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star trek action figure price guide

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Star Trek Action Figure Price Guide: A Complete Collector's Handbook

Star Trek has been a cultural icon for more than five decades, and its action figures remain a prized possession for fans and collectors alike. Whether you're a seasoned dealer or a newcomer looking to build a small but meaningful collection, understanding how to value Star Trek action figures is essential. This guide offers a thorough, up to date overview of the market, key pricing factors, and practical tips to help you navigate the world of Star Trek action figures.

Why a Price Guide Matters for Star Trek Collectors

Action figure prices can vary dramatically, even for seemingly identical items. Factors such as rarity, condition, packaging, and brand can influence a figure's worth. A reliable price guide gives you a benchmark for buying, selling, and trading, and helps you avoid overpaying or underselling. It also offers insight into market trends, allowing you to spot emerging opportunities and protect your investment.

Key Factors That Shape Star Trek Action Figure Prices

1. Brand and Manufacturer

Star Trek action figures have been produced by several major manufacturers over the years, each with its own style, quality, and market perception.

- Hasbro – Known for the classic 1970s and 1980s figures, as well as the 2000s "Star Trek: The Original Series" line.
- Hot Toys – Premium, highly detailed figures released in recent years, often featuring intricate articulation and premium packaging.
- MEI Toys – Mid range figures that offer good quality at a lower price point.
- Other niche brands – Includes companies like Toynami, which occasionally release limited edition or fan centric releases.

Generally, Hot Toys and Hasbro figures command higher prices due to their reputation for quality and collector demand.

2. Series and Era

Star Trek action figures are grouped by series: Original Series (TOS), The Next Generation (TNG), Deep Space Nine (DS9), Voyager (VOY), Enterprise (ENT), Discovery (DIS), Picard, and more. Each era has its own price range.

Figures from the original 1970s line tend to be highly sought after, especially if they're in original packaging. Meanwhile, newer releases like the 2022 "Star Trek: Picard" line can fetch high prices if they're limited edition or feature rare characters.

3. Rarity and Limited Editions

Limited edition releases, exclusive to conventions or special retailers, often retain or increase in value over time. Numbers in the figure's title, such as "#01" or "#99," can indicate exclusivity.

Collectors look for:

- Limited runs (e.g., 500–1,000 units).
- Convention exclusives (e.g., Comic-Con, Star Trek Convention).
- Retail exclusives (e.g., Best Buy, Target).

4. Condition and Packaging

Condition is paramount. Figures in mint or near-mint condition with original, intact packaging usually sell for the highest prices. Key points to check include:

1. Original box and manual intact.
2. No missing parts or loose joints.
3. Paint in good condition with no scratches or fading.
4. Minimal wear on accessories.

Restoration or reassembly can drastically reduce a figure's value.

5. Market Trends and Demand

Star Trek's popularity fluctuates with new releases, movies, and streaming shows. When a new series launches, demand for related figures can spike, driving prices up. Conversely, if a series is no longer in the spotlight, prices may stabilize or decline.

Staying updated on upcoming releases and fan community sentiment helps you anticipate market movements.

Price Ranges by Series and Manufacturer

Below is a snapshot of typical price ranges for popular Star Trek action figure series, based on recent sales data and auction results. These figures are approximate and can vary based on condition and rarity.

Original Series (TOS) – Hasbro

- Standard figures (e.g., Captain Kirk, Spock): $50–$120
- Limited edition or convention exclusives: $200–$500+
- Mint condition with original packaging: $300–$800+

The Next Generation (TNG) – Hasbro

- Standard figures (e.g., Picard, Riker): $70–$150
- Limited releases (e.g., "Commander's Edition"): $250–$600
- Mint condition with original box: $350–$900

Deep Space Nine (DS9) – Hasbro

- Standard figures (e.g., Kira, Odo): $60–$140
- Special edition releases: $200–$550
- Mint condition: $300–$800

Voyager (VOY) – Hasbro

- Standard figures (e.g., Seven of Nine, Chakotay): $70–$160
- Limited releases: $250–$650
- Mint condition: $350–$850

