization	3
Range	3
Historical Development	3
Legal Tender Status	4
Important Features	5
International Distribution	5
Technical Description	6
Visual Description	7
Annual Sales Statistics	9
<b>Appendix</b>	
London Good Delivery 400 oz Bars	10



The Royal Canadian Mint launched the Gold Maple Leaf, the world's first 24 carat gold bullion coin, in 1979.



More than 39 million Gold Maple Leafs have been minted for the international market.



The **Royal Canadian Mint (RCM)**, which celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008, is a Crown Corporation wholly owned by the **Federal Government of Canada**.

The RCM is responsible for the manufacture of Gold Maple Leaf bullion coins, as well as for their sale, distribution and marketing worldwide.

Gold Maple Leaf bullion coins are minted at the headquarters of the RCM in the city centre of Ottawa, the capital of Canada.



**ROYAL CANADIAN MINT**

**BACKGROUND**

The **Royal Canadian Mint (RCM)**, known by this name since 1931, was originally the Ottawa Branch of The Royal Mint in London.

Established to produce Canada’s legal tender coinage, and in accordance with the Ottawa Mint Act 1901, the Ottawa Branch was opened in 1908 by the Governor General of Canada, Earl Grey, to mint sovereigns and Canada’s other legal tender coinage.

In 1931, when control by The Royal Mint in London came to an end following the Discontinuance Proclamation, the Ottawa Branch was renamed the Royal Canadian Mint, operating within the Department of Finance. In 1969, Crown Corporation status was granted, whereby an independent Board of Directors was appointed to operate the Mint as a profitable commercial enterprise.

The RCM focuses on the minting of circulating coinage, precious metal coins, medals and medallions, and the refining of gold and silver.

It operates at two locations. The **Winnipeg** production facility, operational from 1976, mints circulating coins for Canadian and international customers: annual production around 2-4 billion pieces. The **Ottawa** production facility is responsible for the manufacture of precious metal products; it has also refined gold and silver since 1911: annual refined gold output around 150 tonnes. In recent years, the RCM has normally minted circulating and precious metal coinage for around 15 countries.

The RCM is renowned for its innovation. It was the first mint worldwide to manufacture and issue the following gold products:

1979	24 carat gold bullion coins, i.e. Gold Maple Leafs at 99.9%*
1982	99.99% gold bullion coins, i.e. Gold Maple Leafs were upgraded during 1982 – 1983
1997	Guaranteed value gold coins, e.g. 1 oz coins with a minimum redemption value of C\$ 310 before 1 January 2000
1998	99.999% gold coins (1 oz)
2007	100 kg gold bullion coin, i.e. Gold Maple Leafs at 99.999%

\* 24 carat gold purity is defined internationally as 99.9% or 99.99%.

In 1990, it was also the first to incorporate gold-plated inserts or “cameos” into coins, medals and medallions, an innovation now widely adopted by other mints.

In addition to Gold Maple Leafs, the RCM has minted bullion coins in silver and platinum (since 1988) and in palladium (since 2005).

The RCM has minted gold coins for over 100 years since the issue of its first gold sovereigns in 1908.

**GOLD BAR MANUFACTURER**

The RCM has been a manufacturer of London Good Delivery 400 oz gold bars since at least 1934 when the first London Good Delivery list was published by the London Gold Market.

It has issued 100 oz bars (since 1981), kilobars (since 1984) and small minted bars (1 oz since 2001) and 5 oz and 10 oz (since 2003).



The RCM has its headquarters in Ottawa, the capital of Canada. It was founded as the Ottawa Branch of The Royal Mint in London in 1908.



The RCM has manufactured London Good Delivery 400 oz bars since at least 1934.



## INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION

Public and trade enquiries can be directed to the Bullion Sales Department at the RCM's international headquarters in Ottawa.

