

2003 Sports Vault Version 2 Set of 300

2003-04 Sports Vault (Version Two) Set of 172 pieces (344 stickers)

4 Key Stickers

Patrick Roy, Mario Lemieux, Steve Yzerman and Mark Messier.

Sticker History

One of 2 licenses to make NHL hockey stickers for this year was given to Sports Vault (a Canadian company) and not to Panini. I first discovered these black sticker packages in the Game On Sports stores here in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The packages cost \$1.69 each back in 2003. I bought a few packages to see what the stickers looked like and was pleasantly surprised. The stickers are very thin and feature 300 different players (8 players plus 2 team logos times 30 teams). Here is the unique part of collecting these stickers: there are 2 stickers per card, each and every player is coupled twice throughout the set. There are 600 different physical combos of stickers and 300 unique halves in the set. There is no rhyme or reason as to how the stickers were coupled as it does not follow any kind of sequential pattern. These stickers were manufactured in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. I was able to source out a few boxes directly from Winnipeg; however the albums (originally priced at \$1.99 each) are a lot harder to find. Here's how I've numbered the stickers. There is a version 1 set of 172 pieces (includes 44 doubles). There is a version 2 set of 172 pieces (also includes 44 doubles). When making up the version 1 and version 2 sets, the LEAST number of pieces I needed to make a set was 172. The idea

behind version 1 and version 2 is to use different stickers to make up a full set and so that I wasn't always using the same stickers (which I'd eventually run out of) to make sure there was at least one of each player included in the set. There is also the Master set which is actually a double set (300 pieces but 600 stickers) where each player is featured twice (no triples).

Sticker Facts

The size of each sticker was about about 5.6 cm X 8.9 cm (2.2 in X 3.5 in). The album made for this set featured: Martin Brodeur, Jarome Iginla, Mario Lemieux, Joe Sakic, Jose Theodore and Steve Yzerman.