

2017-18 Panini Set of 509

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4 Key Rookie (RC) Stickers

Auston Matthews, Patrik Laine, Matthew Tkachuk and Jake Guentzel.

Sticker History from 2017-18 Panini

History for number of Foils in a set was made once again, for the second season in a row, as there were a mind blowing 173 foil stickers to collect. A mind blowing 34% of the set was foils! Included in this were 124 Superstar Foil stickers where three star players featured per team plus one sketch (except the newly formed Vegas Golden Knights who featured all 4 of their players as sketches). 9 Trophy winner foils, 2 All-Star Game foils, 2 Trophy foils, 5 Stanley Cup Champion Penguins related foils plus an additional 31 Team Logo foils. There were also 336 regular paper glossy style stickers.

I cracked open 72 boxes (3 cases) of 2017-18 NHL Panini Stickers. Here are the numbers:

I averaged 2 Foil Stickers in every 3 packs (33 a box). It would take you at least 5-6 boxes to get at least one of each Foil. Opening over 20 boxes, some stickers I only saw 3 of. It is very hard to assemble complete sets.

Considering that the price per box is about \$65 including shipping, realistically, it would take you about 4-5 boxes in order to make a complete set with a TON of doubles. That is a cost of \$225-\$280 for the average collector opening packages.

Panini keeps changing their website set up for Canada and the USA which makes it very confusing to order missing stickers. After 1 calendar year of being released, Panini's website doubles the price to collect "missing stickers".

This 2017-18 year celebrates 56 years of Panini making stickers and 30 years (1987-2017) of making NHL stickers. Making some stickers harder to pull from packs than others makes these more modern sets even more desirable to collect for hockey collectors.

Sticker Facts

The size of each full sticker is 6.9 cm X 4.9 cm (2.75 in X 1.9 in). There were 50 packages in each wax box, which originally retailed for \$1.50 a pack. Each package contained 7 stickers. The minimum number of packages needed to make a full set (assuming absolutely no doubles) is 73. There are two versions of the sticker album: one features all Canadian team players Rookie Patrik Laine along with a Rookie Auston Matthews, Connor McDavid, Erik Karlsson, Carey Price, Johnny Gaudreau and Bo Horvat. The other features American team players (Patrick Kane, Brent Burns, Alexander Ovechkin, Jack Eichel, Sidney Crosby) ALONG with (for the first time in a number of years) 2 Canadian team players on an American album: young superstars McDavid and Matthews.

The 2017 Stanley Cup winners were the Pittsburgh Penguins and Sidney Crosby who for the second year in a row won the Conn Smythe Trophy as the NHL Playoffs MVP.

Season Facts

This was the 100th season of operation of the NHL (99th of play). NHL players started wearing the 100th anniversary patch on their jerseys in January of 2017 and will continue to wear this patch going into the 2017-18 NHL season. Nico Hischier was the 1st overall draft pick and played for the New Jersey Devils in his first NHL season.

January of 2018 will start the celebration of 125 years of the Stanley Cup. Next season (2017-18) will be the NHL's 101st year in existence. In the 2016-17 NHL season, 4 of the Canadian teams qualified for the playoffs after being shut out the year before. This was the second year of 3 on 3 Overtime to settle a tie after regulation. The Edmonton Oilers storied franchise played its First NHL game at Rogers Place. Jaromir Jagr becomes the third player to score his 750th NHL goal behind only Howe and Gretzky. Jagr also moves into 2nd for

career points and reaches the 1900 point milestone.

Auston Matthews becomes the first player to ever score 4 goals in their debut. Marian Hossa becomes the 44th player to join the 500 goal club, while Patrick Marleau becomes the 45th player to join this elite group. Carey Price becomes the first player to ever win their first 10 games of a season. John Tortorella becomes the winningest American born coach in NHL history. Finally, Henrik Lundqvist becomes the winningest European born goalie in NHL history passing Czech legend Dominik Hasek.

Shane Doan, Bryan Bickell, Mike Fisher and Brian Campbell all retire from the NHL.

Expansion Notes

The Vegas Golden Knights join the Pacific Division as the NHL's record 31st NHL team for the 2017-18 NHL season.

