# James Bond Autograph Study Guide



Featuring all six Bond actors:

- ➤ Connery
- ➤ Lazenby
- ≻ Moore
- ➢ Dalton
- ≻ Brosnan
- ≻ Craig

# By TQ

# About this guide

James Bond is a passion of mine. I love the books. I love the films and I love the community. My first ever autograph was a Roger Moore and since then it's fair to say that the bulk of my collection is Bond related.

I have spent years collecting, studying, trading and analysing Bond autographs. Whilst I am a fan of every person involved in the franchise, my interest and knowledge only pertains to the core six Bond actors and a small number of assorted reoccurring players.

This guide is the result of several years of work... particularly in relation to the notoriously difficult Sean Connery! For that reason, you will find the section on our favourite Scot is significantly longer than the others.

Every autograph featured in this guide has my full confidence. That is to say that I believe this represents a detailed and accurate guide to all of the Bond actors' signatures. Hopefully it will help to clarify what is real and what isn't, and provide insight into the various different signing styles of each actor.

Because of Bond's enduring popularity and the fact that a new film comes out every few years stoking the public interest, Bond autographs are an excellent investment. The downside of this is that sheer number of forgeries out there is astonishing, particularly in relation to Sir Sean.

The purpose of this guide then is to help anyone who wants to build their collection or simply wants to learn a little more about these autographs. I offer it freely with best wishes and goodwill for all my fellow Bond fans!

Happy collecting guys,

ΤQ

#### A few things to note ...

This is a hobby for me and all the research is my own so if I've made a mistake or generalisation please forgive me!

Whilst a significant portion of the pictured autographs come from my own collection, I am not ashamed to say I have borrowed images from all over the place.

Wherever possible I have attempted to ask permission from the owners of signatures... but the internet is a big place and unfortunately I haven't always noted where an image comes from when I have saved it into my exemplars library (I wasn't always planning on creating this study guide). If I have featured an example belonging to you, please take it as a compliment- it means you have and exemplary example of the real deal. If, however, you would like me to remove the picture of your signature just let me know and I would be happy to do so in all subsequent revisions.

I'd also like to thank all the owners of these beautiful signatures and all those people who have kindly sent me examples to look at and use. I'm always chuffed that the Bond community is such a supportive and welcoming place!

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# Sir Sean Connery

Sir Sean Connery has had a storied life. Milkman, bodybuilder, musical star, author and of course, the first official James Bond. 1962's Dr No changed the face of cinema forever and solidified Connery as one of the greatest film icons of all time.

Connery's Bond was hard, charming, capable and unapologetic. To this day he is still regarded as the greatest to play the role.

For these reasons, Connery's signature is far and away the most desired and valuable of all the six Bond autographs. It is also the most commonly forged and hardest to authenticate. There is also a lot of misinformation out there about what is 'authentic' and what isn't. You'll notice the omission of one particularly famous style in this guide- this is intentional. I believe this guide represents all of the authentic styles of Connery's signature over the years.



#### Signing Habits

Connery has a reputation as a tough signer. This is certainly true of recent years, but in decades past (before the autograph hounds) he was actually fairly gracious. In the early years (60s-80s) he would sign for fans and would usually include a dedication.

Throughout the early years Connery would (very) sporadically sign through the mail, however, the vast majority of TTM signatures tended to be secretarials, sometimes signed by Connery's own brother.

Connery has never officially signed any trading cards. The Rittenhouse series feature cuts (mostly from his signed 'Being a Scot' books).

With the rise of the autograph hounds, Connery became increasingly belligerent when signing for people in public. He (fairly correctly) made the assumption that they were simply being collected to sell on, and disliked the idea of others making money off his back. This helps to explain the scribble and scrawl that became his modern in person autograph.

Connery signed scores of his book 'Being a Scot'. The first few signing sessions produced the nicest (and most accurate to the pre-printed example in the book) signatures. They are the most desirable.

Conney has not done signing sessions with any known company to the best of my knowledge.

When Connery signs photos, he is always careful with his positioning. He tends to avoid signing over himself where room permits, and I have never seen an authentic example where he has signed over his face... Keep this in mind.

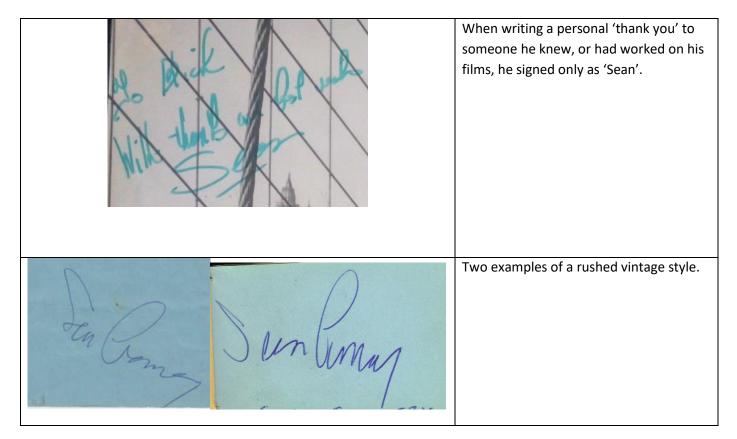
#### Vintage

Connery's vintage style pertains to autographs signed until the mid 70s. They are far and away his nicest signatures. The definitive characteristic of this style is the isolated 'S' and legibility of ever letter in his name.





