

SWAROVSKI USA EXCLUSIVE PIECES

In this Crystal Lodge factsheet, we are taking a look at pieces which were exclusively available in USA and Canada in the early days of Silver Crystal. In a separate fact sheet, we explore the differences between the candleholders issued in Europe and USA.

BEARS – GIANT, KING AND MINI (USA)

You are probably all familiar with the large, small and mini bears which were part of the silver crystal range for many years. However, in the USA market there were 3 additional bears – here they are in a family photo, which shows the bears in graduating sizes.



L-R: Giant Bear (USA), King Bear (USA), large bear, small bear, mini bear, mini bear (USA).

The USA mini bear (7637 032 000) is a real cutie, and is just 1 ¼" (32mm) tall. He was introduced in 1985 and retired in 1988. The USA mini bear is the only bear produced by Swarovski to date, to have pointed paws. The Giant (7637 112 000) and King (7637 092 000) bears were introduced in 1983 with the Giant bear retiring in 1988, and the King bear in 1987. The King bear stands at 3 5/8" (92mm) tall with the Giant bear a shade under 4 ½" (112mm) tall, and weighing in at a cuddly 1lb 3oz! The height of the bears in millimetres is reflected in the middle section of the original Swarovski code numbers.

BUTTERFLY MINI (USA)

In the USA market, there was a mini butterfly (7671 030 000 or 7671 NR 30), which unlike other butterflies which were issued globally at that time, has no base stone. The lack of base stone means the butterfly is just 1" (25mm tall). The butterfly has a gold round nose and antenna, and was only available from 1985 to 1988.



Butterfly mini (USA) shown from different angles

SWAROVSKI USA EXCLUSIVE PIECES

CAT MEDIUM (USA)

The USA medium cat (7634 NR 52) is approximately 2" (50mm) tall and has silver whiskers and a metal tail which can be floppy or stiff. This cat is easily distinguishable from the tall and replica cats as it is the only one to have pointed ears. This American feline was available between 1983 and 1987. This means that it can only be found with the old SC logo, as it was retired before the swan logo was introduced. The family group picture shows the tall cat, medium USA cat and the replica cat together demonstrating the differences between each of the designs.



L-R: Cat tall, Cat medium (USA), Cat replica

CAT MINI (USA)

Not much is known about this one, but it is believed that the mini cat was assembled in a slightly different way to those in Europe leaving it looking in a more forward direction. The code number is 7659 031 000 for both versions.



L-R: USA mini cat and the more familiar mini cat

DACHSHUND MINI with metal tail (USA)

The mini USA dachshund has the code number 7672 042 000 (identical to the frosted tailed mini dachshund) or 7672NR42. This metal tailed dog was available from 1985 through until the end of 1988, so it can be found with either logo, although it is more likely to be found bearing the old SC marking. The dachshund is 1 1/4" (32mm) long.



Dachshund mini (USA)

SWAROVSKI USA EXCLUSIVE PIECES

DUCK LARGE AND MEDIUM (USA)

Similar in design to the mini duck with metal beak, these 2 ducks were available exclusively to the USA market place and they have crystal beaks. The medium duck (7653 NR 55) is 2 1/8" (57 mm) long and was available between 1983 and 1988, while the large duck (7653 NR 75) is 3" (76 mm) long and available from 1983 until 1987.



L-R: Duck large and medium (USA)

FOX LARGE (USA)

In 1987, the large fox was introduced into the Woodlands Friend category, and for the first year in the USA, no black dot was placed on the nose of the fox. The design always featured a black dotted nose elsewhere. Code numbers for both pieces is 7629 070 000.



L-R: USA fox large (no black dot on nose), Fox large (global)

HEDGEHOG KING (USA) AND TINY (USA)

The king and tiny hedgehogs were only ever available for sale in USA and Canada leading to a situation where confusingly, the medium (40mm) was often referred to as "small" in Europe, while the "tiny" (30mm) one was called "small" in USA! The hedgehogs are easily identified by the diameter of their body stones. The King Hedgehog (7630 NR 60) is 60mm across, the Large 50mm, Medium is 40mm, and finally the tiny hedgehog (USA) has a 30mm diameter body stone (7630 NR 30). The body stone size is reflected in the last number of the code numbers.



