

Excellent Antiaircraft Gunner badge, NKPS variation, mid-1940s.

Brass, enamels; measures 46.2 x 38.3 mm; weighs 17.4 g without the screw plate. This early variation of the badge features wide shield and "ruffled" wreath with sharply defined outer leaves. The ornament above the shield is characteristically tall and consists of a wide scroll in the middle and two smaller scrolls on each side, with a well-defined border on top. This version of the "PVO" (Antiaircraft Defense) badge is among the earliest and most scarce.

In excellent condition, especially outstanding for an early issue. The medallion has only a few minor contact marks and light scuffs. There are no flakes, chips or other significant wear; the enamel retains extremely attractive luster throughout. A great amount of the original gilt finish is present in recessed areas of the wreath; the fragile grey finish along the edge of the shield is largely intact. The screw post is full length, over 12.5 mm, and comes with original NKPS screw plate. A very attractive piece and to reiterate, exceptionally well-preserved for a Soviet combat proficiency badge of WW2 era.

/See Breast Badges of the Red Army, 1941-1945, p. 116, fig. 1/.

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