



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

Red Wing's Dynasty Line

By Terry Moe and Larry Roschen © Copyright 2011
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Plum Blossom Yellow **Availability:** 4 **Interest:** 5
Years: 1950 - 1953

Plum Blossom Pink **Availability:** 3 **Interest:** 4
Years: 1950 - 1953



Above: Plum Blossom Yellow dinner plate and spoon rest

The Dynasty line featured six-sided pieces with an Asian appearance. According to a Plum Blossom brochure, the shapes were "reminiscent of ageless Chinese designs." The two patterns in this line were identical except for the color of the plum blossoms that appeared on the flatware (plates and bowls). Vintage price lists referred to the yellow version as Citron Yellow and the pink version as Petal Pink. There seems to be quite a bit more of the yellow version available today, so naturally collectors gravitate towards the pink version. Price lists stated the hollowware was available in three solid colors: Citron Yellow, Mica Bronze and Woodland Green. Though the names were fancier, the colors were actually the same as Concord Chartreuse, Metallic Brown and Forest Green. In 1951, the Concord spoon rest decorated with the plum blossom design was added to the Dynasty line. Several rare color variations have been found on Dynasty pieces including light blue blossoms and trim (rather than yellow or pink). 🍵



Above: Plum Blossom A.D. demitasse cups
Right: Plum Blossom Yellow cup & saucer



Above: Plum Blossom Pink platters
Left: Plum Blossom teapot

Below: Plum Blossom Pink group including serving pitcher and salt & pepper

Below: Plum Blossom Pink plates

Below: Plum Blossom sugar & creamer in three colors



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 author's 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

Red Wing's Fancy Free Line

Caprice

Years: 1952 - 1953

Availability: 2

Interest: 4

A dainty floral design with leaves and buds in shades of pink, green, yellow and gray appeared on all pieces. The background was white.

Desert

Years: 1952 - 1953

Availability: 3

Interest: 1

A Saguaro cactus design appeared on all pieces. Flatware has the cactus in the center with chartreuse and black "heat rays" extending outward from the cactus. The background color was white.

Fancy Free plates and bowls were round on the left and right sides, and flat on the top and bottom. The rims on these flatware pieces rolled downward and were easily chipped. Pitchers and other hollowware tended to develop cracks along the base. Thus, finding undamaged pieces in the Fancy Free shape can be a challenge. Both patterns included the spoon rest and egg plate usually associated with the Concord line. While Caprice is more difficult to find today, Desert is more popular with collectors who prize the cactus design and Western look. Solid colored Fancy Free shapes with "Sand" colored glaze borrowed from Town & Country can be found. These are quite rare. Most likely these were part of a customer's special order, although they may have been produced as test pieces. 🍷

Below: Desert bowls

Below: Desert group including creamer, supper tray, covered butter, sugar and pitcher



Above: Caprice cup & saucer
Left: Caprice dinner plate, salt & pepper and cup



Above: Caprice teapot, coffee server & cover and salt & pepper



Above: Caprice egg plate



Above: Desert teapot



Above: Fancy Free casserole in rare "Sand" color borrowed from Town & Country



Below: Desert casserole