Royal Canadian Mint  
320 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada K1A 0G8

Tel: 1-613-993-3500

Website : [www.mint.ca](http://www.mint.ca)

### GOLD MAPLE LEAF

## AUTHORISATION

Authorised by the Federal Government of Canada, the Gold Maple Leaf bullion coin program is undertaken by the Royal Canadian Mint.

While no name is recorded on the coins, they are known as "Maple Leafs" as a maple leaf, the national emblem of Canada, is illustrated on their reverse sides.

## RANGE

Gold Maple Leaf bullion coins, launched in 1979, are available in 5 standard sizes:

1 oz, 1/2 oz, 1/4 oz, 1/10 oz and 1/20 oz

Since 2007, the 1 oz coin has also been available at a gold purity of 99.999%.

For short periods, 1/15 oz coins (1994 – 1996) and 100 kg coins (2007, 2008 and 2013) were also sold.

## HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

In May 1978, the Canadian Parliament approved an Amendment to the Currency and Exchange Act which allowed the Cabinet to authorize the production of Canadian gold bullion coins.

In September 1979, the 1 oz Gold Maple Leaf was officially launched as the world's first 24 carat gold bullion coin.

The program was immediately successful, generating worldwide sales of 3 million ounces of Gold Maple Leafs in the first three years. During this period, the 1 oz Gold Maple Leaf had a gold purity of 99.9%.

In 1982, the decision was taken to increase the gold purity to 99.99%, the world's first bullion coin to be minted at this high quality. The new 1/4 oz and 1/10 oz coins, launched in 1982, were all minted at 99.99% purity. However, 1 oz coins were only changed to 99.99% purity in 1983.

In 1986, 1/2 oz coins were issued, followed by 1/20 oz in 1993. 1/15 oz coins were issued briefly over a limited period, 1994 - 1996.

In 2007, 2008 and 2013, a small number of 100 kg coins were issued – the largest gold bullion coins ever made at the time of the launch in 2007.



The Gold Maple Leaf's standard bullion coins contain 1 oz, 1/2 oz, 1/4 oz, 1/10 oz or 1/20 oz of fine gold.



The RCM has minted gold coins for more than 100 years.



In 2007, a supplementary 1 oz gold coin with a gold purity of 99.999% was issued – the purest gold bullion coin ever made. Since their launch, the design on the reverse side has changed in some years.

**LEGAL TENDER STATUS**

Gold Maple Leaf bullion coins are legal tender under the Currency and Exchange Act as specified in Part 1 of the schedule to the Act.

Under the Royal Canadian Mint Act, the governor in Council of the Privy Council may, by proclamation, authorize the issue of precious metal coins as well as prescribe all aspects relating to technical standards and designs.

Each size of coin has a face value denominated in Canadian dollars.

<b>Bullion Coin</b>	<b>Monetary Face Value</b>
1 oz	C\$ 50
1/2 oz	C\$ 20
1/4 oz	C\$ 10
1/10 oz	C\$ 5
1/20 oz	C\$ 1
1 oz 99.999% fine gold	C\$ 200
<b>Historical</b>	
1/15 oz	C\$ 2
100 kg	C\$ 1,000,000

Source: Royal Canadian Mint

Authorization to issue 1 oz coins is in the Privy Council Proclamation (PC 1979-518), dated 20 February 1979.

Authorization to change millesimal gold purity from 999 to 999.9 is in the Privy Council Proclamation (PC 1979 – 3048), dated 8 November 1979.

Authorization to issue 1/2 oz, 1/4 oz and 1/10 oz coins is in the Privy Council Proclamation (PC 1982 – 572), dated 18 February 1982.

Authorization to issue 1/15 oz and 1/20 oz coins is in the Privy Council Proclamation (PC 1993 – 222), dated 4 February 1993.

Copies of the Currency and Exchange Act as well as the Privy Council Proclamations may be obtained from the Department of Justice in Ottawa.



The Gold Maple Leaf is legal tender under Canada's Currency and Exchange Act.



