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How do i sell my boyds bear collection

In this guide to the Giant Panda, you'll learn about the current threats and it's habitat.What do bears do during the year? Check out this article to learn about behavior of bears from January to December.The brown bear, the grizzly, and the Kodiak bear are all part of the brown bear species. Learn about the Brown Bear in this article.Check out these adorable pictures of baby bears and see if you can handle the cuteness!The brown bear is an amazing animal. Check out these incredible pictures of brown bears.Check out these adorable pictures of giant pandas and learn all there is to know about these amazing animals!Bears are the largest carnivorous land-dwelling mammals on earth. Check out these bear pictures to learn more!Although Yogi Bear thinks he's smarter than the average bear, he might not be using his brains when snatching picnic baskets. Does panhandling have more serious consequences than just extra calories?By Jennifer HortonThey call the creature a bear. And bears are known to hibernate each winter. So why don't pandas slip into the same cold-weather stupor? Are they really even bears at all?By Jane McGrathSince 1990, there have been only five panda cubs born in the United States. This may seem a little low. Getting pandas to mate in captivity is extremely difficult. Why is the birth rate for giant pandas so low? Find out the answer in this article.By Tracy V. Wilson Housing Works Bookstore Cafe, one of the country's most famous used bookstores, recently showed off one of its most expensive titles, a first American printing of The Fellowship of the Ring for sale at \$4,000. On their Instagram account, they pointed out the telltale signs of this rare printing, including specific printing mistakes, as well as its special features, including a fold-out map of Middle-earth.Go beyond AmazonBefore you donate or trash your old books, you might want to check if they're valuable (even if you just want to maximize your tax deduction when you donate them to Housing Works). That's a little more complicated than checking on Amazon, where different editions and printings get lumped together.The American Library Association's Rare Books and Manuscripts Section has a long FAQ on identifying rare books. They advise that you check bookseller databases—try AbeBooks, a book marketplace frequented by professionals and collectors, which offers better tools for distinguishing between editions and printings than Amazon does. Or try viaLibri, which aggregates search results from AbeBooks, Amazon, eBay, and a dozen more sources. The ALA advises:Be careful to find as close a match as possible, not only in terms of publication details, but also in terms of condition, binding, and other unique features. You can also search some auction sites to find prices realized in recent sales.You can also google your title and terms like "identify edition" to find any pages that list identifying marks from specific editions. For instance, bookseller Raptis Rare Books lists features, marks, and even 16 errors that appear in the first edition of The Hobbit.If you can find several copies of your edition for sale around the same price, then that's what your book is worth. But if you're still not sure what edition you have, but there are signs that it could be rare or valuable, you need to consult an expert.Get an appraisalDr. Terry Belanger, founding director of the Rare Book School, tells Lifehacker that there's no one rule of thumb for identifying a valuable book. That's why he built an entire curriculum around the study and care of rare books. You can't crash-course your way into spotting rare books on sight. It takes time, education, and access to a lot of research.Dr. Belanger can point out the features and "behaviors" of certain imprints, eras, and editions: "A Penguin paperback is notoriously long-lived. I've seen Penguins from the 30s that are still going strong." Note the identifying marks in the Fellowship copy above, which Housing Works's rare book expert could identify. If you suspect you have a valuable book, take it to an expert like that. Usually this expert will be a bookseller, who can not only estimate your book's value, but offer to pay it.This offer will include some room for the seller to make a profit, of course, but they'll be up-front about that. You don't have to be paranoid about getting defrauded. Look for booksellers who belong to the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America or the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers. (The Library of Congress recommends finding dealers through ABAA as well.) According to the ALA's FAQ, these booksellers "must abide by a strict code of ethics designed to protect their customers."If you're still wary, look at the seller's ratings on Yelp and AbeBooks (ask for their username). Rare books are not a high-margin or fly-by-night business, so if you see that this seller is well-established, you can trust them to appropriately value your book. Or you can get a second opinion.You'd think the library would want your used books! But outside of the occasional used-book sale,...Read moreKnow what mattersA book must fulfill several requirements to be valuable: It must be desirable (from a famous author, most books published in the last century will never become valuable no matter how rare they get), it must be relatively rare (at least in its specific edition), it must be in good condition, at least relative to all the other existing copies. And while not all old books are valuable, many of the most valuable books are old. All of these factors affect each other.Desirability"The word rare is a misnomer," says Dr. Belanger. Plenty of rare books are cheap or even worthless. (Think of a cheap, forgettable novel that only ever sold a thousand copies. Even if you have the last remaining copy, that doesn't mean anyone wants it.) Conversely, says Dr. Belanger, "a desirable book is a 'rare book' even if it's not rare." Certain books are valuable just for their cultural significance, just like other ephemera such as original Woodstock tickets, or the first appearance of Superman, or one of Apple's first computer manuals. Of course, these artifacts are also relatively rare, because they were intended to be thrown away after a few years or months or days. A high demand only increases value if combined with a low supply.RarityRarity still matters. There are only 400 extant copies of the 1896 Kelmscott Chaucer; one is available on AbeBooks for \$137,500. Even particularly special reproductions of this book are listed for thousands of dollars. If there were 10,000 copies of this book, it would necessarily