

**Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 16 No. 1
(October 1953)**

Evaluation Date: April 2, 2026



SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

This comic retains the front cover, back cover, centerfold, all photographed interior pages, and both original staples. The front cover exhibits strong remaining gloss and vivid color saturation. Interior pages show tan to light-tan paper coloration with clear artwork and legible text. The spine remains continuous and aligned.

Observed condition issues are primarily concentrated at the **spine edge** and **staple locations**, where **measured cracking, localized paper loss, and metal oxidation** are visible. Despite these defects, the binding remains intact, the centerfold is securely attached, and the paper demonstrates retained flexibility as observed during the brittleness test.

This issue is the **first issue of Volume 16**, marking the start of a new publishing year for *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories*. First issues of a volume are commonly noted by collectors for their position within a run and are frequently used as reference points when assembling complete volume sets

FRONT COVER — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 16 No. 1 (October 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality:

Clear, well-lit image showing the full front cover. The image depicts a single-panel cover illustration with Donald Duck working beneath a plumbing fixture while three nephews stand behind; the background is a solid blue field with tool illustrations and text blocks present.

Observations:

The front cover retains **high surface gloss**, visible as light reflection across the blue background field. Color saturation remains strong in the blue, red, yellow, white, and orange areas, with clean ink boundaries and no visible ink bleed.

Along the **spine edge**, multiple **vertical stress cracks** are visible. Individual cracks affect **approximately 2–6 mm of vertical length**, with several openings widening to **~1–2 mm**, exposing lighter underlying paper fibers. Near the mid-spine region, **localized paper loss** interrupts the fold, affecting **approximately 4–7 mm of spine length**.

The **bottom edge** shows light edge abrasion affecting **approximately 6–12 mm intermittently**, with surface thinning but no full-thickness loss. Corner rounding is present on all four corners. The **lower spine-side corner** shows rounding extending **~5–7 mm**, while the remaining corners show rounding of **~3–5 mm**, without fiber separation.

No diagonal creases or breaks extend into the main artwork field.

Overall Impression:

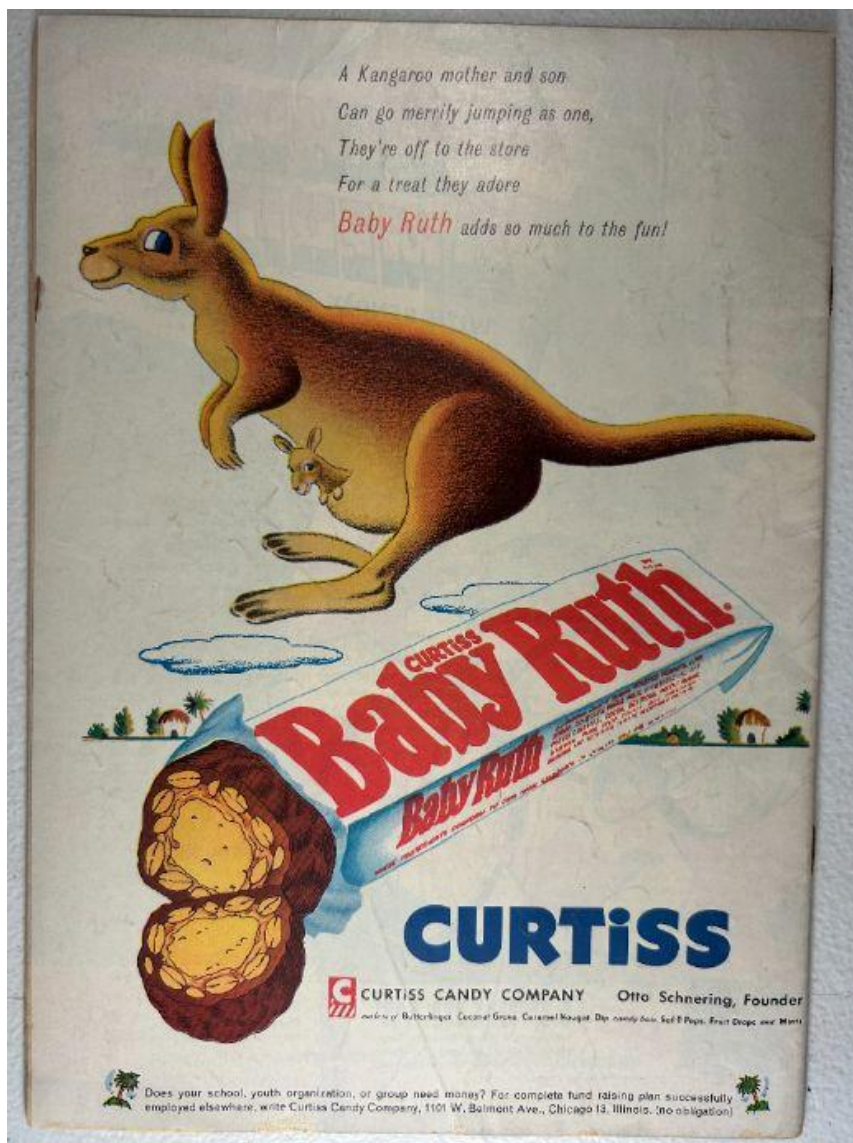
The front cover remains visually strong with **excellent color and gloss**, offset by **measured spine cracking and localized paper loss**.

