

☕ **Mug Design Challenge** ☕



History of Drinking Vessels



- 10,000 BCE
 - First documented drinking vessels carved from bone and wood
- 5,000 - 4,000 BCE
 - Invention of the pottery wheel
 - First clay drinking vessels with handles
- 2,000 BCE
 - Mugs made from lead, bronze, silver & gold
- 600 BCE
 - Porcelain invented in China
- 1368-1644 CE
 - Ming Dynasty
 - Production of ornate porcelain teacups and teapots
- 1700s CE
 - Advances in manufacturing allows for porcelain teacups with integrated handles
- 1860s CE
 - British potter Harvey Adams invents the [Moustache Cup](#)
 - Prevented hot beverages from melting the user's moustache wax
- 1913 CE
 - William Stanley Jr. invents the Stanley Thermos
 - Vacuum insulated
 - Coffee cup integrated into lid
- 1940s CE
 - [Victor Insulators](#), a high-voltage porcelain insulator company, responds to a request from the US Navy for high-quality porcelain mugs for their ships
 - After WWII, Victor continues manufacturing the mugs, which become ubiquitous in diners across the country
- 1964 CE
 - 7-Eleven starts selling coffee to go
- 1984 CE
 - Jack Clements designs the [Solo Traveler](#) coffee cup lid
- 1992 CE
 - Matteo Thuss Designs the [illy espresso cup](#)

- illy creates the [illy Art Collection](#) featuring renowned artists, continuing to this day
- 1994 CE
 - Liebeck v. McDonald's Restaurants
 - Stella Liebeck is burned when attempting to open the lid of a hot cup of coffee served at a McDonalds drive-through
 - [Eventually awarded \\$640,000 in damages](#) for not being warned that the contents of the container were hot
- 2004
 - The Solo Traveler lid appears in [MoMA's Humble Masterpieces exhibit](#)
- 2014 CE
 - A single Ming Dynasty tea cup sold for \$36M
 - [Art collector promptly drinks world's most expensive cup of tea](#)
- 2016 CE
 - [Ember releases a "smart" temperature-controlled mug](#)
- 2018 CE
 - Louise Harpman and Scott Specht publish [Coffee Lids: Peel, Pinch, Pucker, Puncture: \(A design and field guide from the world's largest collection of disposable coffee lids\)](#)

[The Humble Mug: A Special Piece of History](#)
[History of the Coffee Mug](#)
[History of Coffee Mugs](#)
[The Mug](#)
[The Oldest Coffee Mugs in the World](#)

Iconic & Unique Mugs



[illy Espresso Cups](#)

[Victor Insulators "Naval Mug" / "Diner Mug"](#)

[BODUM® - Espresso Cup BISTRO - 2 Pieces Set 0.45 L](#)

[Stanley 1.5 qt Thermos](#)

[Yeti Rambler 30 oz Tumbler](#)

[World's Best Boss Dunder Mifflin Ceramic Mug, White 11 oz](#)

[Ember Mug² - Heated Coffee Mug](#)

[Color Changing Coffee Mug](#)

[Porter Ceramic Mug with Protective Silicone Sleeve](#)

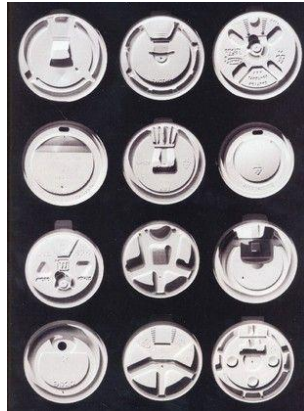
[Stojo Collapsible Silicone Coffee Mug](#)

[Ceramic Coffee Mug with Cork Bottom and Lid](#)

[Sweese Stackable Mugs](#)

[Cuppow Canning Jar Drinking Lid](#)

Travel Coffee Cups & Coffee Cup Lids



Since 7-Eleven started selling fresh hot coffee to go in 1964, Americans have been drinking coffee during their commute, but the experience wasn't always ideal. It was 11 years before the first lid that could be peeled back and attached to itself, and it wasn't until 1984 that the iconic Solo Traveler lid was invented. Today, somewhere around four billion cups of coffee are served per year between Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, and McDonalds alone.

Coffee cup lids are a great example of products that are so ubiquitous that they've become invisible to consumers until they're designed poorly. There are dozens of patents on coffee cup lids, all claiming to improve on design flaws of their predecessors, but the average person probably can't tell them apart. But bad designs are everywhere, and one poorly designed lid can ruin a shirt or a laptop, and change a consumer's future behavior. With the insane scale of modern manufacturing, billions of Starbucks' new "straw-free" lids will be made every year. Poor execution of this design process could have had a massive negative impact on the company's brand, their profits, and the environment.

Coffee cup lids are just one example of the subtly, and sometimes poorly, designed world around us. If we can think like a designer rather than a consumer, then we can observe and shape this world, improving the lives of those who live in it without some of them even noticing.

[The evolution of the coffee cup lid | Small Thing Big Idea. a TED series](#)

[The World's Largest Collection of Coffee Cup Lids](#)

[New York Times Magazine 'Who Made That Coffee Lid?'](#)

[From the 1960s to Today: The Hidden History of Coffee Cup Lids](#)

[9 Facts About Coffee Lids You Didn't Know You Needed](#)

[The Evolution of Lids](#)

[A Brief History of the Disposable Coffee Cup](#)

[The Hidden History of the Coffee Cup Lid](#)

[Decoding the Design History of Your Coffee Cup Lid](#)

