

Excellent Tanker badge, by the MTKh Factory, circa late-1940s.

Brass, enamels; 45.9 x 36.6 mm; weighs 14.4 g not including the screw plate. One of the early-post war variations by the Moscow Artists Cooperative (MTKh), it features five scrolls forming the top ornament. The middle scroll is in the shape of funnel rather than downward-facing triangle as on the later versions by the same factory. According to Airapetyan's catalog, this version of the Excellent Tanker's badge is very scarce (rated 4 out of 5).

Condition is very fine to excellent. The enamel shows only light surface wear and rubbing but none of the usual flaking or chips, still retains much of its original luster. Details of the artwork are extremely well preserved and crisp. Light verdigris to the reverse and the screw plate only adds character, not detracting. The screw post is full length, approx. 11.5 mm, and comes with original screw plate maker marked "M.T.Kh. Enamel Factory".

/See Breast Badges of the Red Army, 1941-1945, p. 94, fig.6/.

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