

How this grade was reached

A flawless card on every axis measured. Held back by corners, at 9.5. Final grade: **10 (Gem Mint)**.

Four axes are graded separately. The overall grade is computed from them, never typed over them. Centering is measured rather than judged, so it is shown as geometry; the other three carry the grader's reading of the card.

CENTERING 9.5

MEASURED, NOT ESTIMATED

FACE	LEFT / RIGHT	TOP / BOTTOM	METHOD	GRADE
front	51.3 / 48.7	52.8 / 47.2	measured by the grader	9.5
back	54.8 / 45.2	53.8 / 46.2	measured by the grader	10

Ratios are the card's border widths, not an estimate from eye. The grade follows a fixed tolerance table, so the same measurement always gives the same number.

CORNERS 9.5

2 ON THE FRONT

Handling only. Nothing here shows without looking for it.

EDGES 10

Nothing on this axis shows at the magnification the card was graded at.

SURFACE 10

3 ON THE FRONT

Nothing on this axis shows at the magnification the card was graded at.

How it was graded

1. **Graded in hand.** The card was on our bench, and we photographed it front and back under controlled light. The photographs show which card this is and where anything we marked sits on it.
2. **Centering measured.** The border widths were measured by the grader, who drew the border lines by hand, and a fixed table turns the measurement into a grade. The same split always gives the same number.
3. **Corners, edges and surface read.** An AI takes the first pass on each. A person confirms or overrides every sub-grade before anything is recorded, and pins any mark they find on the photograph.
4. **The overall grade is arithmetic.** Nobody types it. The sub-grades make a score out of 1000, and the grade is that score over a hundred, rounded to the nearest half point.

The four sub-grades are averaged, each counting equally.

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975 out of 1000 ÷ 100 = 9.75 rounded to the nearest half point = 10
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Centering, in detail

Each face is measured twice: left against right, and top against bottom. The wider of the two splits is the one that counts, and the table below turns it into a grade.

FACE	LEFT / RIGHT	TOP / BOTTOM	WIDER SPLIT	TABLE RUNG	GRADE
front	51.3 / 48.7	52.8 / 47.2	52.8 / 47.2	within 55 / 45	9.5
back	54.8 / 45.2	53.8 / 46.2	54.8 / 45.2	within 55 / 45	10

A card is only as well centred as its worse face. Here that is the front, so centering is 9.5.

FRONT: WORST SPLIT	GRADE
52 / 48	10
55 / 45	**9.5** THIS CARD
60 / 40	9
65 / 35	8.5
70 / 30	8
75 / 25	7
80 / 20	6
85 / 15	5
90 / 10	4
95 / 5	2
any split	1

BACK: WORST SPLIT	GRADE
55 / 45	**10** THIS CARD
60 / 40	9.5
65 / 35	9
70 / 30	8.5
75 / 25	8
80 / 20	7
85 / 15	6
90 / 10	5
95 / 5	3
any split	2

The front is held to a tighter split than the back at every grade.

Corners, at fixed magnification

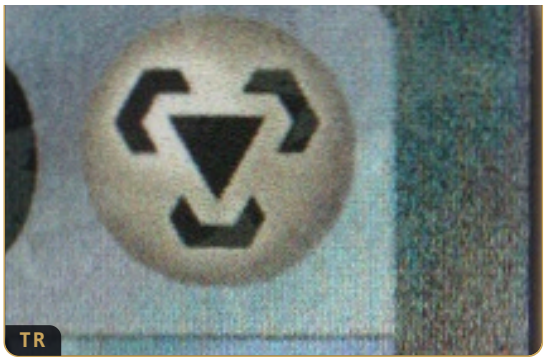
Each corner is shown over a 9mm square at **30 pixels per millimetre** — the same magnification on every card this bench grades, so a corner here means what it meant on the last one. These are crops of the photographs above, not separate shots.

