



TOTAL GRADING

www.totalgrading.co.uk

GRADING GUIDE

Authenticate and Grade Your Cards with
Confidence



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How to Use Total Grading

1. Simply go to [totalgrading](https://www.totalgrading.co.uk). Click services and choose your preferred service. To purchase a service level, simply click 'add to cart', select the quantity for each card that you require and add them to cart. Once completed you will have your order number to fill in the submission form. The postage paid for at this point is for the return of your cards to you once graded.
2. Fill in the submission form which can be found on the website. Either print and fill in and include in the package when you send the cards or send an email with your order number to support@totalgrading.co.uk with the submission form attached.
3. Pack the cards in penny sleeves and then toploader/semi rigged for extra protection. Get 2 pieces of card to put the cards in between. Use bubble wrap as additional protection before packing. Pack in a box or envelope and add extra packing to protect your cards.
4. Send your cards using an insured service to our address on the confirmation email which is Total Grading, 16 Hazel Grove, Essington, Wolverhampton, WV11 2SJ

PLEASE SEND YOUR PARCELS WITH ADEQUATE INSURANCE

If you are using Royal Mail, we recommend using next day delivery to ensure your cards are tracked, and arrive quickly.

5. Sit back and await for your submission to come back to you. You will be notified by ourselves and Royal Mail when your parcel is ready for shipping back to you

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Authenticate and Grade Your Cards with Confidence: A Comprehensive Guide

In the world of collectibles, particularly trading cards, authenticity and grading are paramount. Whether you're a seasoned collector or just starting, understanding how to authenticate and grade your cards can significantly impact their value and your overall collecting experience. Here's a detailed guide to help you navigate this essential aspect of card collecting.

Why Authentication and Grading Matter

1. **Value Assurance:** Authenticating and grading your cards ensures that you know their true value. High-grade cards can fetch significantly higher prices in the market.
2. **Protection Against Fraud:** The collectibles market can be rife with counterfeit items. Proper authentication helps protect your investment.
3. **Marketability:** Graded cards are often easier to sell and trade. Buyers are more likely to invest in cards that come with a reputable grading.

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Steps to Authenticate Your Cards

- 1. Research:** Familiarise yourself with the specific characteristics of the cards you own. This includes knowing the print runs, variations, and common fakes.
- 2. Visual Inspection:** Learn to spot signs of authenticity. Look for details such as the card's texture, color saturation, and printing techniques.
- 3. Use Technology:** Some advanced tools and apps can help identify counterfeit cards by analyzing the card's surface and printing.

Grading Your Cards

- 1. Understand the Grading Scale:** Most grading companies use a scale from 1 to 10, with 10 being Gem Mint. Familiarise yourself with what each grade represents.
- 2. Condition Assessment:** Evaluate your card based on centering, corners, edges, and surface. Each of these factors plays a crucial role in determining the overall grade.
- 3. Submit for Grading:** Once you've assessed your card, submit it to a grading service. Be sure to follow their submission guidelines carefully to avoid any issues.

Tips for Successful Authentication and Grading

- **Keep Records:** Maintain a detailed inventory of your collection, including purchase prices, grades, and any authentication certificates.
- **Stay Informed:** The collectibles market is always evolving. Stay updated on trends, market values, and new authentication techniques.
- **Network with Other Collectors:** Join forums, social media groups, or local clubs to share knowledge and experiences with fellow collectors.

Conclusion

Authenticating and grading your cards is an essential part of being a successful collector. By following these steps and utilising professional services, you can ensure that your collection is both valuable and protected. With confidence in your cards' authenticity and grade, you can enjoy the thrill of collecting while safeguarding your investment. Happy collecting!