

History: World War 2 Collectable

Timeline of Major Events

1 Sep, 1939 – Germany invades Poland - WWII begins Apr-Jun 1940 – Germany invades Denmark and Norway May-Jun 1940 – Germany takes over most of Western Europe Jul-Oct 1941 – The Battle of Britain 22 Jun 1941 – The Axis attack Russia 7-8 Dec 1941 – Japan attack US. US joins Allies 4 Jun 1942 – Battle of Midway. US beats Japan 3 Sep 1943 – Italy surrenders 6 June 1944 – D-Day – allies invade Normandy 25 Aug 1944 – Paris liberated from German control 7 May 1945 – Germany surrenders Aug 1945 – The US drops atomic bombs on Japan 2 Sep 1945 – Japan surrenders – WWII is over.

Main Participating Countries

ALLIED POWERS			AXIS POWERS		
Country	Date Joined	Death Toll	Country	Date Joined	Death Toll
FRANCE 	3 rd Sep, 1939	600,000 1.44% of population in 1939	GERMANY 	1 st Sep, 1939	approx. 7,200,000 8.5% of population in 1939
UK 	3 rd Sep, 1939	450,900 0.94% of population in 1939	ITALY 	11 th Jun, 1940	approx. 500,000 1.14% of population in 1939
SOVIET UNION 	22 nd Jun, 1941	approx. 24,000,000 13.7% of population in 1939	HUNGARY 	27 th Jun, 1941	464,000 5.08% of population in 1939
USA 	8 th Dec, 1941	419,400 0.32% of population in 1939	JAPAN 	7 th Dec, 1941	approx. 3,000,000 4.1% of population in 1939

KEY PEOPLE:

Neville Chamberlain
British Prime Minister from 1937 – 1940



Benito Mussolini
Prime Minister of Italy from 1922 – 1943



Sir Winston Churchill
British Prime Minister from 1940 – 1945 and 1951-1955.



Franklin Roosevelt
US President from 1933 – April 1945



Adolf Hitler
Chancellor of Germany from 1933 – 1945



Harry Truman
US President from April 1945 until the end of the war



KEY VOCABULARY:	MEANING:
Air-raid	An attack by enemy planes dropping bombs.
Anderson shelter	A small shelter made from corrugated steel to protect people in air-raids.
Allies	Countries (including Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the USA) who fought the Axis Powers.
Axis Powers	Germany, Japan, Italy and other countries that fought against the Allies.
Blackout	A wartime ban on streetlights and other lights at night, to reduce the risk of bombing by enemy planes.
Blitz	A prolonged period of German air raids on Britain. From the German 'blitzkrieg' which means 'lightning war'.
Concentration camps	Prisons where Jewish people and other prisoners were held by the Nazis.
Evacuation	Moving people from dangerous areas to safer places e.g. from big cities to the countryside to avoid bombing.
Führer	German word meaning 'leader' or 'guide'. The title Hitler gave himself in 1934 when he gained absolute authority in Germany.
Gas masks	Face masks to protect people from poisonous gas attacks.
Holocaust	The mass murder of around six million Jewish people, as well as other persecuted groups, by the Nazis.
Invasion	When an army or country uses force to enter and take control of another country or area.
Liberated	Freed from enemy control.
Occupied	Taken over by enemy forces.
Nazi	Short for National Socialist Party (in Germany) and the name given to supporters of Hitler.
Rationing	Controlling the supply of food, clothes, petrol and other products to avoid or reduce shortages.