

NBS Classification Committee  
**2020 NEW DISCUSSION TOPICS**

Emailed to Committee April 12, 2020

Joy Journey, Interim Chair	George Gauthier	Johnson Frazier	Ronnie Wexler
Annie Frazier	Jane Johnson	Joy Worn	Sheila Brudno
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**Team:**

I've moved the things I think we agree on to the bottom (references, sizes, etc.)

**NEW THOUGHT:**

In conjunction with listing references covering the various sections/classes (in NBS publications), I believe we can eliminate adding BLENDS and BUFFED to the Glossary. Both are already explained with illustrations in their respective publications. BUFFED: Celluloid, May 2017 NBS Bulletin, and the Synthetic Polymers in the NBS book. BLENDS is defined in the CC Glass Handbook. YOUR THOUGHTS?

**Blends.** Intermixtures having some degree of transparency throughout the material or some areas that transmit light. Often different shades of the same color flow together as if the molten material had taken the "dye" unevenly.

**Buffed.** Typically a molded surface design coated or sprayed with paint, then high areas buffed to reveal the base button color, usually white or cream. Typically cellulose acetate or celluloid.

Joy Journey  
Classification Interim Chair

**SHELLS & MOLLUSKS**

Blue Book, page 56

**17-4.4 Mollusks.** Includes shells of mollusks. ~~Even~~ If the shell is the only part of the animal visible, it is assumed to ~~could~~ be occupied by a living creature, making it a crossover in animals or objects. If the shell is obviously empty (half a bivalve), it belongs in Sec. 18.

Blue Book, page 57

**18-10 Shells.** ~~Uninhabited only.~~ With no animal visible. If both bivalve sides are visibly joined, it is a live animal and belongs in Section 17.

**SPORTING**

Blue Book, page 70

**25-9 Sporting Buttons Div. I.** Worn on hunting/shooting jackets or coats. Made in sets usually depicting game, dogs, hunters and field/stream activities such as fishing and equestrian activities. These buttons have no club affiliation as do Hunt Club buttons. Target buttons are a subclass of Sporting Buttons. Modern versions belong in the pictorial sections.

"usually" is suggested because of the target buttons..... is it needed?

**25-9.1 Target buttons** Resemble a shooting target with bullseye concentric rings. Set in metal; three or more parts create the rings. Rings decrease in width toward the center. See October 2011 NBS Bulletin.

## GLOSSARY

**Birmingham Trade** – Division I. Characterized by quality, complex construction with three or more materials visible from front (including base). Often set in metal with convex brass back and applied gilt-brass rim. Sturdy, round loop and plate shank. Those not set in metal may be rimmed, or not, but all have loop and plate shank. Materials include celluloid, lithos or fabric under celluloid shields, glass, horn, shell, vegetable ivory, composition, etc. Size generally small or medium.

**Metal Surface Deposit.** Metal applied to button surfaces by way of electric current, resulting in layers from very thin to thick enough to engrave (appears on glass, pearl, porcelain, enamel and other materials). *See October 2003 NBB.* Different from silver luster, which is fired onto the button surface.

**Third Avenue Silver** – a common name for small, Div. I, Austrian silver picture buttons (usually back marked *Knopf König Graz*) depicting themes of people, everyday life, pastimes, historic, religious, and mythological subjects.

## Still In Flux:

1. Faceted black glass OME—why isn't it considered an OME when on black glass buttons, just like pastes are considered OME on clear/colored glass
2. Designer Buttons is still under construction
3. Enamels (separate document coming later)
4. Glove Buttons (separate document coming later)

# **AGREEMENT:**

## REFERENCES

For each of the materials / types for which we have a publication, a reference to that publication will be included at the beginning of its Appendix section, in **BOLD** and **UNDERLINED**, and the information contained therein not reiterated in the BB as standard practice unless necessary. We have references to most of the publications now, but they get lost in the verbiage.

## BUTTON SIZES

As a courtesy to our international members, shall we include both size descriptors in the Blue Book?

Pages 3 & 4:

<b>Large:</b> 1¼ inches (32 mm) and over.....	20 buttons
(Awards for 2" (51 mm) or larger buttons should designate fewer, e.g., 9 or 12.)	
<b>Medium:</b> ¾ to 1¼ inches (19 to 32 mm).....	30 buttons
<b>Small:</b> ⅜ to ¾ inch (9 to 19 mm).....	42 buttons
<b>Diminutive:</b> Up to ⅜ inch (9 mm) with no minimum size .....	56 buttons
<b>Medium-Large:</b> Assortment of medium and large .....	24 buttons
10 medium, 10 large, plus 4 free choice of either size	
<b>Mixed:</b> Assortment of medium and small.....	35 buttons
15 small, 15 medium, plus 5 free choice of either size	
<b>Various:</b> Assortment of large, medium, and small .....	25 buttons
6 small, 6 medium, 6 large, plus 7 free choice of any size from diminutive to large	

Plus:

- Page 3 twice -- 9x12 inch cards (228 x 305 mm)
- Page 8 -- 9x12 inch cards (228 x 305 mm) 10x13 inch cards (254 x 330 mm)
- Page 33, regarding wafers -- to approximately ¼ inch (6 mm)
- Page 77, regarding drums -- measuring at least 3/16" (5 mm) high in medium size; small size should be at least 1/8" (3 mm) high.

## **BACK MARKS**

Make the verbiage on pages 4 and 63 match, and clarify the status of studio marks.

Maker's name, logo, brand, patent, quality mark, place/country of origin, year, etc. on the button back. May be verbal, numeric, pictorial or a symbol. Studio maker marks are back marks.

## **CELLULOID**

CELLULOID, p 33

1-2.1.1 Painted and buffed. See p 76

SYNTHETIC POLYMERS, p 52.

12-7.4.1 Painted and buffed. See p 76. Molded design coated or sprayed with paint, then high areas buffed to reveal the plastic color, usually white or cream. Typically cellulose acetate. Celluloid not included here.

GLOSSARY, Page 76