

Personal Accessories



1
French sapphire and diamond set yellow metal lady's compact. *Halls Fine Art, Shrewsbury. Nov 05. HP: £1,800. ABP: £2,117.*



2
Art Deco engine turned silver powder compact, a silver thimble and a silver hinged bangle with foliate engraved decoration. *Gorringes, Lewes. Jun 03. HP: £1,375. ABP: £1,617.*



3
Boucheron French silver and gold lady's compact, pierced and engraved grill lid with birds and butterflies and set with twelve ruby cabochons, with bag case, 5in. *Gorringes, Lewes. Jun 07. HP: £800. ABP: £941.*



4
Cartier silver gilt compact covered in black enamel and inset with a band of princess cut diamonds, opening to reveal mirror, lidded compartment and lipstick holder, boxed, 3.5in wide, c1933. *Andrew Hartley, Ilkley. Dec 05. HP: £750. ABP: £882.*



5
Art Deco 9ct 3 colour gold compact, lid set sapphires and diamonds by Aspreys, 2.5in square. *Denhams, Warnham, Sussex. May 06. HP: £510. ABP: £599.*



6
Schuco lilac plush teddy bear compact, detachable head releases hinged abdomen, all limbs jointed, c1930, 3.5in. *Gorringes, Lewes. Apr 03. HP: £440. ABP: £517.*



7
Diamond set 18ct powder compact, basketweave ground applied with seven scattered star shaped mounts set with a diamond, clasp line set with rubies, maker's mark B.R.Ld., 9cm long. *Rosebery's, London. Dec 04. HP: £400. ABP: £470.*



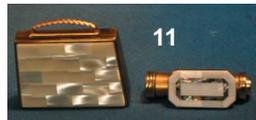
8
1930s Schuco novelty compact fashioned as a monkey, hinged red mohair covered body, mobile limbs, enclosing mirror and powder compartment. *Amersham Auction Rooms, Bucks. Sep 01. HP: £280. ABP: £329.*



9
George V enamelled silver compact, decorated with pastoral lovers beside a river, 3.25in. *Gorringes, Lewes. Dec 02. HP: £240. ABP: £282.*



10
Yellow metal compact ramped with head and devise, engine turned decoration and bicoloured yellow metal to lid, other touchmark to suspension ring. *Kent Auction Galleries, Folkestone. Jun 06. HP: £220. ABP: £258.*



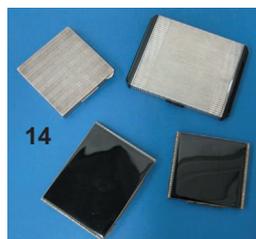
11
1950s lady's gilt metal musical compact by Mascot with lipstick case by Fortuna. *Denhams, Warnham, Sussex. May 06. HP: £200. ABP: £235.*



12
Tiffany & Co sterling silver oval compact with 14k gold thumbpiece set three calibre cut rubies. *Gorringes, Lewes. Dec 00. HP: £190. ABP: £223.*



13
Quantity of lady's powder compacts, dating mainly from 1950s and 1960s, various sizes and styles, to include a musical example. *Rosebery's, London. May 06. HP: £170. ABP: £199.*



14
Enamel and marcasite silver compact, matching cigarette case, a silver compact and an onyx cigarette case. *Gorringes, Bexhill. Jul 05. HP: £150. ABP: £176.*



15
Early 20thC Continental silver and engine turned lady's cigarette case, blue enamel inlay import hall-marked London 1923, and a silver compact, 8cm. (2) *Sworders, Stansted Mountfitchet. Apr 05. HP: £100. ABP: £117.*

