

DRAFT

Plasticville Collectors Association: GRADING STANDARDS

The following grading standards are to be used when describing the condition of Plasticville or other plastic village items, their boxes, catalogs, and other paper items. Missing or broken parts must always be stated in addition to the classification. Presence of any known reproduction parts or use of parts from other kits to complete a set must be stated.

ANY GRADING SYSTEM IS OPEN TO INTERPRETATION. It is the responsibility of the seller when selling to PCA members (and ideally to everyone) to strictly use these grading guidelines and let the buyer determine if they are too conservative for the item in question.

Grading for plastic items:

Grade	Description
Mint	Brand new, absolutely all original and unused, still in sealed cellophane or plastic bag if applicable
Excellent	Little sign of use, no nicks, scratches or blemishes; no faded lettering, no dust or dirt (factory glue, if noticeable, should be stated) no user-applied glue
Very Good	used, may have slightly faded lettering or some dust/dirt; no chips, cracks, or melt marks; no user-applied glue
Good	well used, faded lettering, may have significant dust, dirt, or water-soluble paint that can easily be cleaned off; may have small chips, cracks, or melt marks that are generally not noticed; may be glued
Fair	well used, faded lettering, may be painted with non-water soluble paints, may have spray-on snow that is not easily removed, may have larger chips, cracks, or melt marks that are very noticeable (on front or roof of building) may be glued
Poor	junk condition, large pieces missing or cracked, may be glued, possibly good for parts or kitbashing

Grading for boxes:

Grade	Description
Mint	Absolutely unused, complete with inner lining (if appropriate), no fading, no wear of any kind, no water marks, no blemishes, no dents or crushes, no tape, no price marks (tag or written). Still factory sealed, if appropriate.
Excellent	Little sign of use, complete with inner lining (if appropriate), no fading, very minimal wear, no water marks, no blemishes, no dents, crushes, tape, or split corners, may have price marks.
Very Good	Some signs of fading or wear (rubbing), may be missing inner liner. May have tape on the interior only. May have very minimal dent or crush. No water marks, no split corners. Price marks intact (not torn off or erased). All flaps still present. No warpage. May have very small tears near ends or on corners.
Good	Significant signs of wear, fading or rubbing. May be missing inner liner. May have some dents or crushes. May have split corners. One flap may be missing. May have minor water marks but little or no warpage. May have exterior tape in reasonable condition. May have small tears.
Fair	Significant signs of wear, fading, or rubbing. Missing inner liner. Dented or crushed. May have split corners. May have more than one flap missing. Water marks and warpage may be present. May have significant exterior tape. May have other markings or punctures. May have large tears, mildew, or discoloration.
Poor	Not complete, missing flaps, top, bottom, or sides. Heavy mildew or discoloration. May have large tears or significant warpage. Possibly good for information.

Grading for Paper Items (catalogs, inserts):

Grade	Description
Mint	Human hands have touched item since leaving original factory. Individual pages are assumed to have never been opened. All edges are crisp and paper is free of all flaws. Original paper folds are crisp with no signs of damage. No rusty staples.
Excellent	Human hands have touched item since leaving original factory. Pages have been opened. All edges are crisp and paper is free of all flaws. Original paper folds are crisp with no signs of damage. No rusty staples, creases, tears, or other blemishes. May have store or dealer stamp appropriately applied (in area designated for stamps).
Very Good	Item shows moderate signs of usage. Complete. No creases, tears, water marks, or other damage. Very few, neat interior markings may be present. No tape.
Good	Item shows significant signs of use. Complete. May have unoriginal folds (ex. lengthwise) or “dog-eared” pages. May have very small tears. Staples may be rusty. May have several markings on the interior. May have some tape. Still good for reference.
Fair	Item shows significant signs of use. Pages may be loose or missing. Edges may be damaged. May have several markings on the interior. May have larger tears, folds, or dog-eared pages. May have signs of dirt, oil, or water damage. May have a lot of tape.
Poor	Pages missing or loose. Heavily damaged. Some or all of printed material is illegible. May have extensive use of tape.