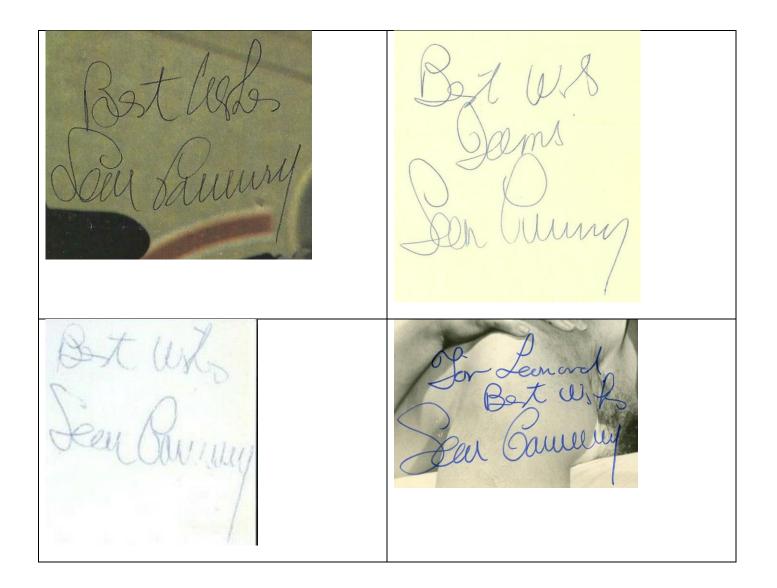
#### Variations of the Vintage Style



#### **Dedicated 75-85ish**

As his fame rose Connery begun to streamline his autograph. The 'S' joined with the rest of his first name, his last name lost its legibility and generally speaking, he started signing a little quicker. During this era, this is how he would sign in person. These are very nice and desirable autographs.

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Botters	Del Boh
Seen Conney	Del Caucey

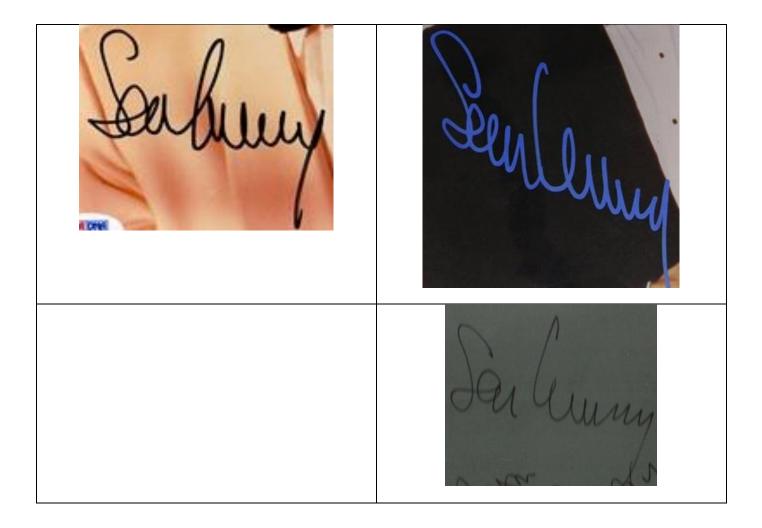


#### **Typical UUUU Style**

Connery's infamous 'UUU' style references his tendency to sign his last name with an irregular number of 'U' shaped formations. Connery has continued to sign with elements of this signature to this day.







#### **Modern In-person**

These are all 'street signed' and represent what Connery's modern autograph has looked like for the last two and half decades. You'll notice that these are all signed on photos as they correlate with the rise of the autograph hound. As with all his signatures there is huge variation, however, you'll notice that I have grouped in a way that reflect the fact that there is actually some consistencies in style.

Something important to note; Connery does not sign 'best wishes' on photos for people on the street. If a seller claims their suspiciously neat signed photo with that inscription was collected by 'star chasers' etc. at such and such particular public location... steer clear.

Connery tends to sign either horizontally or with a downward slant. I have grouped these signatures as such.

#### 'Horizontal' Modern In-Person





### 'Descending' Modern In-Person





This is a famous and accessible PSA certified example. Many forgers attempt to copy this exact signature.



From the John Brennan collection.





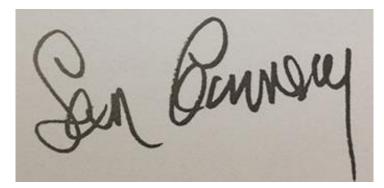
#### **Alternative Modern**



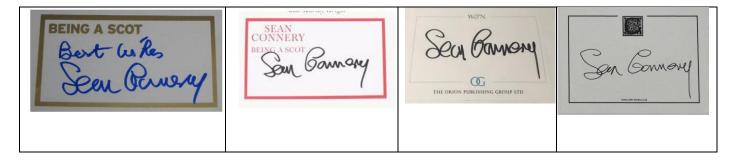
#### Signed Being a Scot

When Connery released his book 'Being a Scot', it wasn't quite the autobiography people had expected. Rather than a tell-all recount of his career, it was largely an ode to Scottish history, art and landscape. Despite this, fans lapped the books up and Connery signed a large number of 1<sup>st</sup> editions on bookplates in his home in the Bahamas. Although there is little more information available than that, the assumption is that he did several different signing sessions as the signatures and pens vary, even on the same bookplates. In my research, the W&N bookplates as the Red bordered varieties are consistently the nicest and this suggests to me that these were the original signings.