Powder Compacts

A hundred years ago the overt use of cosmetics was unacceptable. The emancipation of women was to change all that. By the 1920s women were increasingly using make-up in public places such as restaurants or theatres. Oxblood lipstick was used lavishly but rouge sparingly. Early compacts are popular with collectors. These contained blocks of dry, pressed powder in metal pans called godets. They were also known as vanity cases or vanities. By the 1950s compacts held only powder whilst vanities also held lipstick and rouge. They sometimes even doubled up as a cigarette case as smoking was considered chic. The bold geometric designs of the 1930s relate to the Art Deco Movement. Compacts were produced with mechanized scoops and sliders to act as dispensers. A sifter was a fine mesh on a frame allowing access to small amounts of powder only. The term sifter box was common in the 1920s and 1930s. The catalyst for glamour was the cinema. Women modelled their looks on famous stars. The 1950s was the heyday of the British powder compact. After the Second World War there was a new age of optimism promoted by the Festival of Britain in 1951 and the Coronation of Elizabeth II in 1953. Brand names included Stratton, Vogue Vanities, Kign, Mascot, Melissa, Margaret Rose, Flamingo and Le Rage as well as the leading cosmetic houses. From the 1950s face powder was combined with creams or oils so that it would adhere to the skin. Many preferred this to loose powder but convertible compacts were available for dual use. Cosmetics were now selling in disposable plastic containers and liquid make-up gained in popularity. The age of the personal compact was passing and had virtually disappeared by the 1980s. In 1997 the only surviving British Compact Manufacturers, Laughton & Sons, the maker of Stratton compacts, was taken over by Cork International.

Most are in the lower price range so mixed lots are common. Retail prices are usually about 50% higher at least. The best book on the subject is Miller's *Powder Compacts: a collectors' Guide*, by Juliette Edwards at £5.99. The chapters take the reader from the 20s and 30s, Art Deco, post-war plastics, Stratton, Commemoratives, Souvenir and novelty compacts to the 1990s. There is a section on caring for compacts and a rather thin *Glossary of Terms*. There is a useful 'Bibliography' which lists books, magazines and collectors' societies. There is a list of specialist retail suppliers but compacts are available at auctions, fairs and centres across the UK and on the Web. The book does include a price guide but these are unrelated to any direct market information such as you see on these pages. The usual advice applies. Buy wisely and buy the very best and compacts in the very best of condition. For example don't buy the large quantity of compacts at **13** unless you are a dealer. Go for those lots shown at say **9**, **10**, and **12** or **16**, **18**, **21**, **22** etc. When buying silver compacts avoid any compacts that show even the slightest of dents. See our book reviews for further information on the Miller's Book, *Powder Compacts*.



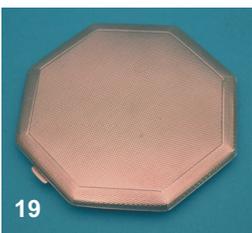
16
9ct gold & ivory compact.
Great Western Auctions,
Glasgow. Jan 07. HP: £100.
ABP: £117.



17
935 standard silver gilt and
turquoise enamel compact.
Gorringes, Lewes. Jan 04.
HP: £95. ABP: £111.



18
Lady's Art Deco compact,
approx 58mm dia, engine
turned radiant pattern with
lilac enamelling, ornately
patterned rim, no mirror; h/m
Birmingham 1929. (gross
1.40oz) A F Brock & Co Ltd,
Stockport. Aug 05. HP: £90.
ABP: £105.



19
9ct gold engine turned
octagonal powder compact.
Gorringes, Bexhill. Mar 02.
HP: £80. ABP: £94.



20
Lady's 20thC silvery metal
compact, lid enamelled with
portrait of a scottie dog, on a
cream enamelled ground.
3.25in dia, chips to cream
enamel ground. Canterbury
Auction Galleries, Kent. Apr
05. HP: £70. ABP: £82.



21
Early 20thC silver perfume
bottle and compact, C. H.
Cheshire, Birmingham 1913,
hinged cover revealing
compact with mirror; leafy
scrolled engraved, mono-
grammed, lacking chain
attachment, 5.25cm long.
Sworders, Stansted
Mountfitchet. Apr 05. HP:
£70. ABP: £82.



22
Enamel topped silver
compact, BHHM 1902. Black
Country Auctions, Dudley.
Dec 05. HP: £70. ABP: £82.



23
Silver and enamel compact
bearing the crest of the Royal
Army Medical Corp,
Birmingham, 1940. Great
Western Auctions, Glasgow.
Feb 06. HP: £66. ABP: £77.



24
Silver and enamel compact,
Birmingham 1958, cover
enriched with alternate
yellow and purple bands,
engine turned decoration.
Rosebery's, London. Jun 05.
HP: £65. ABP: £76.



