

## ANIME FIGURE REVIEW: Bleach Characters 2 Trading Figures from Bandai

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Product Information Series: Bleach Product Type: Trading Figures Manufacturer: Bandai Year of Release: 2005 MSRP: 2,000  
¥NAF Scorecard Craftsmanship: A Representation: A Creativity: B+ NAF Recommendation: Must Buy!

The NAF Score Card Guide

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This Bandai gashapon collection includes Ichigo Kurosaki, Orihime Inoue, Byakuya Kuchiki, and Kisuke Urahara. They stand at approximately 5 1/2 inches tall!

Unlike the Bleach Real Collection, the Bleach Characters 2 series will impress you with its superior quality. The boxes are humongous, even for trading figures, and heavy too. Bandai makes heavy use of ABS for the cloaks (pic 2; pic 3), the head (pic 4), torso (pic 5), and pants (pic 6).

The paint job is excellent. Bandai pays plenty of extra attention to small details, such as the blood on Ichigo's hand (pic 7) and the wrinkles on the cloaks (pic 8).

Because the figures are so heavy, the stands that come with these figures are specialized. Each stand is tailor made to a specific figure. The black stand, aside from Ichigo's, has "foot imprints" (pic 9). In addition, there are unpainted ABS pieces that are molded perfectly, so that the pants of the figures rest on top of them, and provide additional support for the figures (pic 10). This is an innovative feature that we hope all manufacturers will adopt as a standard practice for their higher end trading figure releases.

In addition, Bandai included paper sleeves for Ichigo's and Byakuya's swords (pic 11). These sleeves prevent the swords from bending out of shape, a common occurrence unfortunately, particularly for gashapon figures. Bandai deserves a hearty praise for this feature as well.

Bleach Characters 2 Trading Figures from Bandai redefine the standards of excellence for trading figures. This release is a MUST BUY for all Japanese anime figure hobbyists!

Search for Bleach figure on Ebay!