The first thing to note is that on the introduction page the book features a printed Connery signature. This is the most recent unquestionably authentic example of his non rushed modern signature:



Pictured below are the four variations of signed bookplates:



To my knowledge, Connery did not do public signings for the book and so treat signed books without a publisher bookplate with caution.

When the books were first released you could easily snap one up for USD90 (sometimes even less). Now, however, as with all Connery signatures the price has skyrocketed and you won't find one for much less than 500USD. The fact that these signatures can easily be cut out and mounted has resulted in a tonne of butchered books around. If you find one of these cut bookplates for sale at a good price, grab it- the value of these books is in the signature anyway.

If you are not confident with Connery autographs and want something with some sense of reassurance and guaranteed held value, a bookplate is a great place to start your collection.

ING A SCOI

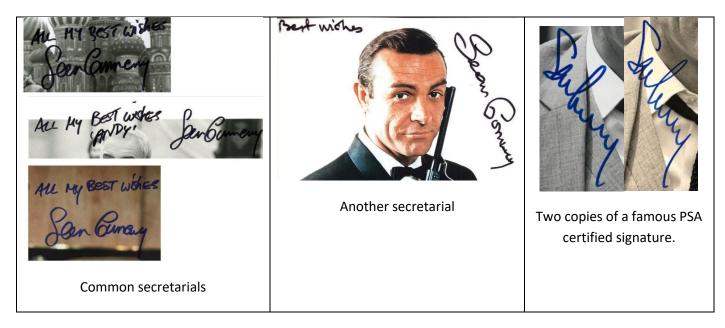
WEN Sean Connerry Seen Convery G THE ORION PUBLISHING GROUP LTD **BEING A SCOT** Sem Damay Bost lisher Rom Barno SEAN CONNERY **BEING A SCOT** SenConnery Son Connorel PSA DNA CONNERY Bot Wills **SEAN** CONNERY Bestwiches BEING A SCOT BEING A SCOT Een Conver Der Goungus SEAN CONNERY BEING A SCOT Sen Connory Sem Gamary

#### **Signed Cheques**

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2 1612 !!!	Sem Bamumy

#### **Fakes and Secretarials**

I could fill numerous pages with examples of forgeries but I thought I'd keep it simple.



# George Lazenby

Against all odds, George Lazenby assumed the role of James Bond in 1968. Following Connery's first of three departures from the role, producers Cubby Brocolli and Harry Saltzman found themselves in a tricky position. Without the precedent for actor changes every few films a thing just yet, the Bond team weren't yet sure how to proceed. Do you reinvent the character and the role, or do you cast a Connery clone? The latter seemed to be the order of the day as when Lazenby, clad in an abandoned Connery suit with a Rolex Submariner on the wrist and freshly shorn hair snuck into the 007 offices, the fateful decision was made to cast an Australian model in the iconic role.

After completing the filming of On Her Majesty's Secret Service, Lazenby made the ill-informed decision to refuse to appear in any more Bond films, thus walking away from the most iconic franchise after only one film. There are many different stories floating around



as to why he made this choice, but this is not the time to get into them. The long and short of it is that George Lazenby royally angered the Bond production team and, on account of featuring in only one film, by default he is usually given the undesirable title of 'worst James Bond ever'. This, however, is a very shallow reading of the situation. Bond fans will argue that OHMSS is not only one of the best vintage Bond films, but Lazenby (though overdubbed with a plot required foppish accent for half the film) is actually pretty good in the role. Had he stuck with it for a few more films who know what could have happened? One thing is for certain though, Lazenby, whether you like him or not, is a required autograph for any Bond collection.

#### Signing Habits

Lazenby is not a tough autograph to obtain. In public, he has a reputation for being an approachable and generous signer. Add to this the fact the signs and sells signatures for Bondstars, from his own website, has signed scores of Rittenhouse trading cards and regularly appears at Bond conventions, there is no reason to take a chance on a Lazenby signature. Currently at time of writing, Lazenby sells his autographed photos for 50USD from his own website and 60USD from Bondstars. A little hint, he tends to sign his more detailed signature for his own website.

