
"Viking Glass Mushrooms were introduced in 1969!"
by Preston Ver Meer



An advertisement in the October 1969 issue of "Gift and Accessories" magazine is shown on page 35 of Dean Six "Viking Glass" book. Produced in Four sizes and made in 5 colors the ad says. 6 Colors are shown on page 35 of Six's book.

The 1970 Viking Catalog opens Page 1 with 9 Crystal items decorated with small gold Colored figures. Amongst these items were 4 different sized Mushrooms.

Starting the lineup was the #6939 - 5.75 Inch Jumbo Crystal Mushroom with a Gold Frog. **See Article on Jumbo's)**



Next in the line was the #6942 - 3.5 Inch Crystal Mushroom with a Gold Mouse. **(Shown Above)** The third Crystal Mushroom was #6941 - 3 Inch with a Gold Bee. I do not have the Crystal 3.5 Inch w/Bee in the Gallery at this time. The fourth item in this group is the **#6940 - 2.5 Inch Crystal Mushroom with a Gold Lady Bug. Shown on the left.** The 1970 Viking Price List listed these Figural Mushrooms separate. They showed the Jumbo #6939 selling for \$8.00. Next they listed the #6940 Mushroom with the Lady Bug and said (all colors) for \$4.50 each. The #6941 with Bee was listed selling for \$5.00 and the #6942 with Mouse was \$5.50.



All 4 Lime Mushrooms lined the Bottom of Page 2 in the 1970 viking Catalog. This Color was the ONLY YEAR MADE!

Page 2 of the 1970 Catalog shows a lineup of the Lime colored or (Vaseline) Mushrooms and also listed them ONLY in the 1970 Price List. There were no Ruby ones listed. Colors available at this time were Avocado, Bluenique, Honey, Persimmon, Crystal, Crystal Satin (Sold for \$1.00 more) and Lime.

Yellow or Harvest Gold (Below) may have had a very limited production!

Harvest Gold Colored Mushroom was not shown in the 1970 Viking Catalog.

This Yellow Mushroom has Uranium Salt in it and it does Glow under Black Light. I am under the impression that this Batch of Glass (One Turn) must have been made at that time. I really don't know for sure how this color came about. I have no other items in the Gallery in this color. I would hope some Glass Expert could help us out by explaining it.

I do not have a "Jumbo" in this color and I do not know if one exist, can someone show me one?

Zodiacs Mushrooms were introduced in 1970. There was a series of items in this line. Only shown were the #6942 and the #6939 "Jumbo".

Page 15 of the 1970 Viking Catalog introduced the "Zodiacs". Pictured was the #6939 and the #6942. I have never seen the #6939 size with the "Zodiac" so they must be few and far between. I will do a separate Article on the "Zodiacs". The #6939 Jumbo was listed for sale for \$10.00. **See the "Jumbo" article.**

Crystal Satin was Introduced in 1969 and Sold for a Higher Price than the other!

The 1971 Viking Catalog Cover was all Mushrooms in all Sizes and Colors.

Page 4 showed the four piece sets of Mushrooms in colors Persimmon, Avocado, Amber, Bluenique and Crystal Satin. The Crystal Figural Mushrooms along with the #6942 "Zodiac" were shown on Page 7. No Jumbo "Zodiac" was shown.



The #6942 - 3.5 Inch Bluenique Mushroom on the Right Sold

for \$3.50 in 1971.

The 1971 Viking Price List showed #6939 sold in colors Avocado, Bluenique, Amber, Orange, Crystal Satin, Crystal w/frog. The #6940 was listed for sale in Avocado, Bluenique, Amber, Persimmon, Crystal Satin, Crystal w/ladybug, Avocado w/ladybug, Bluenique w/ladybug, Amber w/ladybug. They listed the #6941 in colors Avocado, Bluenique, Amber, Persimmon, Crystal w/bee and Crystal Satin. The #6942 was shown sold in colors Crystal w/mouse, Crystal Satin, Avocado, Bluenique, Amber and Persimmon. No #6939 Jumbo "Zodiac" was listed. #6942 "Zodiacs" sold for \$5.00.



The 1972 Viking Catalog Introduces a Larger Paper Weight Variety!

