

MOM'S JOY ROOM

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CERTIFICATE OF DESCRIPTION & VALUATION

Antique German Bisque Head Doll — Kid Leather Body, Circa 1885–1915

CECILIA

27" Bisque Socket Head, "Wimpern Ges. Gesch." Real-Eyelash Patent Mark, Jointed Kid Leather Body



Cecilia — 27" Antique German Bisque Head Doll

Kid Leather Jointed Body — "Wimpern Gesetzlich Geschützt" Stamp

Circa 1885–1915

DESCRIPTION & HISTORY

Cecilia is a strikingly large 27" antique German bisque head doll, with a bisque socket head, warm brown sleep eyes that close when she is laid back, an open mouth showing tiny painted teeth, and a full head of blonde mohair styled in cascading ringlet curls — the classic "dolly face" look that German doll manufacturers perfected and exported by the thousands to America and Britain in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. She is mounted on a jointed kid leather body, the standard premium body construction of the period before the composition-body era took over, and she is dressed in a cream, lace-trimmed Edwardian-style gown with full, gathered sleeves — almost certainly a later replacement or dress-up costume rather than an original factory outfit, but entirely in keeping with her period and presentation.



*Cecilia — 27" German Bisque Head Doll
Blonde Mohair Ringlet Wig, Sleep Eyes, Cream Lace Gown
Oval "Wimpern Ges. Gesch." Stamp Visible on Back of Neck*

MARKET VALUE

\$250–450

ESTIMATED WORTH

\$500–800

The most historically interesting detail on Cecilia is found on the back of her neck: a red oval ink stamp

*Realistic quick-sale price for size,
body type & confirmed patent
mark*

*Ceiling if mold number/maker is
later confirmed by a specialist*

reading **"Wimpern Ges. Gesch."** — German for *"eyelashes, legally protected."* This was a real patent registration mark used by German doll manufacturers to indicate that the doll was originally fitted with genuine mohair or fine fur upper eyelashes rather than simply painted lash lines, a refinement considered a luxury upgrade at the time. Manufacturers who invested in this feature stamped their dolls to protect and advertise the innovation, much the way a modern brand might trademark a specific technology. This "Wimpern" stamp was used by several German doll houses of the era working with mold suppliers such as Simon & Halbig and Heinrich Handwerck body makers, rather than belonging exclusively to one single manufacturer — meaning it confirms a genuine, higher-quality period feature without pinning down one specific maker's name.

Also incised along the bisque near her shoulder is the word "Germany" — a country-of-origin mark required under U.S. import and tariff labeling law beginning in 1891, and used generically by dozens of German doll makers of the period (as distinct from the later "Made in Germany" wording that became standard after 1921). Between the presence of the plain "Germany" mark and the real-eyelash patent era, Cecilia's manufacture is confidently placed within the broad window of roughly 1885 to 1915 — an era when German bisque dolls dominated the American and European toy trade, prized for the delicacy of their hand-painted faces and the naturalism of their glass sleep eyes, features that were painstakingly assembled by hand in factories across Thuringia and other German doll-making regions.

◆ *"The 'Wimpern' stamp is a small detail with a big story — it marks a doll built to a higher standard, from an age when real mohair eyelashes were considered a luxury refinement worth patenting and proudly advertising."* ◆

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ◆ Size: 27" — a larger, more substantial size within this doll category

- ◆ Head: Bisque socket head, brown sleep eyes, open mouth w/ painted teeth
- ◆ Body: Jointed kid leather body — appropriate to the period
- ◆ Wig: Blonde mohair, ringlet curl styling
- ◆ Costume: Cream lace-trimmed Edwardian-style gown, full sleeves
- ◆ Mark: Red oval "Wimpern Ges. Gesch." stamp on back of neck — real-eyelash patent indicator
- ◆ Mark: "Germany" incised along the bisque edge near the shoulder — confirms country of origin
- ◆ Dating: Circa 1885–1915, consistent with the Wimpern eyelash-patent era & plain "Germany" mark

Honest Disclosure: The "Wimpern Gesetzlich Geschützt" stamp confirms a genuine real-eyelash patent feature, but it was used across several German bisque doll manufacturers of this era rather than belonging to one single maker. The incised "Germany" mark confirms country of origin but was used generically by dozens of German doll makers and does not by itself identify a specific manufacturer or mold number. No maker's initials, mold number, or size number were legible in the photographs provided, so the precise manufacturer cannot be confirmed without closer in-hand inspection. Dating to circa 1885–1915 is based on the eyelash patent era, construction style, and generic "Germany" mark. Valuation reflects a doll of this size, body type, and confirmed patent mark without a fully identified maker; if a specific mold number or maker's name is later confirmed by a specialist, value could be meaningfully higher.

Mom's Joy Room | Morgantown, WV
Certificate Issued: July 2026 | Values based on Ruby Lane, eBay & doll auction
market data 2024–2025

Sandy Wade, Proprietor

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