### Short signature



### Full signature

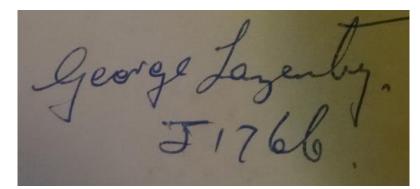




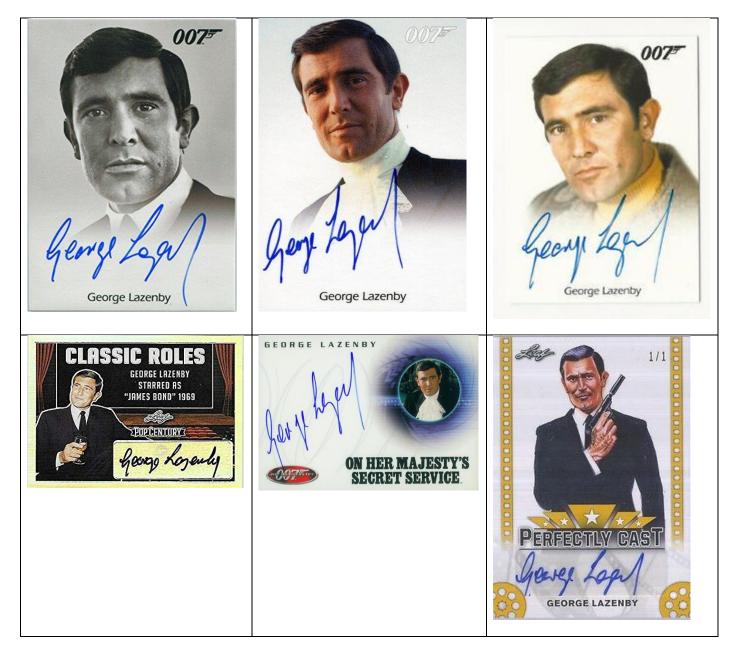
#### With handwriting

To James Bon n is the all H 10 like to We have all the time in the world this to for have notthing move natthing less only love interest you de I come legenby

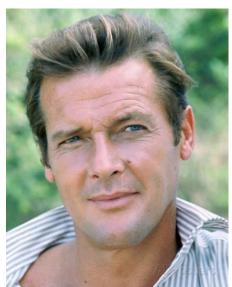
#### Vintage



#### **Signed Cards**



# Sir Roger Moore



Sir Roger Moore was an English actor born in 1927. His early career consisted of a string of supporting roles in the 1950's. In the 60's Moore took on the breakthrough lead role in the TV series The Saint. His performance and looks immediately caught the eye of Cubby Broccoli and Harry Saltzman, the producing duo behind the Bond series. After Sean Connery left the franchise for the second time after filming Diamonds are Forever, Roger Moore stepped in becoming the third and most prolific James Bond.

Moore is loved by generations of fans for his lighter touch to the role, bringing with him a sense of fun and humour that has yet to be replicated. Whilst Moore is rarely given the top sport on 'Best Bonds' lists, he is universally loved by all fans of the series and holds a special place in the history of the franchise.

After retiring from the role of Bond, Moore began to involve himself with

UNICEF. He continued as an active and influential member of the charity right up until his passing in 2017.

#### Signing Habits

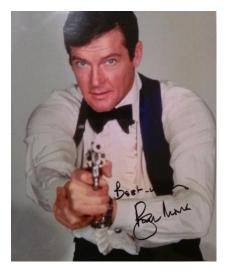


Sir Roger Moore was a generous and approachable signer who had no qualms signing for fans at almost any time, though in his last decade he did express frustration with people demanding multiple items be signed only so they could be resold on eBay.

Moore was a consistent signer and one of the very few celebrities who (since the ditching of a pronounced 'g' in Roger) always signed the same signature. There are no 'short' or 'full' versions. As such, any variations from the authentic examples provided on the next pages should be immediately avoided.

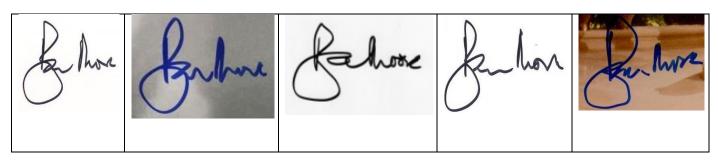
- Moore signed for Bondstars.com and they have plenty of guaranteed authentic signed photos for sale on their website. Up until his death they were priced at 85GBP including delivery, but have now risen to 160GBP. Moore signed these under the agreement that all profits go to UNICEF. In addition to his signings with Bondstars, Moore also signed for a variety of different charities, allowing them to auction off the signed memorabilia.
- Moore sporadically signed through the mail his entire career.
- Moore has also signed thousands of copies of his books: 'My Word is My Bond,' 'Bond on Bond' and 'Last Man Standing.'
- He has also signed numerous Rittenhouse Bond cards and Saint cards.

There is no shortage of authentic Sir Roger Moore autographs for sale and so there is no reason to take a risk when looking to buy one.



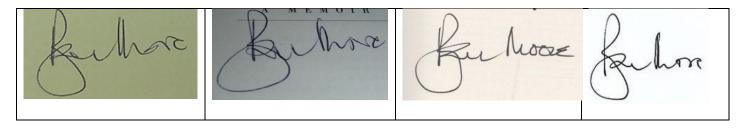
### Signed in marker

Five genuine examples of Moore's autograph signed in a variety of permanent markers. You'll notice that despite the minor variations, Moore forms each signature in exactly the same manner. The last two represent slightly more rushed examples, however, considering Moore will happily sign numerous photos for charity in a single session this is to be expected. There are no real 'variations' to Moore's signature and so, if you find an example that does not resemble these, it is probably a forgery.



### Signed in pen

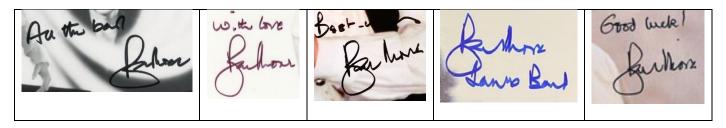
Once again we can see just how consistent a signer Moore is. It's actually quite nice to have Moore signing in pen as it reveals a little more definition to his signature than can be seen when signed with texta. The third example provides the neatest example of 'Moore' I've ever seen with each letter clearly defined. Note the variation in the size and shape of the loop beneath the R in Roger.