L-R: Hedgehogs king (USA), large (global), medium (global), small/tiny (USA)

SWAROVSKI USA EXCLUSIVE PIECES

IN FLIGHT SERIES (USA) – BEE, BUTTERFLY AND HUMMINGBIRD

The in-flight series were a set of 6 pieces which were produced in gold and rhodium finish. They comprised a bee, a butterfly and a hummingbird all sitting on a flower shaped base. These were only ever available in the USA market. Each piece has a diameter of 4" (102 mm) and the entire range was issued in 1985. The rhodium pieces retired in 1986 and the gold in 1988.



L-R: Gold in-flight Bee (7553NR100), Butterfly (7551NR100), Hummingbird (7552NR100)



L-R: Rhodium in-flight Bee (7553NR200), Butterfly (7551NR200), Hummingbird (7552NR200)

KOALAS LARGE AND MINI (USA)

The earliest koalas produced were called large and mini. The large standing at around 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " (44mm) tall was introduced in 1987, retiring in 2004 with the mini at 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ " (29mm) tall, introduced in 1989 and retired in 2000. The pieces were assembled differently for the USA market for a time, compared to the rest of the world.

The large koala globally (excluding USA) was assembled to face left, but up until 1993 large koalas in the USA (7673NR40) were assembled facing right! Similarly, the mini koala in the USA (7573NR30) faced left, but the global edition faced right! The 2 different USA koalas continued in production until 1993, when they were replaced by the global koalas and remained in this format until the pieces retired.



L-R: Koala mini (USA), Koala large, Koala large (USA), Koala mini

SWAROVSKI USA EXCLUSIVE PIECES

MOUSE KING AND LARGE (USA)

In addition to the medium mouse (40mm diameter body stone) and small mouse (30mm diameter body stone) which were available globally, the USA/Canadian markets had another 2 mice in their catalogue. The king mouse (7631NR60) has a 60mm diameter body stone and the large mouse (7631NR50) which has a 50mm diameter body stone – note the code number reflects the body stone size. All the mice have a diamond shaped base with the exception of the small one which has an octagonal base. The large and king mice were only available between 1982 and 1987.



L-R: King mouse (USA), large mouse (USA), medium mouse, small mouse

PIG MINI (USA)

Originally, the pig mini which we are used to seeing with a wire tail was issued in the USA market with a flat disc shaped tail (7657 027 000). It was available between 1982 and around 1994 when it was replaced by the version with the wire tail that was already available globally.



Pig mini USA (disc tail)

RABBIT LARGE (USA)

The mini rabbit is 1" (25mm) tall and was introduced in 1979, retiring in 1988. Identical in design, but a little larger the USA exclusive large rabbit stands at 1 ½" (38mm) tall and was introduced in 1983, retiring in 1988. Code number 7652 045 000.

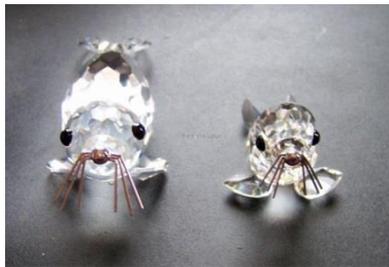


Large rabbit (USA) shown with the mini rabbit (which was available globally)

SWAROVSKI USA EXCLUSIVE PIECES

SEALS LARGE AND MINI WITH SILVER WHISKERS (USA)

Originally, the seals in large and mini size were available in the US markets with silver whiskers, rather than the more familiar black whiskers. The tail flukes on the large seal were also splayed unlike those available in Europe and elsewhere. The large seal (7646NR85) was introduced in 1985 and later replaced by the black whiskered variety, finally retiring in 1995. The large seal is 3 ½" (89mm) long. The mini seal (7646NR46) was available in USA from 1986 and is 1 ½" (38mm) long, being replaced by the black whiskered variety before being retired in 2005.



