



Most Expensive...

Money may not be able to buy you love, but it can certainly buy a lot of other things. From polished diamonds to priceless works of art, towering feats of architecture to an extremely expensive cheese sandwich, here are some of the costliest objects on Earth... and beyond.

\$0-\$1,000

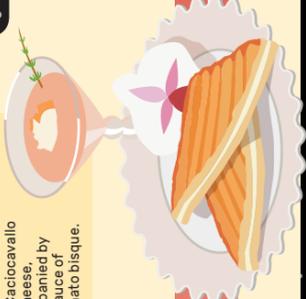
Cinema ticket \$17.91

In London, UK, the average price of cinema admission in 2016 was £12.19 (\$17.91), according to Mercer's annual Cost of Living survey.



Sandwich \$214

The "Quintessential Grilled Cheese" was selling for \$214 (£132.64) at Seaside City, NJ, in New York City, USA, as of 29 Oct 2014. It is served on French Pullman champagne bread with white truffle butter and ultra-rare Caciocavallo Podolico cheese.



and accompanied by a dipping sauce of lobster tomato bisque.

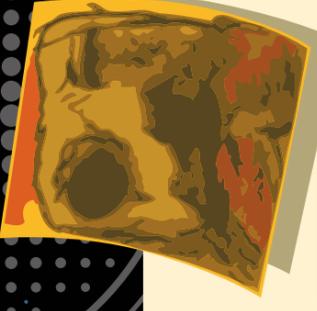
Chocolate bar (auction) \$687

A 100-year-old Cadbury's chocolate bar was bought for £470 (\$687) at auction on 25 Sep 2001. It had been taken on Captain Robert Scott's first expedition to the Antarctic in 1901-04 and remained wrapped inside a cigarette tin.



Post-it note (auction) \$940

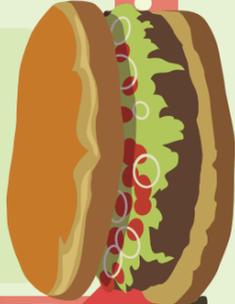
A Post-it note featuring the pastel-and-charcoal work *After Rembrandt* by R B Kilaj (USA) sold for £640 (\$940) at auctions on 13-20 Dec 2000. It was one of a series made by artists to celebrate the Post-it note's 20th anniversary.



\$1,000-\$500,000

Hamburger \$5,000

A 777-lb (352.44-kg) hamburger available on the menu at Quigg's Juicy's in Dallas, Texas, USA, was selling for \$5,000 (£3,115.87) as of 2 Jul 2011.



LEGO® brick \$12,500

On 3 Dec 2012, a 14-carat-gold LEGO brick was sold by collector website Brick Envy, Inc (USA) to an anonymous buyer for \$12,500 (£7,752). The 25.6-g (0.9-oz) brick was a gift given to long-serving LEGO staff between 1979 and 1981.



Sheepdog (auction) \$21,392

Owned by Padraig Doherty (IRL), Cap the border collie was bought aged 16 months for £14,805 (\$21,392) at auction in Southampton, North Yorkshire, UK, on 13 May 2016. Farm dogs that have been trained for herding usually sell for around £2,000 (\$2,890).



Pop-star outfit (auction) - \$300,000

A white peacock jumpsuit commissioned for Elvis Presley (USA) in 1973 and designed by Bill Belev was bought for \$300,000 (£153,560) by an American investor. The 2008 sale was held by online auctioneer gotthaveit.com.



Pigeon (auction) \$398,493

On 18 May 2013, pigeon breeder Leo Heremans (BEL) sold his "Big Pig" pigeon for \$398,493 (£201,490) at auction. The bird, named after multiple records, trained after master Uslin Bolt, was thought to have been used for breeding.



\$500,000-\$100 m

Guitar (auction) \$2.7 m

A Fender Stratocaster signed by a host of music legends fetched \$2.7 m (£1.6 m) at a charity auction on 17 Nov 2005. Stars who signed the guitar included Eric Clapton, Keith Richards and Brian May (all UK).



Wedding \$55 m

In 2004, Vanisha Mittal and Amit Bhatia were married at a six-day event in Versailles, France, at a cost of \$55 m (£28.5 m) - paid by Vanisha's billionaire father Lakshmi. Performers at the reception included Shah Rukh Khan and Kylie Minogue.