### With common inscriptions

For most of his career, Moore would regularly sign with inscriptions. He generally used the same inscriptions:

- All the best
- With love
- Love,
- Best wishes
- James Bond (rarely)
- Good luck!



#### With handwriting

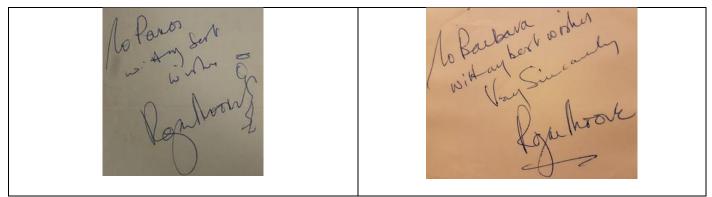
Here are three examples of Moore's handwriting. The first was written in the mid 1960's, the second and third examples in the 70s and the fourth example in 2014. During his run as the saint, Moore would often draw a little Saint caricature next to his autograph.

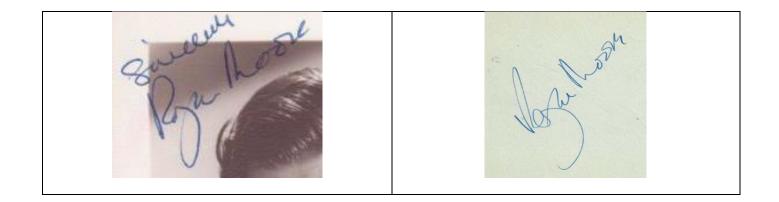
Who would have thought a man of Moore's means' favourite food would be baked beans on toast!

St Sapt. 1977 Kien de por nais - better AMPOBELL My favourite animal is. . . 200 My favourite food is... eans on Toasl My favourite movie is.. Lawrence wan My favourite music or sor My autograph... 10 photo

### Vintage

The rarest of Moore's signatures are these very early vintage examples. Characterised by the pronounced loop on the 'g'- a trait he ditched quickly and has never returned to.





# Timothy Dalton

Arguably the most simultaneously loved and hated Bond. Dalton got the role after Pierce Brosnan (who was meant to follow Roger Moore) had to pull out on account of a TV contact stipulation. Dalton embodied a darker, physical and more serious Bond that came as jarring to a generation raised on Roger Moore. The simple fact is, Dalton was closer to Fleming's Bond than almost any other both in look and demeanour. His first film, The Living Daylights is amongst the best constructed of all the films and his portrayal, ironically, set the stage for Daniel Craig almost twenty years later. Heading up only two films, many people assume Dalton quit and hated the role. Not the case. He was originally set to lead Goldeneye before prolonged delays and trivial legal matters made the wait simply untenable for the accomplished actor. Bowing out after two controversial films, Dalton would assume the 'black sheep' designation if it weren't for that pesky Australian. Either way, there a plenty that regard both he and his films in very high regard, this author being one.



Dalton looked like he both could, and would, kill. He threw himself into the stunts like no previous actor, and his films serve a beautiful dichotomy; The Living Daylights being the perfect Bond film and License to Kill, the perfect anti-Bond revenge thriller. Like Lazenby, any evaluation of Dalton's reign should finish with two words; if only.

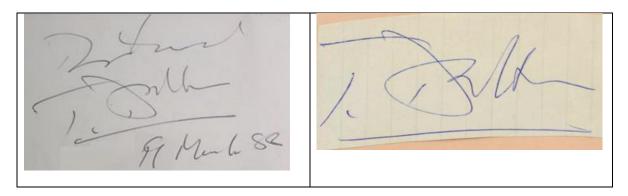
#### Signing Habits

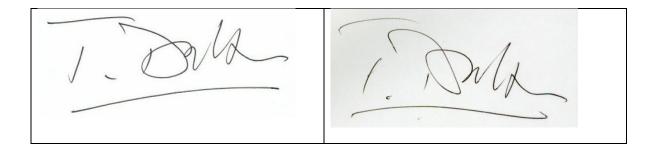
Dalton is a notorious non signer and fairly private. Most of his autographs in circulation come from the small profile shots he sporadically sends out through the mail. Many of these are authentically hand signed... however, of late he tends only to send out preprints with a brief note signed by his sister so it is worth familiarising yourself with these as shown below. These through-the-mail shots are not in short demand so don't pay too much. Signed Bond shots are extremely rare. The commonly floated story is that he refuses to sign Bond shots. I haven't been able to confirm this but the lack of authentic signed Bond shots seems to attest to it.

