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U.S. brings an end to production of one-cent coin – 23rd November 2026

Level 4

The U.S. has ended production of its one-cent coin. President Donald Trump signed the Common Cents Act. The coin will still be legal tender. The US Mint stopped making the penny in November 2025. Businesses now have to round cash transactions up or down to the nearest five cents. Discontinuing the penny was an economic decision. In 2024, each coin cost 3.69 cents to produce. The bill's author said the US would save $85 million per year.

The penny dates back to the founding years of the USA. Congress set up the US Mint in 1792. The penny has seen many design changes. Early designs included an image of Liberty. In 1909, it featured a portrait of President Abraham Lincoln to commemorate 100 years since his birth. Rising manufacturing costs gradually made the coin too expensive to make. Wikipedia stated that the coin was eventually "viewed as a burden" to businesses.

Level 5

The U.S. has stopped producing its one-cent coin after President Donald Trump signed the Common Cents Act. However, the coin will remain legal tender and continue circulating. The US Mint actually stopped manufacturing the penny in November 2025. Businesses now have to round cash transactions up or down to the nearest five cents when change is unavailable. The decision to discontinue the penny was an economic one. In 2024, each coin cost 3.69 cents to produce. The bill's author said: "This legislation will save $85 million per year....It's common sense."

The penny's history dates back to the founding years of the USA. Congress established the US Mint in 1792. A year later, the mint made more than 11,000 one-cent coins. The penny saw numerous design changes. Early designs included an image of Liberty and a Native American chief's headdress. In 1909, it featured a portrait of President Abraham Lincoln to commemorate the centenary of his birth. Rising manufacturing costs have gradually undermined the coin's viability. Wikipedia stated that the coin was eventually "viewed as a burden" to businesses, government, and the public.

Level 6

The United States has officially brought an end to the production of its one-cent coin. President Donald Trump signed the Common Cents Act on Friday. However, the coin will remain legal tender and continue circulating. The US Mint had actually stopped manufacturing the penny (the nickname for the coin) in November 2025. Businesses now have to round cash transactions up or down to the nearest five cents when exact change is unavailable. The decision to discontinue minting the penny was an economic one. In 2024, each coin cost 3.69 cents to produce. The bill's author, Lisa McClain, said: "This legislation will save $85 million per year by permanently ending penny production. It's common sense."

The penny's history dates back to the founding years of the United States. Congress established the US Mint in 1792. The following year, the mint distributed more than 11,000 one-cent coins. The penny underwent numerous design changes. Early designs included an image of Liberty, a Native American chief's headdress, and an eagle. In 1909, it featured a portrait of former President Abraham Lincoln to commemorate the centenary of his birth. The last major redesign was in 2010. Rising manufacturing costs gradually undermined the coin's viability, consigning it to history. Wikipedia stated that the coin was eventually "viewed as a burden to businesses, banks, government, and the public".

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