

☐ ***Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 13 No. 12*** ***(September 1953)***

Evaluation Date: April 9, 2026

Publisher: Dell Comics

Cover Price: 10¢

Format: Staple-bound comic magazine

Contents: Donald Duck lead story with additional Disney character stories

Cover Description: Donald Duck stands at a wash basin marked "MINE" and "THEIRS" while Huey, Dewey, and Louie peer through a window behind him, all set against a deep red background.

Summary of Observations

This copy of *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories* Vol. 13 No. 12 presents as a structurally intact example with strong visual appeal on the front cover. The cover retains vivid color saturation and high surface gloss, which is especially notable across the red background and character artwork. Structural elements—including spine, staples, and centerfold—remain present, with wear largely confined to predictable Golden Age handling and age-related material changes. Minor defects observed along the spine edge and staple areas do not appear to compromise overall attachment or integrity.

Interior pages are complete and readable, showing expected age toning into the cream to light tan range. Print quality remains strong, with clear linework and consistent color registration. Exterior staples show visible rust, which is externally apparent but does not display clear evidence of pull-through or paper loss in the provided images. The centerfold remains present and aligned. Brittleness testing indicates retained flexibility without visible fiber fracture. Overall, the comic presents as a solid example with strong eye appeal and manageable age-related wear concentrated at binding points.

FRONT COVER — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 13 No. 12 (September 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality (img_2741):

The image is sharp, evenly lit, and fully framed, showing the entire front cover including edges, corners, spine-side margin, and surface texture. Resolution is sufficient to assess gloss, color, wear, and minor edge defects.

Observations

The front cover retains strong color saturation, with the red background appearing rich and uniform. Donald Duck and Huey, Dewey, and Louie are sharply rendered, with clean outlines and stable ink. Surface gloss is high across most of the cover, reflecting light evenly. Minor wear is visible along the spine edge, including a small area of abrasion near the lower staple location measuring approximately **6–8 mm** in length. Corners show light rounding, estimated at **3–5 mm** inward, without paper loss. No large creases, stains, or moisture effects are visible.

- Strong color saturation across red background
- High retained surface gloss
- Minor spine-edge abrasion (~6–8 mm)
- Light corner rounding (~3–5 mm)
- No large creases or stains observed

Overall Impression

The front cover exhibits excellent visual appeal with high gloss and strong color, with only minor edge and binding-area wear.

BACK COVER — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 13 No. 12 (September 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality (img_2742):

The image is clear and evenly lit, fully capturing the back cover with edges and corners visible.

Observations

The back cover shows moderate, uniform toning consistent with age. Advertising imagery remains legible with no significant color loss. Light edge wear is visible, most notably along the spine side, with minor corner rounding estimated at **3–4 mm** inward. No writing, tape, or heavy staining is visible.

- Moderate uniform age-related toning
- Light spine-side edge wear
- Mild corner rounding (~3–4 mm)
- No writing or adhesive detected

Overall Impression

The back cover remains intact and presentable with normal Golden Age handling wear.

SPINE — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 13 No. 12 (September 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality (img_2750):

The spine image is clear and well lit, showing the full spine length and both staple locations.

Observations

The spine appears continuous with no visible splits. Slight surface wear is present along the fold, with localized discoloration near both staple areas. No pronounced spine roll is visible in the profile view. Paper remains intact along the spine edge.

- Continuous spine
- No spine splitting visible
- Light surface wear
- Localized discoloration near staples
- No pronounced roll observed

Overall Impression

The spine remains structurally sound with minor age-related wear localized at the staple positions.

UPPER STAPLE — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 13 No. 12 (September 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality (img_2751):

Macro image is sharp, evenly lit, and centered on the upper staple area.

Observations

The upper staple is present and embedded. Rust is visible on the exposed metal, with darkened oxidation apparent. Surrounding paper shows mild discoloration extending approximately **3–4 mm** outward from the staple crown. No tearing or pull-through is observed.

- Staple metal present
- Visible external rust
- Surrounding paper discoloration (~3–4 mm)
- No pull-through or tearing

Overall Impression

The upper staple shows age-related oxidation but remains seated and structurally intact.

LOWER STAPLE — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 13 No. 12 (September 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality (img_2752):

The macro image is clear and properly framed around the lower staple area.

Observations

The lower staple is present and similarly oxidized. Rust is visible on the metal, with slight paper darkening around the staple extending approximately **3–5 mm**. No paper tearing, migration holes, or detachment is visible.

- Staple metal present
- External rust visible
- Minor surrounding paper discoloration (~3–5 mm)
- Attachment intact

Overall Impression

The lower staple remains intact with oxidation consistent with age.

CENTERFOLD — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 13 No. 12 (September 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality (img_2748):

The image is in focus and evenly lit, clearly showing both centerfold pages and the gutter.

Observations

The centerfold is present and aligned. Staples are visible through the fold. Paper shows uniform toning but no splitting or tearing along the centerfold seam.

- Centerfold present
- Attached at both staples
- Uniform toning
- No splits or tears observed

Overall Impression

The centerfold appears securely attached with normal age-related toning.

INTERIOR PAGES — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 13 No. 12 (September 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality (img_2743–img_2747):

Images are sharp, evenly lit, and show full interior pages with margins and corners visible.

Observations

Interior pages exhibit cream to light tan paper coloration. Pages appear complete and readable. Light edge wear and occasional minor corner bends are visible, estimated at **2–3 mm** inward on select pages. No tears or clipped coupons are observed.

- Cream to light tan pages
- Pages complete
- Minor edge wear
- Small corner bends (~2–3 mm)
- Clear print and artwork

Overall Impression

Interior pages are well preserved with light handling wear consistent with age.

BRITTLENESS TEST — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 13 No. 12 (September 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality (img_2753):

The image clearly shows a page being flexed with underlying pages visible.

Observations

The page bends smoothly with good rebound. No visible fiber cracking, splitting, or flaking is present.

- Smooth flex
- Good rebound
- No visible fiber fracture

Overall Impression

Paper retains flexibility and does not exhibit brittle behavior.

INDICIA — OBSERVATIONS

- *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories*
- Vol. 13, No. 12
- September 1953
- Dell Publishing

CONSOLIDATED DEFECT LISTING

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 13 No. 12 (September 1953)

- External rust on both staples
- Localized paper discoloration around staple areas ($\approx 3\text{--}5$ mm)
- Minor spine-edge wear
- Light corner rounding
- Moderate back cover toning
- Light interior page toning