Work by a living artist (auction) \$56.4 m

On 12 Nov 2013, *Balloon Dog (Orange)* by Jeff Koons (USA), b. 21 Jan 1955) was sold in New York City, USA, for \$56.4 m (£36.4 m). The 12-ft-high (3.6-m) stainless-steel sculpture was bought anonymously.



Jewel (auction) \$71.2 m

The Pink Star, an oval-shaped 59.6-carat diamond, was sold for \$71.2 m (£56.8 m) at a Sotheby's auction in Hong Kong on 4 Apr 2017. Found in an African mine in 1999, it is the largest polished diamond in its class to be auctioned.



\$100 m-\$500 m

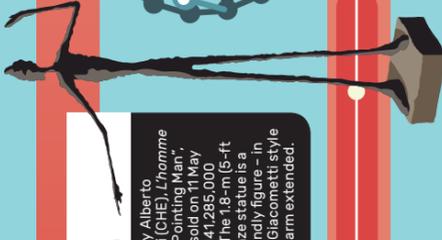
Soccer player \$116.4 m

On 9 Aug 2016, Manchester United (UK) signed French midfielder Paul Pogba from Juventus (ITA) for €105 m (£89.1 m). Pogba had previously been a youth player at United, before leaving for the Turin giants in 2012.



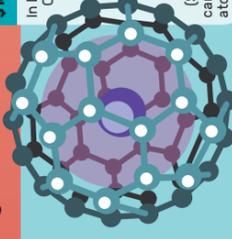
Sculpture (auction) \$141.28 m

Sculpted by Alberto Giacometti (CHE), *L'homme assis* ("Pointing Man", 1947) was sold on 11 May 2015 for \$141,285,000 (£91.4 m). The 1.8-m (5-ft) tall and spindly figure - in trademark Giacometti style - with one arm extended.



Substance \$163 m

In Dec 2015, Designer Carbon Materials (UK) sold 200 micrograms of nitrogen-atom-based endohedral fullerenes for £22,000 (\$32,611) in Oxford, UK. At this price, a gram would have cost £110 m (\$163 m). The substance can be used in tiny atomic clocks.



Film \$425 m

Avatar (USA, 2009) had an estimated production budget of \$425 m (£261.3 m), according to The Numbers. During the making of his sci-fi epic, director James Cameron (CAN) pioneered the groundbreaking "Reality Camera System". The money proved to be a sound investment - as of 5 Apr 2017, *Avatar* had earned the highest box-office gross, raking in a colossal \$2.78 bn (£2,233 bn) worldwide.



Painting (private sale) \$300 m

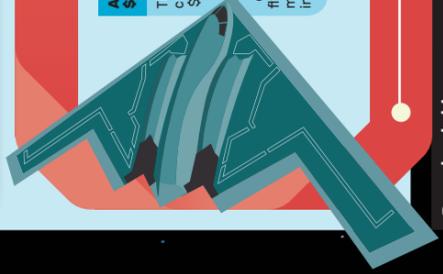
In Feb 2015, *Marée Faa Ipoipo* ("When Will You Marry?") (1892) by Paul Gauguin (FRA) reportedly fetched \$300 m (£197 m) in a private sale.



> \$500 m

Aircraft \$1.3 bn

The US-made B-2 Spirit cost in excess of \$1.3 bn (£780 m) per unit. A long-range multi-role bomber, the B-2 has special coatings and a flying-wing design that make the craft almost invisible to radar.



House built \$2 bn

Completed in 2010 at an estimated cost of \$2 bn (£1.29 bn), Antilia is a 27-storey personal skyscraper and the home of Indian businessman Mukesh Ambani in Mumbai, India. It has a total living floor area of 37,000 m² (400,000 sq ft) plus three helipads, a health spa and a theatre.



Warship \$13 bn

Scheduled for commission in 2017, the USS *Gerald R Ford* cost around \$13 bn (£10.1 bn). The supercarrier can launch up to 220 aircraft a day from its two runways. It will have 500 fewer crew than a Nimitz-class carrier, saving \$4 bn (£3.12 bn) during its lifetime.



Man-made object on Earth \$27 bn

The Itaipu hydroelectric dam on the Paraná River between Brazil and Paraguay cost \$27 bn (£20.2 bn) in 1984. Four dams joined together, its total length is 7,255 m (23,737 ft). In 2016, it generated 103.1 terrawatt-hours of energy.



Man-made object \$150 bn

Initial construction on the International Space Station ran from 1998 to 2011, with an estimated final cost of \$150 bn (£93.8 bn, €104.7 bn).

