

Saint George Cross for Bravery, 4th class, #1M/228532, circa 1917.

In white metal; measures 41.2 mm in height including the eyelet, 34.5 mm in width; weighs 9.8 g. Raised Cyrillic marks Б ("B") and М ("M") for Belyi Metall or "white metal" to the reverse on the opposing horizontal arms.

In outstanding, excellent condition. The cross shows practically no wear other than a few minuscule dings to the raised border of the upper arm on the obverse, nearly unnoticeable to the unaided eye, and a few microscopic dings elsewhere that are completely invisible without magnification. The details of the medallion are perfect and exceptionally crisp allowing a clear view of all the idiosyncrasies of the die. There are no blemishes or significant oxidation spots; the finish is essentially pristine with attractive even patina. In our opinion, this superb piece is practically impossible to upgrade.

The non-silver types of the St. George Cross were introduced by an Imperial decree as a cost cutting measure in October 1916 but the manufacture had not started until January 1917. The mint manufactured a total of 89000 of the fourth class in white metal. The recipient of this particular cross is currently unknown, but like it already happened in many other cases, his name may be eventually determined by research of Russian archives.

/See [Russian Awards of XVIII - Early XX Century](#) by V. Durov, p. 155/.

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\$425.00

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