

# Chemical composition of Parthian coins.

American Numismatic Society - Penny reactions



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## Detection of Nickel Cations in Coins

The marked debasement of his coinage may explain why so many different types of drachms of Orodes I were issued even after he had gained sole control of Parthia.

## Coin Production

In the Levant, the Phoenician weight standard, based on a silver shekel of about 14 g, was used by Sidon, Tyre, and Byblos.

## Penny Metal Composition by Year

As coinage in the ancient world was generally struck on an ad hoc basis, dies would be put aside in storage once the required amount of coins had been struck. The British Museum Catalogue of the Coins of Parthia London, 1903 , and Head's Historia Numorum London, 1911 , were used as the principal authorities for the identification of all the coins that were analyzed, due consideration being given to the uncertainties that still exists as to the proper attribution and dating of certain of the coins. However, not all of these selected coins were of Types A, B, and C, and since the number of coins of these types thus excluded is small compared to the 135 that were examined, it is likely that the results here obtained would have been little changed if they had been included.

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The legislation also banned private ownership of gold coins and bullion.

## Weights, Diameters and Composition of Ancient Coins

The smaller the diameter of the wire the better it will be for the purpose, as long as it is strong enough to support the weight of a coin.

## NNM

The composition materials in pennies are primarily zinc.



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