The 100 kg Gold Maple Leaf, issued in 2007 and 2008, contains the equivalent of 3,215 oz of fine gold.



**IMPORTANT FEATURES**

**From the Royal Canadian Mint**

The Royal Canadian Mint, which celebrated in 2009 the 30th anniversary of the launch of the Gold Maple Leaf, has minted gold coins for more than 100 years.

**First bullion coin to be issued in 24 carat gold purity**

The Gold Maple Leaf was the world's first gold bullion coin to be minted at this high quality. Gold purity is 99.99%.

**World's most widely traded 24 carat gold bullion coin**

More than 39 million Gold Maple Leaf bullion coins (26 million ounces) have been issued internationally since their launch in 1979.

**Attractive design**

The maple leaf is the national emblem of Canada, the design features on the national flag. The design of the gold Maple Leaf has proved so popular that its smaller sizes are widely incorporated within jewellery internationally.

**From Canada – an important gold producing country**

Canada has been a significant source of newly-mined gold for more than 100 years since the discovery of gold in the Yukon in the 1890s.

**Traded at low premiums**

As Gold Maple Leaf bullion coins are designed for gold investors, they are normally wholesaled (exclusive of distribution costs) to authorised primary distributors worldwide at a low premium above the prevailing value of their gold content.

**Promoted worldwide**

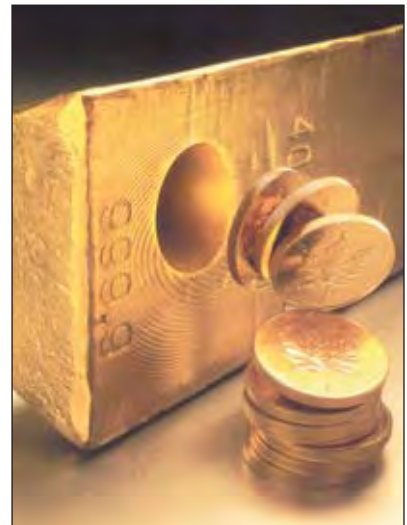
Over the past 35 years, the RCM has undertaken promotional programs in North America, Latin America, Europe and the Far East.

**INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION**

The RCM wholesales Gold Maple Leaf bullion coins in bulk quantities to authorized primary distributors. They are located in major gold markets and distribution centres worldwide, including the following countries:

<b>North America</b>	USA, Canada
<b>Europe</b>	Germany, Switzerland, United Kingdom
<b>Far East</b>	Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan

As many distributors trade internationally, Gold Maple Leafs are available in many other countries.



Millions of Gold Maple Leaf bullion coins are held by investors around the world.



A standard package containing 500 x 1 oz Gold Maple Leafs.

They are packed in 50 tubes, each containing 10 coins.





## TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

GOLD MAPLE LEAF BULLION COINS – STANDARD						
Category		1 oz	1/2 oz	1/4 oz	1/10 oz	1/20 oz
Gold content	Troy ounce	1.00	0.50	0.25	0.10	0.05
Weight	Gram	31.150	15.584	7.797	3.131	1.581
Fineness – Gold Purity*	%	99.99	99.99	99.99	99.99	99.99
Standard Diameter	Millimetre	30.0	25.0	20.0	16.0	14.1
Standard Thickness	Millimetre	2.87	2.23	1.78	1.13	0.92
Face Value	C\$	50	20	10	5	1
First issued	Year	1979*	1986	1982	1982	1993

GOLD MAPLE LEAF BULLION COINS – ADDITIONAL ISSUES				
Category		Supplementary	Historical	
		Higher Purity 1 oz	1/15 oz#	100 kg
Gold content	Troy ounce	1.00	0.040	3,215
Weight	Gram	31.150	n.a.	100,000
Fineness – Gold Purity*	%	99.999	99.99	99.999
Standard Diameter	Millimetre	30.0	15.0	530.0
Standard Thickness	Millimetre	2.87	0.98	30.0
Face Value	C\$	200	2	1,000,000
First issued	Year	2007	1994#	2007

Source: Royal Canadian Mint. \*1 oz coins were launched in 1979, but between 1979 – 1982 their gold purity was 99.9%. #1/15 oz coins were sold only between 1994 – 1996.

