

## **The Comic Pricing Academy: Introduction**

Welcome to “The Comic Pricing Academy”. I am extremely glad you found your way to my comic book pricing/selling course. The two top questions I continue to receive from my website visitors and my newsletter subscribers are 1) how much are my comic books worth? and 2) where can I sell them? These are not easy questions to answer without a lot of research and due diligence. Well, you have signed up for the right course. I will perform the research and hard work to give you the answers you are looking for.

Over the course of the next 6 months I will supply a weekly tutorial (26 in total, but there will be an advanced course if you are up to it). You will receive an email at the address where you signed up for this course, each week. That email will have a link to a PDF report for you to download to your hard drive.

Each lesson or group of lessons will be about major prices guides and important websites you need to know about. Each lesson will provide enough instruction so you will be able to use the tools and websites yourself. You will learn how to determine your particular comic book or collection of comic books’ estimated values in today’s market. You will learn where to sell your comics and how to go about that task. You will also learn where to go if you are in the market for certain comics or just want to add to your collection.

Once you finish this course and you have applied what has been taught, you will become an expert, in your own right as to determine value and how to sell your own comics. You may then want to help your comic book friends. Would they be impressed if you could help them??

Now before I go much further I would like to state a hard cold concept that many people don’t get. Very few comics in the world today are worth 5 figures or more. And odds are against you that you have a major gem in your collection. Want to have a million dollar comic? Ha ha, so do I! But you probably don’t and never will have.

But you may have several, or even quite a few worth \$10, \$20 or more. Maybe even a few worth \$100. If you sell enough of these, that could add up to a tidy little sum of money. But you won’t know this until you learn how to determine your comic book estimated worth and where to sell them.

And remember this; a comic book is only worth as much as someone else is willing to pay for it. All the guides and info in the world will give you good estimates, but if you don’t find someone willing to buy at those prices, your comic book will remain in your collection and not get sold. Sound reasonable? You would be surprised at how many people don’t quite grasp this concept.

But as you go through my membership tutorials, you will fully grasp this and be ready to tackle reality.

In the advanced course, among other sites, I will also show you two or three cataloging systems you can use to keep track of your comics and keep them in order. If you want to go to this length to keep on top of your collection, keep a running estimate of your collection and quite a lot of other major useful stuff, you should quite enjoy these lessons if you continue.

Now as a quick and dirty lesson to get a real time estimate of one of your comics go to [www.eBay.com](http://www.eBay.com) Type in your comic name and issue in the search box. Use the collectibles category from the drop down menu and hit search. This will give you a list of auctions or ongoing sales of your particular comic. I will use one of my comics as an example, Spider-man #252. This was the first appearance of the Spider-man black suit. Then for fun, you can sort by highest price first. Here is what my search revealed at the top of the list:

The screenshot shows an eBay search results page for 'Spider-man #252'. The browser address bar shows the URL: [http://www.ebay.com/sch/Collectibles-1/i.html?\\_from=Rv](http://www.ebay.com/sch/Collectibles-1/i.html?_from=Rv). The search results are sorted by highest price first. The top three listings are:

- Amazing Spider-Man 252 Cover Printing Plate** for **\$100,000.00** or Best Offer. Includes 'Free shipping'.
- Amazing Spider-Man #252 MARVEL 1984 - MINT- CGC 9.9 MT - 1st App black costume!!!** for **\$6,000.00** or Best Offer. Description: 'HIGHEST GRADE on CGC Census - May be your only chance!'.
- The Amazing Spiderman #130-340 135 194 238 252 300 Complete Run Key CGC Ready** for **\$1,650.00** or Best Offer.

The left sidebar contains the following filters:

- Format:** All Listings (193), Auction (37), Buy It Now (183)
- Certification:** CGC (44), PGX (3), Uncertified (2), Not Specified (130)
- Grade:** 9.8 NM/MT (14), 9.6 NM+ (18), 9.4 NM (13), 9.2 NM- (11), 9.0 VF/NM (7)
- Main Character:** Fantastic Four (1), Nightcrawler (2), Spider-Man (174), Venom (17)
- Signed:** see all
- Publisher:** see all

As you skim through this list for your comic, you will see how the comic book physical condition affects the bidding price. If you notice the second item at \$6000. The physical grade is 9.9 (on a 10 point scale), upper left hand corner of the picture. This can be quite rare to find even a new comic in this kind of physical condition. Mine may be 9.0 to 9.2 making it worth more on the order of \$120 or so. The Overstreet Guide (The Collectors Bible) has it at about \$75. So this is also a small lesson in source usage.

So you can see how much physical condition affects a comic book's worth. You will also learn how to judge your comic's physical condition. But do keep in mind, this can become a very subjective determination. And a third party comic book grader like CGC Comics can become very important. You will learn more about them later.

Now this is a very basic example of using eBay. And you may very well already know how to do this, but there are many who don't. There will be more indepth knowledge in my eBay tutorials.

So then, I hope you are looking forward to learning all you can about comic book price estimating and selling with my future tutorials. I enjoyed collecting data and creating the lessons. Next week's lesson will be on Comic Book Price Guides. Until then have fun looking through eBay and look forward to learning about:

- The best price guide and how to use it, in detail! (Lessons 2 – 6)
- What are the best auction houses on the Net?
  - Heritage Comics (Lessons 7 – 13)
  - Christie's Auctions (Lesson 14)
  - eBay (Lessons 15 – 16)
  - Comics Price Guide (Lesson 17)
  - Comic Connect (Lessons 18 – 20)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party grading systems
  - CGC (Lessons 21 – 25)
  - PGX (Lesson 26)

Dave