

**Q:** Were the images of influential men of the Roman Republic diffused via mediums other than sculpted heads or busts?

**A:** Yes. Realistic portraits of influential older men were also found on coins. In the first century BC, coinage started to be used as a way to honor the memory of influential families, as the busts and sculpted heads did.

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**Q:** Were any of these realistic Roman portraits produced before the first century BC?

**A:** Portrait statues were made throughout the Republican period. However, until the first century BC, they seem not to have reached the level of realism and emphasis on facial features that has become associated with Republican art.

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**Q:** How did Roman sculptors make Republican portraits so realistic when they were portraits of dead people?

**A:** Upper-class families of the Republic often made wax or plaster “death masks” of recently deceased family members. These death masks were models for many Republican portrait busts.

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