Soviet Award Badge for 50 Years of Membership in the Communist Party, mid-1970s - early-1980s.

Silver gilt, enamels; measures approx. 16.5 mm in height x 15 mm in width. This badge was designed to be worn on lapel and to look like a miniature Order of Lenin. The Russian letters КПСС on the red banner is abbreviation for the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU). The raised logo of the Moscow Mint is the relatively early version featuring dashed semi-circular line forming the outer part of the letter "D".

The badge is exquisitely well made, far better than most other Soviet badges of the period.. Even the pin attachment is of superior quality.

Excellent, near mint condition. The enamel is perfect, without any chips, noticeable flaking, or scratches. The gilt finish is nice and bright, although it shows some patina that has come from the silver beneath.

This badge was issued in very limited quantity, exclusively to those who had been in the CPSU for at least 50 years. Some misidentify it as "50 years of the Communist Party" badge, but this was definitely an award for being a member of CPSU for 50 years - not just a commemorative badge to celebrate the anniversary of the party itself. It is interesting to note that the Soviet Communist Party never had a badge for regular members - unlike the Nazi party in Germany for example. Because of all the purges and wars that happened during the 74 years of Bolshevik rule, not many party members survived to be eligible for the badge.

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$20.00