Enterprise (ENT) – Hasbro

- Standard figures (e.g., Archer, Hoshi): $60–$140

- Limited releases: $200–$550
- Mint condition: $300–$750

Discovery (DIS) – Hot Toys

- Standard figures (e.g., Sisko, B''Elanna Torres): $200–$350
- Limited releases (e.g., “Discovery Limited Edition”): $600–$1,200
- Mint condition: $800–$1,800

Picard – Hot Toys

- Standard figures (e.g., Picard, Rios): $250–$400
- Limited releases (e.g., “Picard Limited Edition”): $700–$1,500
- Mint condition: $900–$2,000

Other Series

Figures from the newer series such as “Star Trek: Lower Decks” and “Star Trek: Strange New Worlds” are still in early stages, but early releases can command high prices if they’re limited or exclusive.

Where to Buy and Sell Star Trek Action Figures

1. Online Marketplaces

- eBay – The largest auction platform for collectors. Use the “Completed Listings” filter to gauge realistic prices.
- Amazon – Good for new releases and mass market items.
- Mercari – Popular in Japan and the US for both new and used figures.
- Facebook Marketplace – Local sales can save on shipping.

2. Specialty Collector Sites

- Collector’s Choice – Known for rare and vintage Star Trek figures.
- Rare Toys – Offers a curated selection of high end Hot Toys and Hasbro releases.
- Star Trek Collectibles – Focuses on both new and vintage figures.

3. Conventions and Fan Events

Comic-Con, Star Trek Convention, and other fan gatherings are ideal for finding exclusive releases, rare variants, and networking with fellow collectors.

4. Physical Toy Stores and Hobby Shops

Many local hobby shops carry Star Trek figures, especially if they have a dedicated sci fi section. Check for special orders or consignment opportunities.

Tips for Building a Valuable Star Trek Action Figure Collection

1. Research Before You Buy

Use recent auction results, price comparison tools, and collector forums to gauge a figure’s market value. Avoid impulsive purchases; instead, focus on items that fit your long term strategy.

2. Preserve Condition

Store figures in climate controlled environments, away from direct sunlight. Use display cases or protective sleeves to prevent dust and fingerprints.

3. Keep Original Packaging

Original boxes, manuals, and accessories can significantly boost a figure's value. Even if you can't keep the box, consider a high quality replica or a custom display case.

4. Document Your Collection

Maintain a spreadsheet or use a collector app to track purchase price, condition, and any restoration work. This helps you monitor appreciation and spot potential resale opportunities.

5. Engage with the Community

Join Star Trek collector groups on Reddit, Discord, or Facebook. These communities often share up to date market insights, trade opportunities, and restoration tips.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Overpaying for "Mint" Condition – Mint condition does not always guarantee a high resale value, especially if the figure is common.
- Ignoring Market Trends – Buying a figure only because it's popular now can lead to overvaluation if the series loses traction.
- Neglecting Documentation – Failing to keep receipts or provenance can reduce resale confidence.
- Restoring Poorly – DIY restoration without proper expertise can damage the figure and lower its value.

Future Outlook: What's Next for Star Trek Action Figures?

The Star Trek franchise continues to expand, with new series like "Star Trek: Lower Decks" and upcoming films. Hot Toys and other premium manufacturers are likely to release more high detail figures, especially limited editions tied to convention releases. As the fan base grows, so does the secondary market, making early acquisitions of upcoming releases potentially lucrative.

Meanwhile, the resurgence of vintage nostalgia keeps older TOS and TNG figures in demand. Collectors who focus on rare, well preserved pieces from the 1970s and 1980s may find significant appreciation in the coming years.

Conclusion

Star Trek action figure collecting is both a passion and an investment. By understanding the key factors that influence price—brand, series, rarity, condition, and market trends—you can make informed decisions and build a collection that stands the test of time. Whether you're hunting for a rare TOS exclusive or a Hot Toys masterpiece, this guide equips you with the knowledge to navigate the market confidently.

Remember, the value of a figure is not just in its price tag but also in the joy it brings. Happy collecting, and may the force of fandom be with you!

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