

☐ **Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 75 – September 1954**

Evaluation Date: April 8, 2026

Publisher: Dell Comics

Cover Price: 10¢

Format: Staple-bound, 52-page comic magazine

Contents: Little Lulu stories and features

Cover Description: Little Lulu and three other children stand closely together sharing a multi-scoop ice-cream cone, set against a bright yellow background.

Summary of Observations

The comic presents as a complete, intact example with all major structural components present, including front and back covers, inside front cover, original staples, centerfold, and a full interior page set. Overall condition reflects moderate, age-consistent wear typical of mid-1950s Dell paper stock. The primary condition issue is a pronounced spine roll, while the spine surface itself remains visually clean with minimal stress damage. Cover surfaces show reduced gloss with light scuffing, edge wear, and corner rounding. Interior pages exhibit uniform toning to a cream/light tan hue with modest handling wear. Brittleness testing indicates mild age-related stiffness without visible fiber fracture. Structural integrity remains preserved throughout.

1. Front Cover Observations

Italic subtitle: Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 75 — September 1954

Photo Validation (img_1496)

- Image is evenly lit and in sharp focus.
- Entire cover, including edges, corners, and spine side, is visible.
- Resolution sufficient for evaluating gloss, color strength, and surface wear.

Surface & Gloss

- Original cover gloss is present but muted across the yellow background.
- Light surface scuffing visible under angled lighting.

Color & Print Quality

- Yellow background remains vivid and evenly saturated.
- Character colors remain strong with no visible fading.
- Linework is crisp with no ink bleed or registration distortion.

Wear & Defects

- No significant creasing observed within the main cover field.
- Edge wear visible along all sides, slightly heavier along the spine edge.
- Corners show rounding without breaks or paper loss.
- No writing, stamps, or markings observed.

Overall Impression

The front cover remains visually appealing with strong color retention; wear is primarily limited to gloss reduction and edge handling.

2. Back Cover Observations

Italic subtitle: Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 75 — September 1954

Photo Validation (img_1497)

- Back cover fully visible and evenly framed.
- Image clarity adequate for assessing toning and edge wear.

Surface & Advertising Panel

- Features a subscription advertisement for Little Lulu Comics.
- Text and images remain clear and legible.
- Uniform age-related toning across the surface.

Wear & Defects

- Edge wear present, more evident along spine-side edge.
- Minor corner rounding observed.
- No tears, stains, writing, or perforations observed.

Overall Impression

Back cover condition is consistent with the front, maintaining structural soundness and legibility.

3. Inside Front Cover Observations

Italic subtitle: Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 75 — September 1954

Photo Validation (img_1498)

- Interior page fully visible with even lighting.
- Margins and gutter clearly captured.

Indicia (visible)

- *Marge's Little Lulu, Vol. 1, No. 75, September 1954.*
- Dell Publishing information printed and legible.

Paper Condition

- Paper toned to cream/light tan.
- Minor edge wear only; no writing or tearing observed.

Overall Impression

Inside front cover is clean, complete, and age-appropriate.

4. Spine Observations

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Photo Validation (img_1504)

- Spine photographed in profile with the book resting horizontally.
- Lighting and focus sufficient to assess spine shape, roll, and edge continuity.

Spine Structure

- The spine exhibits **pronounced roll**, with the front cover bowing outward when viewed from the side.
- Spine edge is continuous and unbroken across its full length.

Stress Lines

- No distinct horizontal or diagonal spine stress lines observed.
- No visible cracking, color break, or paper splitting along the spine fold.

Edge Condition

- Minor surface rubbing along spine ridge.
- No fraying, chipping, or separation visible.

Overall Impression

Spine displays significant roll as the primary condition issue but otherwise remains visually strong and structurally intact.

5. Staples Observations

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Photo Validation

- **Upper Staple (img_1505):** Staple crown and surrounding paper clearly visible.
- **Lower Staple (img_1506):** Staple crown and adjacent paper fully visible.
- Opposite-direction photography allows clear assessment of staple seating and paper condition.

Upper Staple

- Original staple present and correctly positioned.
- Light oxidation visible.
- Surrounding paper intact with no tearing, pull-through, or blow-out.
- No rust migration observed.

Lower Staple

- Original staple present and firmly seated.
- Light oxidation consistent with upper staple.
- Surrounding paper intact with no deformation.

Overall Impression

Staples are original, stable, and structurally sound with light age-appropriate oxidation only.

6. Centerfold Observations

Italic subtitle: Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 75 — September 1954

Photo Validation (img_1503)

- Centerfold spread clearly visible with staple attachments shown.
- Adequate clarity for fold assessment.

Attachment & Alignment

- Centerfold present, complete, and secured at both staples.
- Proper alignment maintained.

Fold Condition

- Light linear fold wear consistent with normal handling.
- No splitting or tearing observed.

Paper Condition

- Tone consistent with surrounding interior pages.
- No localized staining or discoloration observed.

Overall Impression

Centerfold is stable, intact, and age-appropriate.

7. Interior Pages Observations

Italic subtitle: Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 75 — September 1954

Photo Validation (img_1499–img_1502)

- Multiple interior pages shown with consistent lighting and focus.
- Panels, margins, and colors clearly visible.

Paper Color

- Cream to light tan (Overstreet: Cream/Tan)

General Condition

- Interior pages appear complete.
- Uniform toning present, slightly heavier at outer edges.
- No writing, coloring, stamps, tears, or clipped coupons observed.

Defects

- Minor edge fraying on select pages.
- Occasional small corner bends.

Print Quality

- Ink remains sharp.
- Color registration stable and consistent.

Overall Impression

Interior pages are well preserved for age with modest handling wear.

8. Brittleness Test Observations

Italic subtitle: Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 75 — September 1954

Photo Validation (img_1507)

- Page edge and flex position clearly visible.
- Lighting sufficient to observe fiber response.

Test Method (Visual Only)

- Brittleness assessed via observable flex response only.
- No sound-based cues referenced or inferred.

Paper Response

- Mild stiffness during flexing.
- Partial rebound observed after release.

Fiber Behavior

- No visible fiber cracking, splitting, or flaking.
- No micro-crumbling detected.

Overall Impression

Paper exhibits mild age-related brittleness typical of mid-1950s Dell interiors and remains stable under careful handling.

9. Consolidated Defect Listing

Italic subtitle: Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 75 — September 1954

- Pronounced spine roll
- Reduced original cover gloss
- Light surface scuffing on front cover
- Edge wear along all cover edges
- Corner rounding without paper loss
- Light oxidation on upper and lower staples
- Uniform interior paper toning
- Minor interior edge fraying
- Occasional small corner bends
- Mild age-related stiffness observed during brittleness testing