

THE COMPOSITION OF OSCAR STATUETTES

The Academy Awards are coming up this weekend, and each of the winners will walk away with an Oscar statuette. Here's what they're made of!

COMPOSITION: PRE-2016

INTERIOR: BRITANNIUM

Sn

TIN

93%

Sb

ANTIMONY

5%

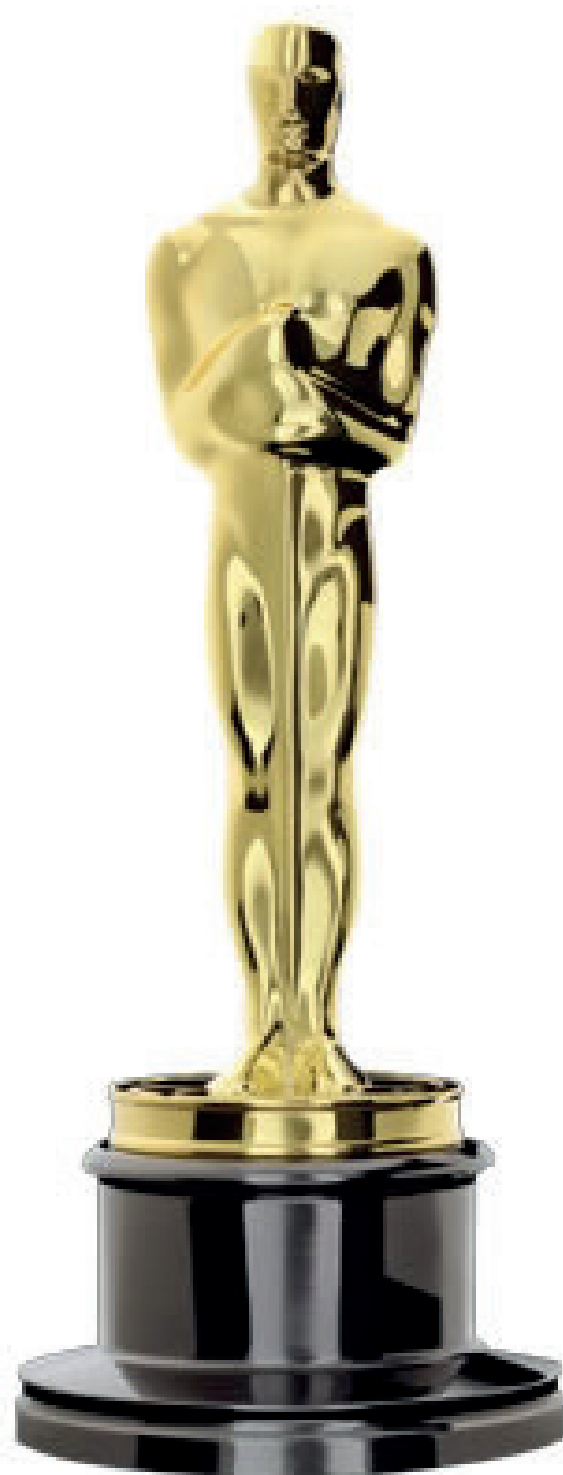
Cu

COPPER

2%

EXTERIOR: 24-KARAT GOLD

Before the 2016 awards, the Oscar statuettes were made from britannium, an alloy of tin, antimony and copper. This was then electroplated with copper, nickel, silver, and finally 24-karat gold. The statuettes were made from plaster for three years during World War II due to metal shortages, but winners later received the usual gold statuettes.



COMPOSITION: 2016-PRESENT

INTERIOR: BRONZE

Cu

COPPER

88%

Sn

TIN

12%

Al
Ni Mn
Zn

OTHERS

TRACE

EXTERIOR: 24-KARAT GOLD

Since 2016 the Oscar statuettes have been cast in bronze (an alloy consisting of copper, tin, and often very small amounts of other metals) then coated in 24-karat gold. This is a reversion to their original composition; for the initial awards ceremonies, after the Oscars were founded in 1929, gold-coated bronze statues were awarded before the switch to britannium.



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