



Vietnam Zippo

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What is Vietnam Zippo

- During the Vietnam War, anti-war sentiment spread worldwide, and many Zippos were inscribed with messages from soldiers who had lost the meaning of fighting. Zippos that were actually used by American soldiers during the war and were inscribed with the complex feelings of such soldiers are commonly known as "Vietnam Zippos" and have become coveted lighters for collectors.



Vietnam War

- The Vietnam War (1960-1975) was a conflict between the forces of North and South Vietnam over who would take the lead in unifying the country after the Indochina War. Soldiers would buy Zippo lighters from the military PX (base store) and have them inscribed with whatever letters or designs they wanted at the "general stores" that were scattered around Saigon.



About Vietnam Zippo



ZIPPO LIGHTER IDENTIFICATION CODES

YEAR	LEFT	RIGHT
1958	Patent Pending ****	****
1959	****	***
1960	***	***
1961	**	**
1962	**	**
1963	*	*
1964	.	.
1965	.	.
1966		
1967		
1968		
1969		
1970		
1971		
1972		
1973		
1974		
1975		
1976		
1977		
1978		
1979		

As with most collectibles, the date of manufacture of a Zippo lighter often affects its value. Valuable information on the bottom of every Zippo lighter can help you determine its date of manufacture. Most lighters fabricated between 1933 and 1957 can be identified by style and model and the patent or patent-pending marks.

Starting in the mid 50's date codes were stamped on the bottom. The original purpose was for quality control. The date codes have since become an invaluable tool for Zippo collectors.

The appearance of the word "Zippo" in the bottom stamp provides another clue to dating. There have been three major changes, as shown below.

From 1933 to the mid 50's the word Zippo was stamped in block letters.

ZIPPO

1933	Patent Pending
1937 - c.1950	Patent 2032695
1942 - 1946	Black Crackle, Patent 203695. (This number was stamped in error, should have been Patent 2032695)
c.1950 - c.1957	Patent 2517191
c.1950 - c.1957	Patent 2517191 with patent pending

Zippo records indicate an overlap of bottom stamp configurations from 1949-1957. Also some lighters produced between 1955-57 were date coded, however, specifics remain unclear.

The Zippo script logo was developed in the late 40's and was phased-in on the lighter bottom stamp around 1955.

Zippo

ZIPPO LIGHTER IDENTIFICATION CODES

YEAR	LEFT	RIGHT
1980	/	/
1981	/	/
1982		
1983		
1984		
1985		
1986		

Effective July 1, 1986 the dot and slash system was replaced by year / month code. Year is noted with roman numeral; letter designates month (A=Jan., B=Feb., etc.)

1986	G to L	II
1987	A to L	III
1988	A to L	IV
1989	A to L	V
1990	A to L	VI
1991	A to L	VII
1992	A to L	VIII
1993	A to L	IX
1994	A to L	X
1995	A to L	XI

Beginning in 2001, the Roman numerals indicating the year were replaced with numbers corresponding to the last digits of the year of manufacture as follows:

2001	A to L	01
2002	A to L	02
2003	A to L	03
2004	A to L	04
2005	A to L	05
2006	A to L	06
2007	A to L	07
2008	A to L	08
2009	A to L	09
2010	A to L	10

For more collecting information, consult one of several books about Zippo lighters or visit zippo.com.

SLIM LIGHTERS

1957	****	****
1958	****	****
	****	***
1959	***	***
1960	**	**

Slim lighters were first introduced in 1956, with a flat bottom and no date code. The first markings were added in 1957 and overlapped into 1958. From 1957-1965 the code configuration on the slim lighters differed from the regular lighters. From 1966 on, the configuration has been the same.

1961	**	**
1962	**	*
1963	*	*
1964	.	.
1965	.	.






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- <https://newscast.jp/news/8293407>
- <https://www.zippo-act.com/item-vietnam19686.shtml>

A vinyl record is spinning on a turntable, with the tonearm and stylus visible. The background is dark with numerous out-of-focus, warm-toned bokeh lights. The text "Thank you for listening" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Thank you for listening