BACK COVER — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 16 No. 1 (October 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality:

Clear image showing the full back cover advertisement. The image depicts a single advertisement layout featuring a large product illustration and text against a light background.



Observations:

The back cover remains intact with no large missing sections. The background paper shows **uniform tan toning**, darker near the outer edges. No defined tide lines, cockling, or paper distortion are visible.

Edge wear is present along the bottom and spine edges, affecting **approximately 5–15 mm intermittently**. Corners show rounding of **~4–6 mm**. Surface inspection shows light, evenly distributed surface soiling without localized dark spots or border-defined staining.

Overall Impression:

The back cover shows **uniform age toning and light handling wear**, with no evidence of moisture staining or structural loss.

INTERIOR PAGES — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 16 No. 1 (October 1953)



CENTERFOLD — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 16 No. 1 (October 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality:

Clear image showing the two facing centerfold pages with the central gutter visible. The image depicts a continuous comic sequence across both pages.



Observations:

Both original staples pass through the centerfold. The fold line shows **light compression** extending ~**1–2 mm** on either side. Staple perforations remain close to original size, with no enlargement exceeding ~**1 mm**. No tearing or paper loss is visible at the fold.

No rust staining or discoloration extends into the surrounding centerfold paper.

Overall Impression:

The centerfold remains **securely attached and structurally intact**.

SPINE — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 16 No. 1 (October 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality:

Side-profile image shows the full spine length resting on a rack, allowing clear view of alignment and surface wear.

**Observations:**

The spine is straight and continuous. **Multiple vertical cracks** are visible, each affecting ~**2–6 mm** of vertical length. One area of **paper loss** near the mid-spine affects ~**4–7 mm** of spine length. No complete spine splits are present.

Overall Impression:

The spine shows **measured cracking and localized loss**, while remaining structurally continuous.

UPPER STAPLE — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 16 No. 1 (October 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality:

Macro image showing the upper staple and surrounding paper fibers.



Observations:

The upper staple exhibits **moderate oxidation**, with darkened metal visible across much of the staple surface. Adjacent paper shows discoloration extending **~2–3 mm** from the staple crown. No tearing or slot enlargement beyond **~1 mm** is visible.

Overall Impression:

Upper staple remains functional with **oxidation and limited adjacent paper disturbance**.

LOWER STAPLE — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 16 No. 1 (October 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality:

Macro image clearly shows the lower staple and adjacent paper.



Observations:

The lower staple shows oxidation comparable to the upper staple. Surrounding paper remains intact, with no tearing or slot enlargement exceeding **~1 mm**.

Overall Impression:

Lower staple remains functional with **oxidation present and no structural compromise observed**.

BRITTLENESS TEST — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 16 No. 1 (October 1953)

Photo Condition & Quality:

Clear image showing a page corner flexed outward.



Observations:

The page corner flexes smoothly over an arc of **approximately 25–35 mm**. No audible cracking, fiber fracture, or flaking is visible. The page partially rebounds toward flat after release.

Overall Impression:

The paper is **not brittle** and retains good flexibility.