be cheaper.On the other end of the spectrum, a popular magazine usually won't gain much value: the market is flooded. National Geographic has a print run of 12 million, so there's always someone looking to get rid of their copies. (That's why my local library used to sell decades-old copies for 5 cents a pop.) But, says Dr. Belanger, even household names can become rare: "My aunt Agnes collected an entire run of Life magazine, and everybody laughed at her. But the complete set is now worth well into five figures."Rarity also applies to the specific edition or even the specific printing. There are millions of copies of The Fellowship of the Ring; you can buy a used copy for five bucks on Amazon, less at many used bookstores. And that's why the earlier editions are worth more. And one edition of a book can have multiple printings, and that each of these printings may fix small errors or make other tiny changes that set them apart. None of these details would make those early copies valuable, if Fellowship weren't also highly regarded and widely read.The first printings of the start of a famous series are usually more valuable than those of the last, because they're usually rarer. By the time they released Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, the seventh book in the series, the publishers knew they'd sell millions of copies. So they ordered a much bigger first printing than they had on The Philosopher's Stone. Copies of that first printing will be easy to find for a long, long time—especially since so many readers will keep them in excellent condition.AgeHow old is an old book? Depends on your purpose. The Fellowship copy above came out in 1954—but it's an extreme outlier, as the first American edition of one of the most famous books in the world. If your book isn't especially notable, then age doesn't really become a major factor until you start getting into the 1800s or earlier. "Certain categories of books are generally more sought after," says the ALA's FAQ, "including all books printed before 1501, English books printed before 1641, books printed in the Americas before 1801, and books printed west of the Mississippi before 1850." At this point we're talking about books that are rare because at the time and place, any books were rare. "The Clerk of Oxford in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales had thirty books," says Dr. Belanger, "and he was mighty proud of it."ConditionOnce you're treating books as physical objects and not only as pieces of information, every crease, mark, scuff, and tear can affect its price. Only extremely significant and rare books can hold their value in poor condition. There's no formula. Like "one torn page=1.2% off the sale price." The price is all relative, and your book will be compared with others of similar or better physical quality. Remember that the more your book has deteriorated, the more work the buyer must do to prevent further deterioration.Take care of your books"As a general rule, books are made with some sort of understanding of their likely use," says Dr. Belanger. That's why a computer manual or an almanac is published as a cheap paperback, while a novel usually comes out in hardcover first, for the serious reader who intends to keep it on their shelf for decades. (If it's successful, the novel gets re-released in paperback. If it's very successful, it comes out in the even cheaper "mass market" format that falls apart after one reading on an airplane.)Even though eBook readers like the Kindle are popular, paperback books are still awesome. They may...Read moreWhen you pass down books for generations, you're stretching them far beyond their intended lifespan. Sunlight fades the covers in just a few years—Dr. Belanger says the reds and yellows are the first to go—and varying humidity stresses their materials. The cloth over a hardcover can shrink faster than the cardboard underneath. If you want it to last long, says Dr. Belanger, "don't take a book where it doesn't want to go." Don't open it wider than it naturally bends; keep it out of sunlight and damp. Even moving a book from one climate to another does some damage, he says; a book that comes from England to Arizona can dry out and fall apart.Go deeperRare books can be expensive, but they're not something you get into for the money. Do it for the love of the books. Dr. Belanger always recommends that you collect books you have strong feelings for. He also recommends that you learn about the practice of collection, which is about so much more than acquiring and selling.You can attend the Rare Books School yourself, or get ahold of its published syllabus and reading lists. You can also attend the two-week Antiquarian Book Seminar to meet experts and learn more methods from librarians, booksellers, and other experts. While books can be a dime a dozen these days (literally in some cases), sometimes you have a...Read moreThere are some general handbooks to identifying and valuing books, like Bill McBride's Pocket Guide to the Identification of First Editions. Every publisher has its own way of marking first editions; Scribner, for example, always includes a small letter A on the title page. While Dr. Belanger can rattle off some of these signs, he says, "All collectors of modern firsts have a McBride, because who can remember?" If you dig deeper, you might end up collecting books about collecting books. Many of the books on the Rare Books School reading list remain expensive themselves; used copies of one 1970 lithography guide, for example, sell for anywhere from \$26 to \$193.It's this extra interest that makes a collector, not the ability to afford a book. "If you've got deep pockets, you can buy first edition, dust jacket mint [copies of] every John Irving novel, and you can do it in about six hours. It'd probably cost you about 60, 70 thousand dollars," says Dr. Belanger. "That's not collecting. That's shopping." You've changed your focus, run out of space, tired of dusting or just need the money. Whatever the reason, it's time to lose the collection. But how? If you're not in a hurry, selling items individually will usually bring higher prices than selling the entire collection as a group. It's also harder to find someone to buy a huge lot. Selling the collection individually can also pay off if you have rare pieces that are sought after by collectors. The downside: It takes more time and effort than one realizes. (Larry Washburn / Getty Images) Here's where those rare items can pay off. Can you say Bidding War? It's what all sellers dream of and can happen if your stuff is in excellent condition and hard-to-find. Mention online auctions and eBay is what comes to mind, but there are many