### Full signature

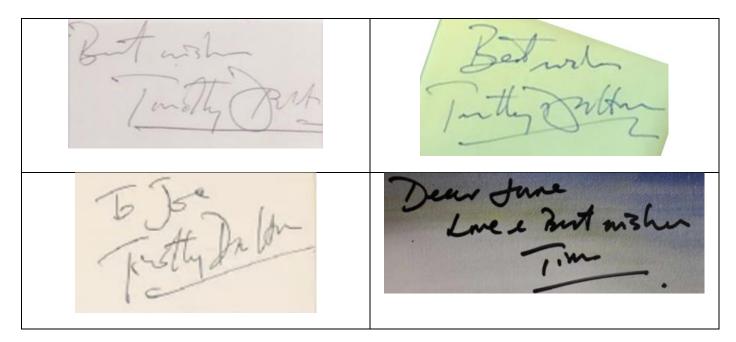


### Shortened

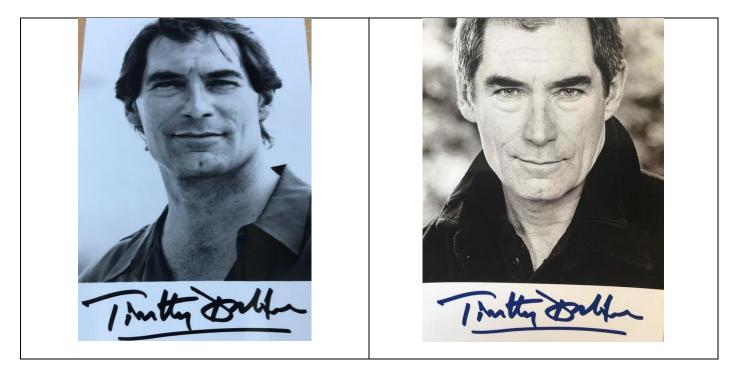




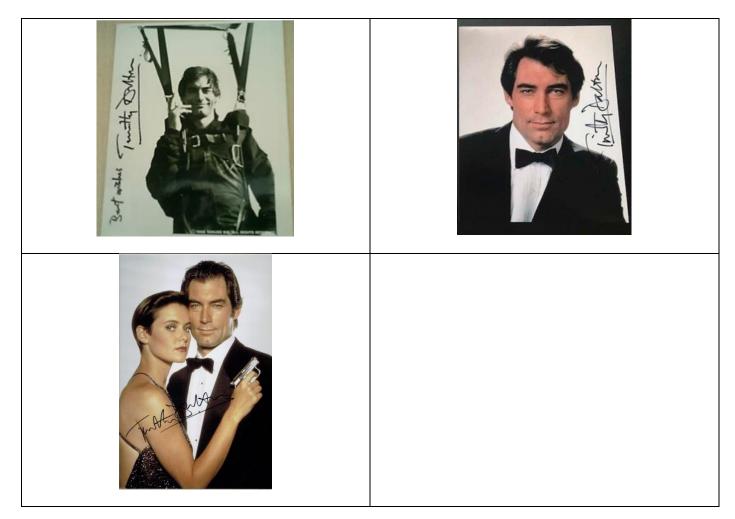
### With Inscription



#### **Common Preprint**



#### **Bond Shots**



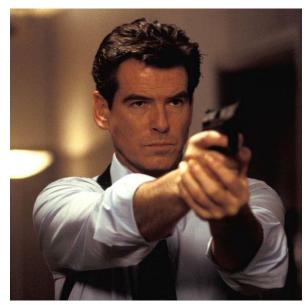
#### Handwriting

Den Mike. I Leuker for the low your welcome e of the maders and forfall your help. I fild the T.V. that you and Bill had really helped nuke my stay here in N.S. a memorable are - (Home they kept it in !!) - and its the writter. Es Many thember and hype to see ym agoin me day - maybe Labrader a the Maignerer. RS I'll cull the ships Very best and get Bills address Jim. from ym. T.

# Pierce Brosnan

Pierce Brosnan became James Bond for the second time in 1993. Previously, he scored the role following the departure of Roger Moore, but a binding TV contract prevented him assuming the role on camera at that time paving the way for Timothy Dalton.

Brosnan's time in the role is a mixed bag. It is almost universally agreed that he made for an excellent Bond, but the quality of his outings were inconsistent to say the least. Goldeneye, his first, ranks amongst the best of all the franchise, but his following three movies suffered from fantastical plot elements and poor writing. Regardless, Brosnan is either loved or highly respected by most fans.



#### Signing Habits

Brosnan is a very generous in-person signer. Unlike his predecessor he has no problem signing Bond material and is usually approachable. Brosnan has signed numerous releases of Rittenhouse cards, but as can be seen below, the quality is variable. Like most modern celebrities, he has several different variations of his signature. His 80s/early 90s signatures tend to be the nicest and legible, but it's fair to say even his scrawl is fairly attractive.

Of all the Bonds, Brosnan signs the largest in size. He regularly adorns his autographs with love hearts, peace symbols or his trademark 'life' inscription. Unlike other Bonds, Brosnan has no problem signing over his own face in images (something Connery would never do).

Brosnan will often sign through the mail if you managed to get your requests to the on-location production office of whatever film he is working on.

## Vintage (80s)



### With Handwriting

PIERCE BROSNAN LOVE John Husche I yew Q than 01 1 wohe ashul unc Q Thalilluit 108 inor

### Modern Signature



### **Rushed Modern**



**Modern Neat** 





## Signed Cards





# Daniel Craig

When I first saw Casino Royale in 2006 it changed my life. I'd always been a fan of the series and loved watching them with my father and grandfather. Casino Royale however, was different. I now wanted to *be* James Bond. Daniel Craig embodied a harder, stronger and more intense Bond than all before him. Like Dalton, Craig actually looked like he 'could', and 'would' kill someone.

Despite negative press in the lead up to the film (including the infamous Craigisnotbond website) Craig delivered a TKO with Casino Royale. His next film Quantum of Solace could have been an outstanding revenge thriller, but ultimately suffered from poor editing. His third entry 'Skyfall' became a franchise high point, though depicted a very different Bond. With the subsequent 'Spectre' lacking direction all eyes are on Craig's final entry 'No Time to Die' for both redemption and a satisfying end to the run of the longest serving James Bond.