The 1972 Viking Catalog continued to show complete sets of Mushrooms on page 11. The Mushrooms were shown with the figurals in Crystal, Avocado, Amber, Persimmon, Bluenique and Crystal Satin. I have no 1972 Price List.



The "Jumbo" Mushroom Dropped from the 1973 Viking Catalog, out of Production!

The 1973 Viking Catalog showed only one small row of Mushrooms listed under Paperweights on Page 10. No #6939 Jumbo was listed.

Charcoal Blue Shown in 1973 Viking Catalog! Darker and harder to Find than Bluenique!

They did show what I call Charcoal Blue in the #6940 size. There were no "Zodiacs" shown. The 1973 Viking Price List showed on 3 sizes available, #6940, #6941, and #6942 in colors Avocado, Blue, Amber and Orange (persimmon). The Mushrooms were now selling for \$3.00, \$3.50 and \$4.00 according to size.



The "Controlled Bubble" Mushroom Introduced in 1974 Viking Catalog in 4 colors!

The 1974 Viking Catalog again showed the three smaller Mushrooms on page 11 with a number of Paper Weights. They were now showing the #7363 4.5 Inch Controlled Bubble Mushroom Paper Weight.

Viking Mushroom now shown only in 3 sizes and 4 basic colors, Bluenique, Amber, Avocado and Persimmon!



The 1975 - 1976 Viking Catalog again showed the three smaller Mushrooms on pages 16 and 17 with a number of Animals, Fruits, Vegetables and Paper Weights. The 1975 - 1976 Catalog showed the #7363 - 4.5 Inch Controlled Bubble Mushroom Paper Weight. The 1975 - 1976 Price List listed Mushrooms #6940 selling for \$4.00, #6941 selling for \$4.50, and #6942 selling for \$5.00 in Avocado, Bluenique, Amber and Orange. The #7363 Controlled Bubble Mushroom was listed in only the colors Green, Blue and Amber selling for \$7.00. **No Persimmon was Listed**



Mushrooms Losing Ground to a Influx of New Paper Weights!

The 1976 - 1977 showed the same Mushrooms under the heading Animals, Fruits, Vegetable and Paper Weights. The only difference is the prices were raised .50 each. The #7363 Controlled Bubble Mushrooms were now selling for \$10.00 in only 3 colors. **No Persimmon!**



Controlled Bubble Sells For \$10.00!

The 1977 - 1978 Viking Catalog was now showing 5 pages of Animals, Fruits, Vegetables and Paper Weights. They added more Small Animals and now began showing Crystal Satin Paperweights. The 1977 Viking Price List showed on 3 sizes available, #6940, #6941, and #6942 in colors Avocado, Blue, Amber and Orange (persimmon). The Mushrooms were now selling for \$4.50, \$5.00 and \$5.50 according to size. The #7363 Controlled Bubble Mushrooms were still selling for \$10.00 in all 3 colors.

Crystal Satin Brought Back Out and Ebony Black Introduced in a Special Section!

Pages 12 and 13 of this Catalog showed a 2 Page Spread of Crystal Satin and Black items. The Mushrooms were shown on these Pages. The #6940 or smaller Mushrooms were priced \$4.50 for Black and \$6.50 for Crystal. The #6941 was \$5.00 Black and \$6.50 Crystal Satin. The #6942 was \$5.50 Black and \$7.50 Crystal Satin.



NO BLACK JUMBO WAS SHOWN!

I beleive this RARE Mushroom was made in 1980 when Viking made this Spring Blue Color!

This Mushroom was sold on Ebay in November of 2008 for \$335. I do not have one of these in my collection and I was out bid on this one. I would have to beleive it was made in all three sizes but I doubt the Jumbo was made.

I have not seen this mushroom myself but it sure looks like it was

made by Viking. It does not have a sticker and I have not seen it in any Viking Catalogs.



I do not know when Viking Made the Ruby Mushrooms, it must have been during this same period, but I do know they are scarce!

I have only seen these Ruby Red Viking Mushrooms on Ebay and was reluctant to bid on the first ones I saw because the photo was not clear.

I bought this small 2.5 inch Ruby Mushroom, off Ebay, from a true Viking Mushroom collector that had many complete sets she bought back in the 1970's.



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