Privy marks: Applied to the reverse of coins dated (1) 1999 – commemorating the coin's 20th anniversary, (2) 2000 – commemorating the new millenium, and (3) 1999 – 2000 – a limited issue with a double date for 1st January 2000.



Since 1979, 26 million oz (824 tonnes) of Gold Maple Leafs have been minted for the international market.



## VISUAL DESCRIPTION

## STANDARD BULLION COINS

## OBVERSE



1 oz

An effigy of **Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II** with the inscription, "Elizabeth II", together with references to the coin's face value and the year in which the coin was minted.

This portrait of the Queen was drawn by Susanna Blunt and engraved by Susan Taylor.

Applied to all coin sizes since 2004.

Earlier effigies of the Queen: (1) 1977 – 1989: designed by Arnold Machin and engraved by Walter Ott, and (2) 1990 – 2003: designed and engraved by Dora Depédery-Hunt.

## REVERSE



1 oz

A **maple leaf** – the national emblem of Canada. The inscriptions record "Canada" and the fine gold content of the coin in troy ounces (e.g. "1 oz"), placed between the words (in English and French) "Fine Gold" and "Or Pur".

The gold purity is recorded twice, on each side of the maple leaf, as "9999". Between 1979 – 1982, "999" was recorded on 1 oz coins.

The maple leaf was drawn by Walter Ott and engraved by RCM staff.

In 1983, and again in 1990, the maple leaf was re-engraved to provide more definition.



**99.999% GOLD PURITY**

**1 OZ**



2008  
Obverse - example



2008  
Reverse - example

The 1 oz 99.999% Maple Leaf, launched in 2007, has been issued in various formats.

Obverse: Although the portrait of the Queen has remained the same, in some years there has been a background of “netting”.

Reverse: In some years, there has been a different maple leaf design and a background of “netting”.

**100 KG**



Obverse  
2007



Reverse  
2007

The 100 kg Gold Maple Leaf, available since 2007, was the largest gold bullion coin ever made at the time of its launch.

The design of the maple leaf is the same as that on the 1 oz 99.999% Gold Maple Leaf issued in 2007.