#### Signing Habits

Craig has always been a generous signer. Whilst he may deny your request for a selfie (he personally hates them), he is generally happy to sign for fans provided the timing is appropriate.

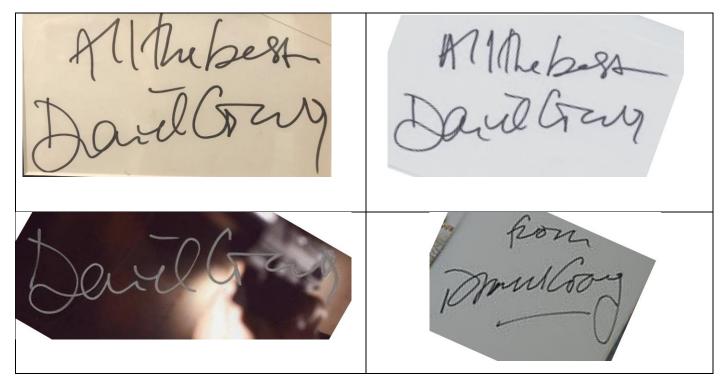
- In the past, Craig was prolific signer through the mail. Unfortunately this has since stopped.
- Craig has signed for Rittenhouse cards and Celebrity Authentics.
- Craig is a big supporter of charities and regularly donates items and signed memorabilia for auction.
- Craig has many different styles of signature and some are more desirable than others. The guide below should help to clarify.

### Full Signature Pre-Bond

Probably the nicest of Craig's signatures. This is the way he signed prior to becoming Bond. Since his celebrity has exploded he no longer signs this way so, if you find Quantum of Solace, Skyfall, Spectre or No Time to Die images

bearing this style- think carefully. I have seen a number of authentic Casino Royale signed photos in this style but they tended to be on early promo shots like that pictured to the right (and also seen as an exemplar in the Signed Photos section below). These autographs are characterised by their readability and both the rounded loop on the 'D' of Daniel and overall 'roundness' of each letter.

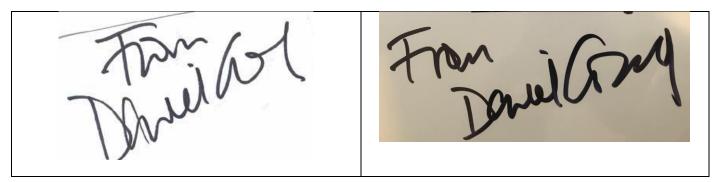


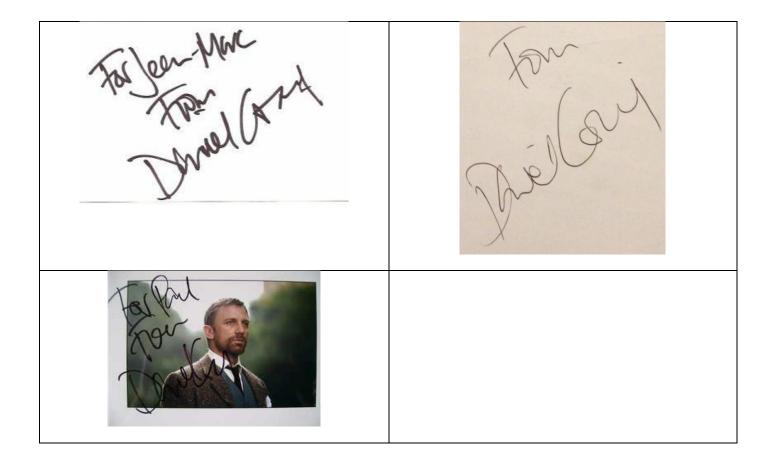


#### Full Signature Post-Bond

Again, a nice full signature this time signed during his early Bond era and extensively through the mail. You can see he has changed his signature to make it more fluid and quick. Notice the distinctive 'D' and raised 'a' of Daniel. The formation of his last name remains mostly consistent from his pre-Bond style. If you find a neat example like those below, they are quite visually appealing.

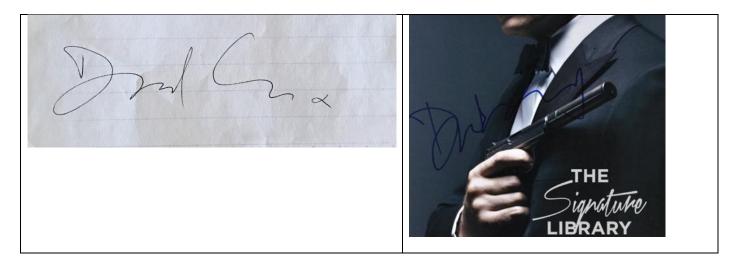
Be aware that the top left example is commonly used as a 'trace' for forgers so when authenticating this style of signature, always check that it doesn't exactly match this exemplar- one thing to look for in particular is the overly large 'a' in Daniel and shortened version of 'Craig'; this is a characteristic of this particular example and not consistent to this style.





