

MOM'S JOY ROOM

2964 Fairmont Road, Morgantown, WV 26501 | (304) 282-3671

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY



Antique metal/tin shoulder head doll, Minerva, Germany

CURRENT MARKET VALUE

\$45 – \$95

*Based on comparable sales of complete antique
Minerva metal-head dolls (Buschow & Beck, Germany)*

Minerva Girl Doll

*Antique Metal Shoulder-Head Doll — Buschow & Beck,
Germany, circa 1894–1930s*

HISTORY

Minerva dolls were manufactured in Germany from 1894 through the early 1930s by Buschow & Beck, one of the leading makers of metal (tin) shoulder-head dolls of the era. Metal heads were marketed as "indestructible" — a durable, affordable alternative to the more fragile bisque and china heads dominating the doll market at the time — making Minerva dolls a popular, practical choice for everyday play rather than display. Today, complete examples with their original cloth or composition bodies and clothing are considerably scarcer than the metal heads alone, which more commonly survive as detached parts.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ♦ Maker: Buschow & Beck ("Minerva" trademark)
- ♦ Origin: Germany
- ♦ Era: circa 1894–1930s
- ♦ Construction: pressed metal/tin shoulder head, marketed as "indestructible"
- ♦ Condition: good, consistent with age

COLLECTOR NOTES

Because metal Minerva heads were designed for durability and heavy play use, loose heads turn up fairly often and sell for very modest sums (\$5–25). A complete doll retaining its body and costuming, as documented here, is meaningfully more desirable to collectors of metal-head and German antique dolls, since the majority of survivors are parts rather than whole dolls.

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Sandy Wade, Proprietor

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