## ANNUAL SALES STATISTICS

GOLD MAPLE LEAF BULLION COINS											
Year	Number of Coins									Total Coins	Total Ounces
	Standard					Purity 99999	Olympic	Other			
	1 oz	1/2 oz	1/4 oz	1/10 oz	1/20 oz	1 oz	1 oz	1/15 oz	100 kg		
1979	1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
1980	1,215,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,215,000	1,215,000
1981	863,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	863,000	863,000
1982	883,000	-	184,000	246,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,313,000	953,600
1983	955,000	-	224,000	140,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,319,000	1,025,000
1984	888,000	-	355,200	256,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,499,200	1,002,400
1985	1,678,000	-	608,000	480,000	-	-	-	-	-	2,766,000	1,878,000
1986	1,058,000	373,600	849,200	493,000	-	-	-	-	-	2,773,800	1,506,400
1987	1,023,500	466,800	463,600	523,000	-	-	-	-	-	2,476,900	1,425,100
1988	800,500	521,600	380,000	411,500	-	-	-	-	-	2,113,600	1,197,500
1989	856,000	259,200	328,800	539,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,983,000	1,121,700
1990	815,000	174,400	253,600	476,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,719,000	1,013,200
1991	290,000	96,200	166,400	322,000	-	-	-	-	-	874,600	411,900
1992	368,900	116,000	179,800	384,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,048,700	510,200
1993	320,200	99,000	157,600	247,000	34,000	-	-	-	-	857,800	435,500
1994	179,400	104,500	148,600	312,800	77,800	-	-	3,200	-	826,300	304,100
1995	208,300	102,900	127,200	294,600	85,300	-	-	4,100	-	822,400	325,500
1996	143,100	66,000	88,800	178,700	55,100	-	-	100	-	531,800	219,000
1997	478,211	63,354	98,104	188,540	59,720	-	-	-	-	887,929	556,254
1998	593,704	65,366	85,472	301,940	44,260	-	-	-	-	1,090,742	680,162
1999	627,067	64,760	98,928	709,920	62,820	-	-	-	-	1,563,495	758,312
2000	86,375	24,404	31,688	52,970	31,280	-	-	-	-	226,717	113,360
2001	138,878	26,556	35,168	63,470	20,720	-	-	-	-	284,792	168,331
2002	344,883	28,706	42,940	45,020	17,140	-	-	-	-	478,689	375,330
2003	194,631	23,470	23,228	26,940	15,560	-	-	-	-	283,829	215,645
2004	253,978	13,160	18,296	33,480	9,880	-	-	-	-	328,794	268,974
2005	281,647	20,052	25,748	30,380	10,220	-	-	-	-	368,047	301,659
2006	209,937	21,138	25,964	40,960	19,340	-	-	-	-	317,339	232,060
2007	189,462	13,476	17,004	21,300	17,900	30,848	-	-	2	289,992	240,754
2008	710,718	28,782	34,368	38,510	15,340	27,476	75,876	-	2	931,072	848,101
2009	1,011,235	54,506	71,268	227,670	39,020	13,765	74,124	-	-	1,491,588	1,168,912
2010	1,036,832	34,302	41,628	111,160	9,000	22,660	6	-	-	1,255,588	1,098,622
2011	1,107,974	31,536	36,164	81,280	19,320	8,408	-	-	-	1,284,682	1,150,285
2012	712,193	28,594	129,156	95,700	12,400	2,900	-	-	-	980,943	771,867
2013	1,050,564	43,706	173,084	139,110	12,940	6,965	-	-	1	1,426,370	1,140,425
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22,573,189</b>	<b>2,966,068</b>	<b>5,503,008</b>	<b>7,511,950</b>	<b>671,060</b>	<b>113,022</b>	<b>150,006</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>39,495,708</b>	<b>26,496,153</b>

## Notes

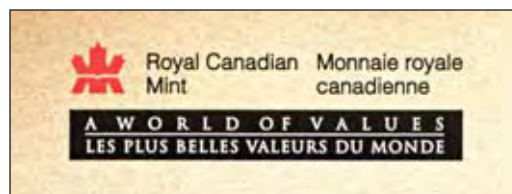
- 1979-1996: Numbers of each size of coin, as received from the RCM, were rounded to the nearest 100 coins, while the annual total ounce figures were exact to the nearest ounce.
- 1997-1998: Numbers of coins are derived from sales in ounces by size, rounded to the nearest ounce, as recorded in the RCM's 1998 Annual Report.
- 1999-2001: Charlton Standard Catalogue, "Canadian Coins". Volume Two. Collector and Maple Leaf Issues. 2nd Edition, 2011. W.K. Cross.
- 2002-2013: Numbers of coins are derived from sales in ounces by size, rounded to the nearest ounce, as recorded in RCM's Annual Reports.



LONDON GOOD DELIVERY 400 OZ BARS



The RCM has manufactured London Good Delivery 400 oz bars for the international market since at least 1934.



For the information and copyright photographs, this supplement is indebted to **Royal Canadian Mint**

Source of further information  
**Canadian Coins**  
Volume Two. 2nd Edition, 2011  
A Charlton Standard Catalogue

Refer to disclaimer on website: [www.goldbarsworldwide.com](http://www.goldbarsworldwide.com)

© Grendon International Research Pty Ltd 2014. All rights reserved.