25
Enamel compact, hinged lid
coloured lilac on an engine
turned ground, opening to
reveal mirror; 1.5in wide,
Birmingham 1921, and a
similar compact. (2)
Hartleys, Ilkley. Dec 06. HP:
£65. ABP: £76.



26
George V Art Deco silver
and enamel compact, of
octagonal form, Birmingham
1935. Gorringes, Lewes. Mar
04. HP: £60. ABP: £70.



27
Silver/enamelled compact,
the lid decorated purple and
yellow enamel, Birmingham
1958. Denhams, Warnham,
Sussex. Jan 06. HP: £60.
ABP: £70.



28
Lady's heart shaped
compact, engine turned
pattern to both sides, with
protection case, h/m London
1962. (gross 3.17oz) A F
Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport.
Aug 05. HP: £55. ABP: £64.



29
Silver and enamel ball
compact/pendant. Great
Western Auctions, Glasgow.
Jan 07. HP: £45. ABP: £52.



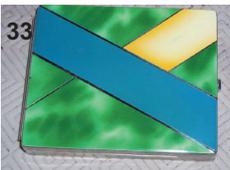
30
1920s silver engine turned
lady's powder compact,
internal circular mirror;
powder holder and small
cigarette compartment with
carrying chain, engine
turned to each side. Kent
Auction Galleries,
Folkestone. May 07. HP:
£45. ABP: £52.



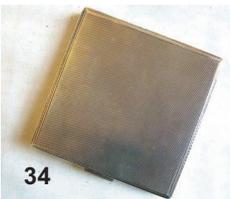
31
J W Benson, silver powder
compact, hinged lid enamel
decorated and bearing the
badge of the R A S C,
enclosing mirrored interior;
Birmingham 1931. Locke &
England, Leamington Spa.
Mar 06. HP: £34. ABP: £39.



32
Lady's compact, hexagonal
case with engine turned
pattern, very slight dents,
h/m Birmingham 1947.
(gross 2.44oz) A F Brock &
Co Ltd, Stockport. Aug 05.
HP: £30. ABP: £35.



33
Art Deco compact, geometric
patterned decoration in
original leather case.
Ewbank Auctioneers, Send,
Surrey. Dec 05. HP: £30.
ABP: £35.



34
Lady's compact, approx 68 x
68mm, engine turned pattern,
with mirror; h/m London
1950s, date letter missing.
(4.51oz) A F Brock & Co
Ltd, Stockport. Nov 05. HP:
£25. ABP: £29.



35
Lady's silver & 'tortoise-
shell' compact, slightly
scuffed approx 78 x 68mm,
two silver bands on lid, with
mirror & comb case, approx
115 mm, complete with comb,
some teeth missing, tested or
h/m Birmingham 1940. (2) A
F Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport.
Nov 05. HP: £20. ABP: £23.



36
Houppes. Coty brass/enamel
powder compact stamped
'Coty Paris', and a card-
board powder box and cover,
dia 5.3cm and 6.4cm. (2)
Rosebery's, London. Jan 07.
HP: £20. ABP: £23.

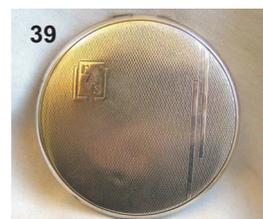


37
Three compacts: circular,
rectangular & square with
mother of pearl & bluebird
on lid and three penknives:
'Richards Streamline' with
push up blade, single blade
with corkscrew & a twin
blade with mother of pearl
handle, last two quite worn.
(6) A F Brock & Co Ltd,
Stockport. May 07. HP: £20.
ABP: £23.

Prices quoted are actual
hammer prices (HP) and the
Approximate Buyer's Price.
(ABP) Includes an average
premium of 15% + VAT.



38
Lady's compacts, large
circular, approx 80mm dia,
engine turned pattern, slight
dent in bottom and a cushion
shaped compact, approx. 65
x 65mm, blue enamelled top
with marcasite set flower in
centre, both in protection
cases. (2) A F Brock & Co
Ltd, Stockport. Aug 05. HP:
£15. ABP: £17.



39
Lady's compact, 70mm dia,
engine turned pattern,
complete with mirror, some
very slight dents, monogram
of lid, h/m Birmingham 1934.
(gross 2.71oz) A F Brock &
Co Ltd, Stockport. Nov 05.
HP: £15. ABP: £17.