



Red Wing Dinnerware & The Casual Line

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The information presented here has been gleaned from vintage Red Wing brochures, catalogs, price lists and internal documents as well as trade journals and magazines. In this discussion, a "pattern" is a dinnerware set in a particular shape with a unique handpainted design or color scheme. A "line" is a group of patterns that share the same shapes but have different handpainted designs or colors. Some of the introduction and exit dates presented have not been verified because of gaps in available documentation. When uncertain, an estimated date is provided. The end point of a pattern can be difficult to ascertain. In the 1940s and 1950s a discontinued pattern no longer appeared on price lists; in the 1960s patterns that were no longer in production remained on price lists as "limited stock" with only a few pieces listed. Here a pattern is considered to be discontinued when a full range of items was no longer available and orders were limited to remaining stock.

Each pattern has been assigned an Availability rating and a Collector Interest rating as described below. Availability represents an average for the pattern in question, however the scarcity of certain pieces within the pattern may differ. Collector Interest refers to the pattern in general, but there may be specific pieces in any pattern that are of greater interest to specialty collectors (teapots, pitchers, salt & peppers, etc). Please keep in mind these ratings are the authors' observations; your experience may vary.

Availability

- 1 – Rare
- 2 – Very scarce
- 3 – Hard to find
- 4 – Average
- 5 – Readily available

Collector Interest

- 1 – Highly sought, demand exceeds supply
- 2 – Primarily of interest to specialty collectors
- 3 – Above average
- 4 – Average
- 5 – Below average

The Casual line included some of Red Wing's most successful and popular patterns. The line featured metal stands to hold a pair of cruets and as the base for a Lazy Susan. Metal warming stands were available for casseroles (3 sizes), beverage server, teapot, butter warmer and gravy boat. A double-wide metal warming stand with ceramic handles to match the pattern was made to hold two 2 quart casseroles or a huge 20-inch platter. Initially these metal stands were black wrought iron. Copper stands were added in 1957, and by 1960 the wrought iron stands were dropped, leaving copper stands as the sole option.

Tip Toe **Availability: 4** **Interest: 5** **Years: 1958-1960 (place settings only 1961-1962)**



The name for this pattern was derived from the song "Tip Toe Through the Tulips". Each piece of Tip Toe featured a circle of brown and amber tulips, along with bands of brown and light brown against a light beige background. Compared to other patterns in the Casual line, Tip Toe was rather drab. The brochure stated that Tip Toe blends well and was "Fashioned to take on the properties of any style home for which it is chosen." When introduced in 1958, a full range of Tip Toe pieces were available including Lazy Susan, cruets, bread tray and other standard Casual shape accessories, as well as a trivet.

By 1961, only basic serving pieces (plates, bowls, cup & saucer) were still available. An ad in the December 1957 issue of *China, Glass and Tablewares* trade journal for new 1958 patterns listed the name of this pattern as Woodlawn.

At left: Tip Toe beverage server on stand and divided vegetable tray



Above: Tip Toe dinner plate
Below: Covered butter



Hearthside **Availability: 4** **Interest: 4** **Years: 1961-1963 or 1964 (place settings only 1963 or 1964-1965)**



Above: Hearthsides dinner plate

This pattern was based on a country hearth theme. Among the country-oriented items depicted on various pieces were a spinning wheel, wooden bench, rocking chair, braided rug, kerosene lamp, eagle and small table. The background color was white. Hearthsides was significantly more limited in the range of available pieces than earlier Casual patterns. Brochures and price lists did not include the 112 oz pitcher, cocktail tray, Lazy Susan, 1 quart casserole, 4 quart casserole, handled marmite, cruets or butter warmer.



Above: Hearthsides salt & pepper shakers, casserole and creamer



Above: Hearthsides tea pot



Above: Chuck Wagon 12-inch salad bowl
Below: Chuck Wagon 6-inch bowl



Above: Chuck Wagon 6.5-inch plate
Below: Round Up divided vegetable tray



Below (left-to-right, starting with small bowl): Round Up sauce dish, Nappy (vegetable bowl), covered gravy and salt & pepper shakers



Above: The Chuck Wagon (left) and Round Up dinner plates

Chuck Wagon **Availability: 1** **Interest: 1** **Years: 1957 ?**
Round Up **Availability: 4** **Interest: 1** **Years: 1958-1965**

Chuck Wagon and Round Up were essentially the same pattern. Both featured cowboy scenes on a beige fleck background. In most cases the cowboy scene on a given piece was the same for both patterns, but the scene differed on a few pieces. For example, the Chuck Wagon dinner plate showed a cowboy sitting on a fence watching two other cowboys tussle with a steer, while the Round Up dinner plate had an old west wagon and a hollering cowboy holding a fry pan by a campfire. Other pieces that differ are the 12-inch salad bowl, 6-inch individual salad bowl, saucer and the 6.5-inch plate. A recent discovery leads us to believe the Chuck Wagon cup differs from the Round Up cup in that the fence on which the cowboy sits extends all the way around the back of the cup.

Chuck Wagon was “Sold exclusively by The Mal Company”, as stated in an undated brochure. Chuck Wagon was sold only by mail with a \$39.50 minimum per order. The brochure showed wrought iron stands, not copper, which is a clue that Chuck Wagon preceded Round Up. Four place settings (dinner plate, 6.5-inch plate, 6-inch bowl, cup & saucer) were sold together as a “Unit Package”. These pieces were not available individually, except on a replacement basis. Serving pieces were available individually. The following pieces came with a wrought iron stand: Twin Cruet set, Beverage Server, 2 Quart Casserole, Twin 2 Quart Casseroles and 20-inch platter. The following pieces were also available: 24-inch Bread Tray, Salt & Pepper, 60 oz Pitcher, Relish Tray, Sugar & Creamer and 12-inch Salad Bowl. It is not known if the “exclusive” rights involved a limited-term contract or if the company subsequently closed. In any event, the deal with The Mal Company was short-lived and Red Wing rechristened the pattern as Round Up.



Above: Chuck Wagon (left) and Round Up saucers

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Round Up is one of the more highly sought Red Wing dinnerware patterns. It is popular with collectors of Red Wing pottery and collectors of Western-themed home decor. Demand definitely exceeds the supply. All Round Up pieces have considerable value compared to most other Red Wing patterns, but among the more difficult-to-find pieces are the water cooler and stand, cookie jar, cruets, 112 oz pitcher and teapot. The July 1958 dealer price list included trivets for nearly all patterns produced that year, but for some reason Round Up was excluded. ■



Above: Round Up 12-inch salad bowl
Below: Round Up Water cooler and stand



Above: Round Up relish dish
Below: Round Up Sugar & creamer