#### **Shortened Variants**

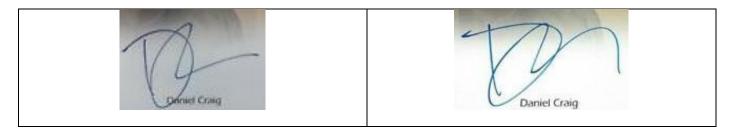
Generally speaking, if not completely swamped in public this is the style of signature you are likely to get from him. Longer than the infamous 'DC' autograph he favoured during the Quantum era but still not quite a complete signature. It became common in the Skyfall era onwards. There are varying version of this style all the way from mostly complete through to just a scrawl of his first name. Note that when Craig signed for Celebrity Authentics, all his signatures were basically his first name in this style.

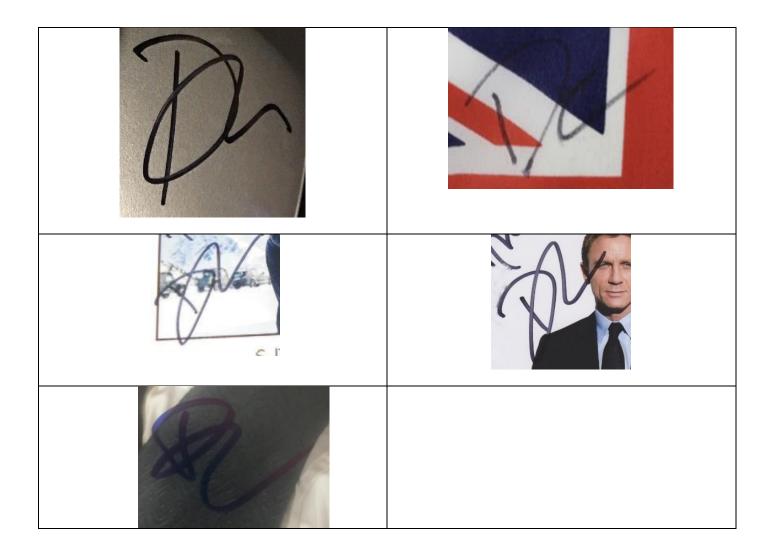




### The DC

The infamous 'DC' signature. If you catch Craig at a premiere or in a situation where he is signing for hundreds of fans, this is what you will likely get. Honestly it's unauthenticatable and not particularly visually appealing so unless you are lucky enough to obtain it in person (with which you will have the awesome memory), I'd suggest steering clear. There are unfortunately scores of fakes flooding the market of this style.

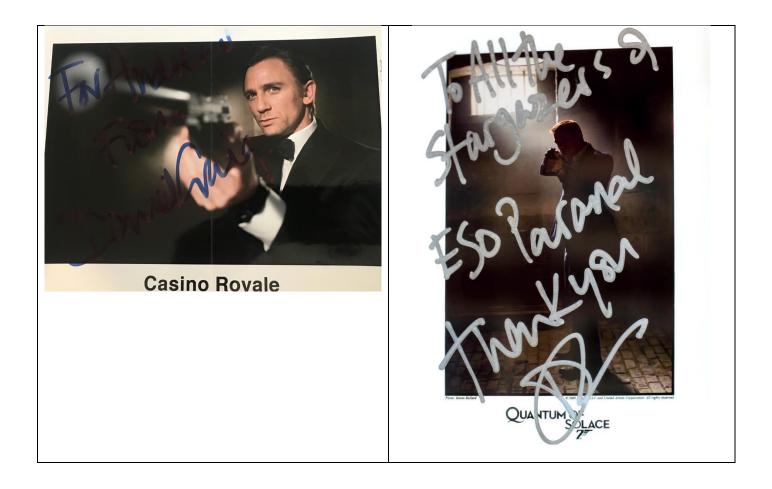




### **Signed With Inscription**

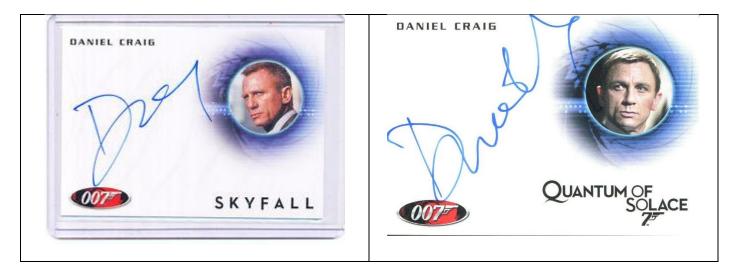
Craig regularly signs for charities and used to sign prolifically through the mail. The top two exemplars were provided directly by Craig to charities Wamcare and Action For Youth.





#### **Signed Cards**

Craig has signed for Rittenhouse cards. The quality of his signature varies greatly. Below represents some common exemplars of these cards. Note that the editions of cards that are portrait occasionally feature the 'DC' style as well as the Shortened style of signature.





#### **Fakes and Preprints**







As mentioned in the Full Signature Post –Bond section. Here are two very obvious forgeries mimicking the noted exemplar.



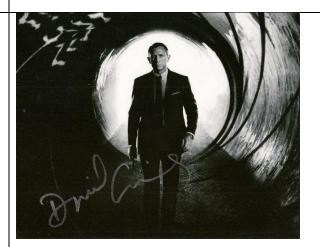
A forgery in the 'shortened' style.



Common modern Preprint.



Terrifyingly, these signatures raise the alarm bells as well. If you only saw one you would likely consider it genuine, however, when the same dealer has 20 of them you can see pattern. All are authenticated by a reputable TPA.



A forgery that appears to be based on a mixture of Full Signature styles.