other auction options. Check the auction list for options that might be a better fit. Hero Images / Getty Images Have a living estate sale - contact a local company that specializes in estate sales and let them do the work. You'll pay most likely pay a hefty commission (make sure to negotiate!), but you won't have to worry about the nuts and bolts of the sales or deal with folks hagglng about prices. Another option is having a garage sale. It's not a good idea for a collection that is especially valuable, but if you just have a lot of stuff - it can work out. David Lees / Getty Images Getting the best price depends on the venue chosen, e.g. don't sell autographs on a site that is heavy into antiques or vice-versa. Do some research and find out where your type of collectors are hanging out and where they are buying.It can be a bit of work loading your descriptions, pictures and general set-up. But you get to set your own prices and although someone might ask for a better deal, you still decide the final price. Fees can vary widely. Hero Images / Getty Images If you're wanting to sell higher-end collectibles, a little too valuable for eBay, but maybe not quite worthy of Christy's or Sotheby's. Lofty just might be your solution. It's a way of selling those single items and only incurring a seller's premium of 10%. Lofty evaluate your items, arranges for the shipping and authenticates the pieces. Doesn't get much easier than that. Matthias Fichna/EyeEm / Getty Images You've probably found lots of your treasures at flea markets, perhaps now you can reverse the process and sell your unwanted treasures there. The upside is you're probably familiar with the local flea markets and know which ones carry your type of stuff. It isn't necessarily an easy project to undertake, but if you're a people person, you might get bitten by the bug and start looking for more stuff to sell. Hero Images / Getty Images Most collector clubs have bulletin boards and/or publications where you can buy or sell. This is a great way to sell a collection if the club has a large or active roster and you have sought after goodies. Reach out to in as many places as you can by posting sale listings on collector forum/bulletin boards around the Internet. Facebook has become the go-to place for like-minded folks to chat and this includes collectors. Search for a Facebook group for what you collect, although online selling is not encouraged, it's still a great place to let people know that you are selling and they can contact you for more information. Tetra Images / Getty Images Weekly/monthly collector publications offer classified ads and it really wasn't that long ago that it was the only way to find those elusive items across the country. Unfortunately, many of the publications do not have the circulation of a few years ago but keep in mind that some collectors do not shop online and these collector newsletters/magazines are their only source of information. One source that I've used in the past year or so has been Craig's List. It is an online option, but it's free and has an avid following, certainly worth a try. Unfortunately, there have been also stories of people taking advantage of sellers, so be safe. Never let strangers in your home and never be alone when meeting them. Raphye Alexius / Getty Images Find an auction drop-off business that specializes in selling your stuff for you online.The downside: Not all stores will know about your items and you might need to do a little hand-holding to be sure descriptions are correct and categories are the best fit. Find out all fees before signing on the dotted line. Charges could include the commission, listing fee, transaction fee and Paypal fees. Lee Thompson / Getty Images There is a lot to be said by getting rid of everything in one fell swoop, but that doesn't mean putting 300 cookie jars in one eBay auction and wondering why no one wants to buy them all as a group or instant collection. If you don't want to mess with the stuff or just want to get it over with quickly, try consigning your stuff to an auction house, choices include online, local, or a specialty house. Check their references, fees and the work required from you before deciding on the right auction. Drew Thomsen/EyeEm / Getty Images This is probably the most difficult option, but if you have the time and inclination, it's something to consider. It consists of building a website, deciding on how to advertise your wares, setting up a check-out, as well as doing all the rest of the nitty-gritty that you would do for eBay or online malls. There are thousands of web hosting company options and most offer specific plans with storefront templates and fill in the blank forms to get a site up and running. It's a nice choice for those who are computer challenged, but you will still have a bit of a learning curve. Jetta Productions / Getty Images If you're an avid collector, chances are you've been to or heard of a show/convention specifically geared to your type of collection. There is Pottery Week in Ohio. Comic shows all around the country. Christmas and holiday shows and conventions - all can be great ways to sell a specialized collection. The shows are not as plentiful as they once were, but many are still out there. Check the publications and find out if one is coming up within traveling distance. Then find out their rules about selling. Some conventions have strict rules, others let people sell from their rooms. In either case, it's a great way to meet like-minded collectors and hopefully find buyers for your treasures. (eBay) eBay offers the ProStores solution. It's your own website with your own look and design. eBay does the hosting, charging a hosting fee and individual transaction fees. As with the other options, you'll still have to take pictures, write descriptions and decide on prices, but they take a lot of the hassle out of it. John Rensten / Getty Images And last but not least, what about giving it away? Think about it! If you give a collection to charity, you'll get a tax deduction and the bottom line could be more than the bargain price you might wind up selling it for online. Check with a tax advisor to find out the records you'll need and what type of deductions can be made. Another option is to give pieces away to friends and family who have admired your stuff over the years. They'll be delighted and it feels great to share. Do it in a fun way, as favors at a Christmas party, have an open house where people can come choose, or even just giving away small action figure types of toys to Halloween trick or treaters. Of course, it depends on what you have, but there are many ways to share!

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