Silver whiskered USA seals in large and mini size

SPARROW LARGE (USA)

The mini sparrow is ¾" (19mm) tall and was introduced in 1979, retiring in 1991. The USA exclusive large sparrow (7650NR32) stands at 1 ¼" (32mm) tall, identical in design, only difference being the size. Designed by Max Schreck, both sparrows have silver colour metal beaks. The large one was available from 1983 to 1988.



Sparrow large USA shown with sparrow mini

SQUIRREL (USA) with small ears

Here in the UK, we have our indigenous red squirrel with its long fluffy red ears, but we have all heard the tales of how the "introduced" grey squirrel (native to USA) has taken over most of their habitat. Presumably because of global variations in "real" squirrels, when Swarovski introduced their mini squirrel in 1985, it produced 2 different varieties of squirrel according to continent. The only difference being the size of the ears. The squirrel with larger ears was initially only available in the European market to represent the red squirrel, but from 1994 onwards it became available globally. Prior to that, a version with smaller ears to represent the grey squirrel was produced for the USA market (7662 042 000). The squirrel with smaller ears was discontinued in 1994 when the one with larger ears went "global". At least the red squirrel won one battle and achieved world domination, before retirement, as far as these exceptionally cute crystal squirrels go.

SWAROVSKI USA EXCLUSIVE PIECES



L-R: Squirrel (global) and Squirrel (USA) – note the smaller ears

TURTLE KING (USA)

In addition to the giant, large and small turtles (sometimes referred to as tortoises) in the USA there was another size of turtle available. This king sized turtle (7632 NR 75) was 3" (75 mm) long and was available from 1983 to 1988.



L-R: Photo 1: King Turtle (USA), Photo 2: family grouping showing small turtle, large turtle and king turtle

GRAPES (USA) LARGE, MEDIUM AND SMALL – GOLD AND RHODIUM

In the USA there were completely different sets of grapes from those which were issued in Europe. All the USA grapes were retired and replaced by the European style grapes, but originally there were 6 types to collect! There were 3 sizes, called not unsurprisingly large, medium and small, all of which could be found in either gold or rhodium finish. The rhodium finish was available for the shortest period (1983 to 1985). The first retiree from the gold series were the large grapes which ceased production in 1988, then the small and medium grapes were discontinued to be replaced by the European gold grapes in 1995. The small bunches of USA grapes contained just 15 grapes which were $\frac{3}{4}$ " (20mm) in diameter (7550 020 015), the medium bunches contained 29 grapes also $\frac{3}{4}$ " (20mm) in diameter (7550 020 029). The large bunch only had 15 grapes, but these were much larger being $1 \frac{1}{8}$ " (30mm) in diameter (7550 030 015). Again, clues to grape size and number are in the code numbers, which are the same whether the grapes are gold or rhodium!



L-R: USA grapes gold – large, medium, small

USA-7

Date of last update: August 2019

This document was produced by The Crystal Lodge (London) Ltd as a free to download Collector's Reference Guide.
It is not to be rebranded in any way.

SWAROVSKI USA EXCLUSIVE PIECES



L-R: USA grapes rhodium – large, medium, small

SITTING DUMBO

In 1987 and 1988 a small number of Dumbos were available from Disney Theme Parks in the USA. Differences were noted in the size of the ears and whether tusks were present and if so, the diameter of them. 1987 saw 3 varieties issued: Version 1 has small ears and thin tusks, Version 2 has small ears and thick tusks, Version 3 has small ears and no tusks. Then in 1988, there were 2 more pieces, Version 4 has large ears and no tusks, Version 5 has large ears and thick tusks! The code number was the same for all versions, 7640 NR 35.



L-R: Dumbo (USA) 1987 v2, 1988 v3, 1988 v4

STANDING DUMBOS

In 1990, a limited edition of 3,000 pieces was produced of a new type of Dumbo which had black eyes and a clear hat. This piece was exclusively available from Disney Theme parks in the USA and had code number 7640 NR 100.

In 1993, a blue-eyed Dumbo was produced, this one continued in production until 1996 and was available in Disney Theme Parks, but this time included EuroDisney. This blue-eyed Dumbo has a frosted hat, and code number 7640 100 001.



L-R: Dumbo 1990 (black eyes), 1993 (blue eyes)