

The Spider Ring – a look back

If there's a segment of the population most familiar with The Spider, it would be collectors of character premiums. The original metal rings from *The Spider*, and Popular Publication's other stalwart, *Operator #5*, rank right up there with Superman and Orphan Annie when it comes to most sought after memorabilia.

Collectors, it seems, understand the magic and power associated with rings throughout the ages, and during the 1930s in particular. Sure, rings were simply an inexpensive marketing device for promoters of radio shows and pulps, but they were popular because they seemed to place in our mortal hands a piece of our hero's intangible power. And boys weren't above wearing jewelry.

There isn't much myth and magic to be found among today's racks of comic books and action figures. The reality of gadgets and guns has replaced the mystique of a hero's ring. Mystery has given way to utility during kids' play-time: "A ring? That doesn't DO anything. Where's my Mega-Zord?" Chalk it up to "sophistication."

Tell 'ya what: Print this page out several times and pass it around among your friends, or post it on the office bulletin board. Start a secret Spiders club, and fight for *imagination* as well as *justice*. —CK

Top Ten Most Valuable Premium Rings

From The Overstreet Premium Ring Price Guide, First Edition (1995)


		known pop.
1. Superman of America	\$125,000	10
2. Superman Secret Compartment	\$60,000	12
3. Superman Secret Compartment	\$60,000	10
4. Radio Orphan Annie Altascope	\$25,000	7
5. Operator #5	\$20,000	6
6. Superman Tim	\$18,000	1 NM
7. Spider	\$10,000	20
8. Sky King Kaleidoscope	\$9,000	1
9. Cisco Kid Secret Compartment	\$7,500	3
10. Valric The Viking	\$7,000	6



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SPIDER RING



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SPIDER



SECRET SERVICE #5™

OPERATOR #5

BONUS RING!

JOIN THE UNITED FRONT AGAINST CRIME

By Enlisting in the Spider League for Crime Prevention!

The Spider's seal is the symbol of the **Spider League for Crime Prevention**, a globe-girdling organization pledged to unceasing warfare against crime!

DIRECTIONS

1. After printing page on regular paper, cut out ring strip on the thicker dotted line.

2. Fold over at two length-wise thin dotted lines, the wider strip overlapping the narrow.

3. Fold into "L" shape at diagonal thin dotted line.

4. Bring two ends together in a loop, so that the emblem is facing the inside of the resulting ring, but is to the outside of the "L" part.

5. Fold the "L" part down around the outside, and continue to wrap around again. Do not make it too tight.

6. Fold the emblem end of the ring back, over the wrapped part, and tuck the end into the wrap to complete your ring.

You may wish to trim the end into a thinner tab, for easier tucking.