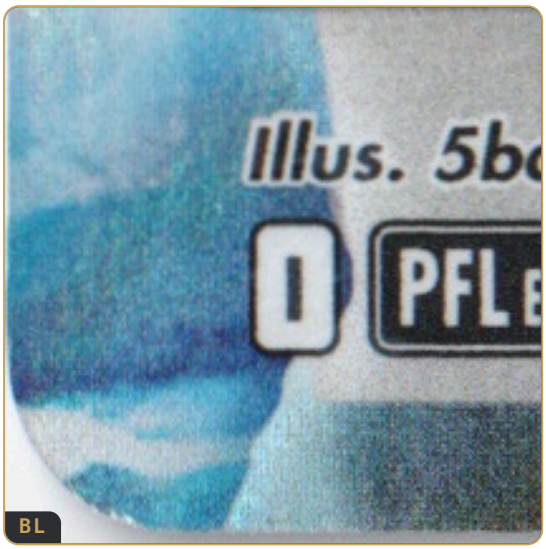
FRONT





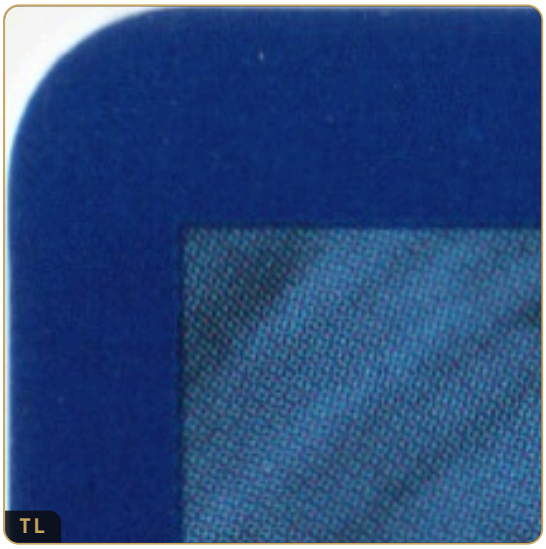


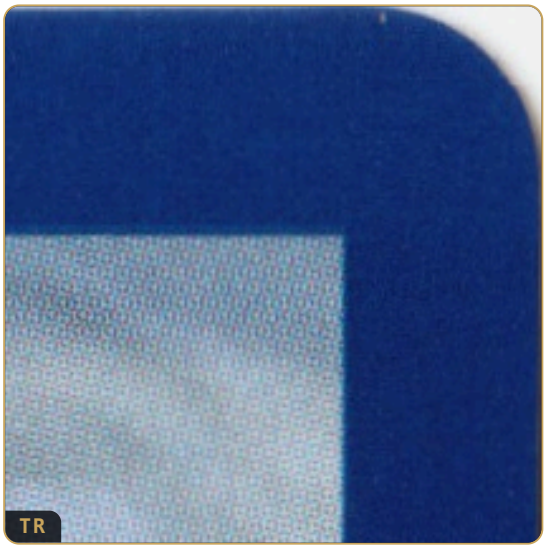


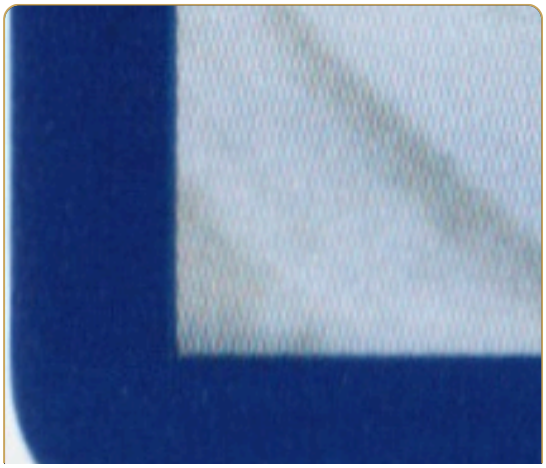


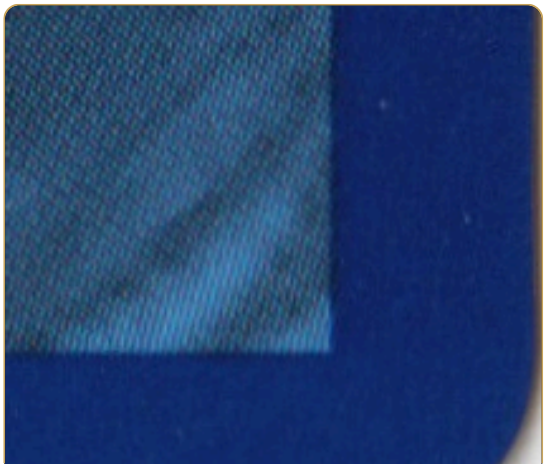


BACK









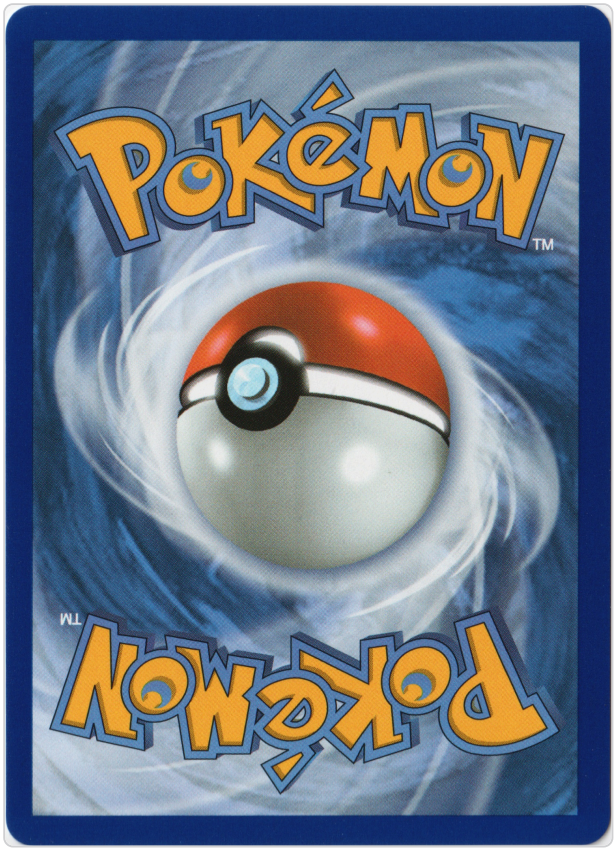


What the grader marked

Numbered pins are where a person looked and found something. They are placed by hand on the photograph, to show where on the card each one is.



FRONT — 1 MARK PLACED BY THE GRADER



BACK — 0 MARKS PLACED BY THE GRADER

1. **Corner Ding** FAINT
   corner ding (faint)

Also observed

Recorded during the first pass and reviewed by the grader. These carry no position — they describe a region, not a point, which is why they are not pinned above.

- **front · whitening** FAINT
  A hairline lighter line follows the top-right edge of the silver border, suggesting very slight edge whitening.
- **front · surface scuff** FAINT
  Small pale speckles along the lower-left foil border area, consistent with light handling scuff or surface dust.

- **front · corner ding** FAINT
  Bottom-right corner tip looks marginally softer and lighter than the other three corners at this magnification.
- **front · holo scratch** FAINT
  Faint diagonal light streaks run across the holo foil over Empoleon's wing; may be scan glare rather than true scuffing.

Card details

A card of this name and number, out of **94**, exists in the public card catalogue — **Phantasmal Flames**, RR. The details on this certificate match it.

That printing is illustrated by **5ban Graphics**, published **2025-11-14**. Both come from the public catalogue, not from WinnTCG.

> **This is not a test of authenticity.** It confirms the card is the card it claims to be. A good counterfeit of a real card would match exactly the same way, and the tests that would settle it (light through the core, weight, thickness, surface texture) are laboratory tests, and WinnTCG does not run them. We had this card in our hands and graded what we could see; that is not a statement that it is genuine.

What this report is, and is not

WinnTCG graded this card **in hand**, on the bench. **The card was in our hands**, and we sealed the case ourselves. We photographed it here under controlled light to show which card is in the case and where anything we marked sits on it. The grade was made with the card in hand, so it rests on more than the photographs in this report can show.

This document is yours. It is not published with the certificate, and the public page shows the grade and the photographs without it.