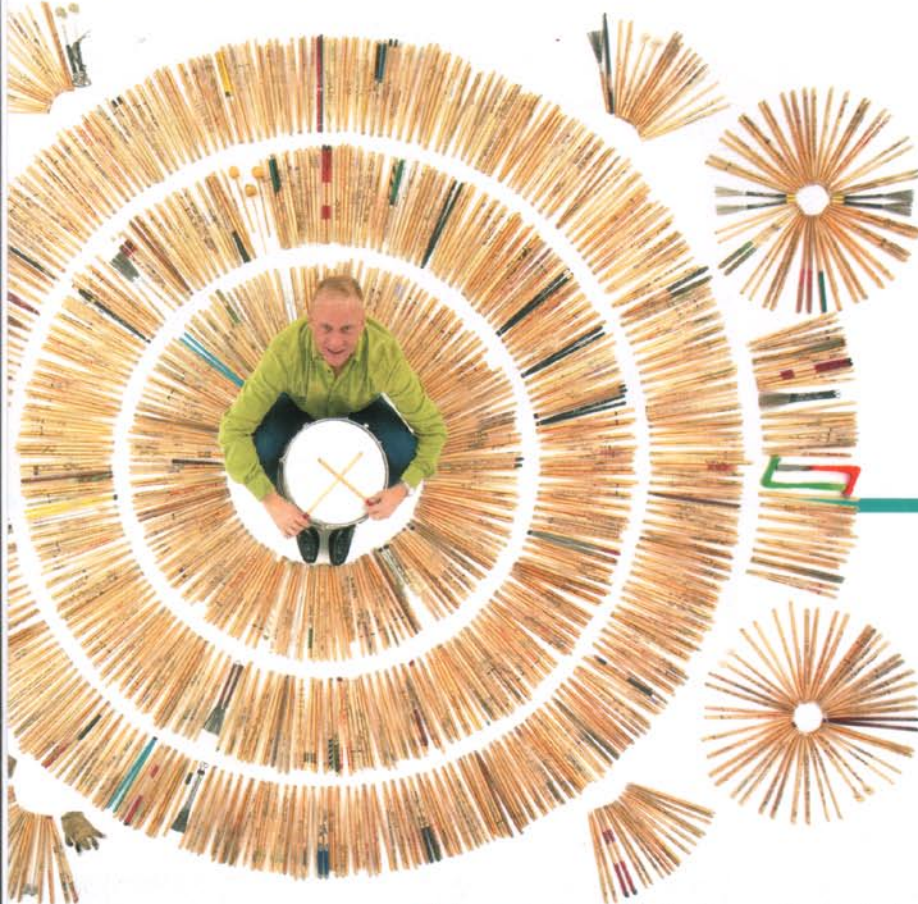


Largest autographed drumstick collection

Since 1980, Peter Lavinger (USA, below) has accumulated over 1,300 drumsticks, all of which have been played and handed to him by drummers from various popular bands, including Ringo Starr of The Beatles. He caught his first drumstick from the front row of a Good Rats concert in 1980.



★ Largest beer bottle collection

The largest collection of beer bottles in the world is owned by Peter Broeker (Germany), who has amassed 12,548 bottles since 1980. The collection derives from 2,440 different breweries within 153 countries. Peter estimates that if all of his beer bottles were piled one on top of each other they would reach to a height of 9,983 ft (3,043 m), which is almost eight times the height of the Empire State Building in New York, USA.

★ Largest passport collection

Guy Van Keer (Belgium) owns 7,637 passports and documents used in lieu of passports. They represent 130 countries and passport-issuing authorities, including many countries that no longer exist. The passports date from 1615 to the present day. The collection's most expensive item is a rare Chinese passport from 1898 valued at \$52,830.

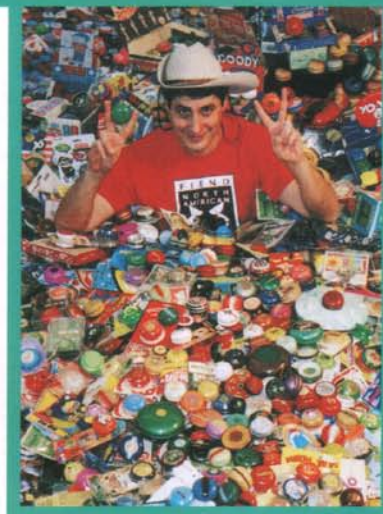
★ Largest collection of colored vinyl records

Alessandro Benedetti (Italy) has collected 1,180 music records made of colored vinyl. His

collection includes 866 LPs (792 colored, 74 with pictures), 291 singles (277 colored, 14 with pictures), and 23 in unusual shapes.

★ Largest collection of photographs of professional sporting personalities

Since 2000, Thomas Gill (UK) has built up a collection of 510 photographs taken of himself with professional soccer players. Thomas has photographs of himself with well-known British soccer players such as David Beckham, Sir Geoff Hurst, and Ryan Giggs.



Largest collection of yo-yos

John 'Lucky' Meisenheimer (USA, above) has a collection of 4,251 yo-yos, which he has amassed since 1971. His current collection is housed in 23 custom-made cases and is estimated to be worth around \$100,000.

He also has a photo of himself with his all-time football hero Paul Merson.

★ Largest collection of uncut bank notes

Leigh Follestad (Canada) has 123 sheets of uncut bank notes from 33 countries, representing 73 denominations, which he has been collecting since 1982.

★ Largest jet-fighter collection

The world's biggest private collection of jet fighters numbers 110 and belongs to French winemaker Michel Pont. He started his collection in 1985, and it includes Russian MiGs, British Jaguars, and French Mirages. Michel buys the jets from governments, but is not permitted to fly the aircraft over French airspace. He also has a collection of 500 motorbikes, and 24 Fiat Abarth racing cars.