

Victorian Currency Chart

Introduction

In 1971, British currency changed into the 'decimalised' system that we use today, with 100 pennies to each pound. However, before this the currency system had been the same for many years from long before the Victorian period right up until it was changed, and was actually made up of not 100 but 240 pennies to each pound.

It was also written slightly differently too. Money was divided into pounds (£) shillings (s. or /-) and pennies (d. from the latin word 'denarius', which was the name for an old Roman coin). Thus, 4 pounds, eight shillings and fourpence would be written as £4/8/4d. or £4-8-4d. As well as pounds, shillings and pence, there were many other types of coins. This chart shows the types of coins that existed in the Victorian times and right up until 1971:

Name of coin	What it was worth at the time
Shilling (or 'bob')	12 pence (there were 20 shillings to a pound)
Farthing	$\frac{1}{4}$ of a penny
Threepenny bit	3 pennies
Halfpenny	Half of a penny
Sixpence (or 'tanner')	Six pennies
Half crown	2 shillings and 6 pence (30 pennies in total)
Crown	5 shillings (60 pence)
One guinea	21 shillings (1 more shilling than a pound)
Florin	2 shillings (24 pennies)

