



Artifact Showcase

Philco Model 95

Philco's nine-tube Model 95 was introduced in October 1929, just a year after Philco began making radios. It represented a major improvement in performance relative to Philco's previous models as well as those of many of its competitors. It was Philco's top-of-the-line 1929 model. While it was a good performer for its day, it was a TRF (tuned radio frequency) design rather than the even better performing superheterodyne type. RCA had exclusively controlled the superheterodyne patents during the 1920s but soon would allow competitors to license them. (Philco took advantage of that opportunity when it happened.)

The Model 95 utilized the new screen-grid type 224 tubes as high-gain radio frequency amplifiers. It included automatic volume control, a desirable feature that meant that stations came in at approximately the same volume level as you tuned up and down the dial whether they were strong or weak stations.

It was available in attractive highboy and lowboy style console cabinets as well as a table model. Depending on cabinet style, prices were in the \$100 to \$200 range.



Note the original forest scene tapestry grille cloth.

A Philco console very similar to this one sold recently at a local auction for only \$10. Had it included the two missing rare type 45 audio amplifier tubes, worth \$50 or more each in good condition, it would have sold for much more.

We appreciate your support of the Museum so that historical artifacts like this one and the stories that go with them can be preserved for future generations. THANKS!

Donated by James Martin