

# **1987-88 Topps Insert Master Set of 40**

## **1987-88 Topps Master Set of 40 (loose stickers)**

### **4 Key Stickers**

Wayne Gretzky, Ray Bourque, Luc Robitaille and the Flyers Logo with Helmet Stickers.

### **Sticker History**

This was the 3rd year that Topps decided to put out an All Star Insert sticker set along with team logos and helmet sticker numbers. This Topps Sticker insert set was commonly referred to as the “Stick Year” set as the design boasted an old school wooden hockey stick that featured the All Star’s name on it. On some All Stars from this set, you can see what look to be very faint roller marks from the factory. These can only be seen when you shine it in the light but were very common for these stickers. All Stars without these factory markings do command a premium. These inserts were the same size as your standard hockey card. Only the Topps NHL Hockey card packages from 1987 contained one of these inserts in each pack. There were 12 All Stars in this set numbered #1-12 and there were 21 NHL teams represented and they were numbered #13-33. There were variations of stickers #27-33 where the logo and helmet stickers alternate from top and bottom.

The 7 variations are found on #27 Devils, #28 Blues, #29 North Stars, #30 Capitals, #31 Bruins, #32 Islanders and #33 Oilers. 1 logo or player All Star per 1986 Topps hockey card package. These were not put into the O-Pee-Chee

hockey card packages. In most guides it says that there are 33 stickers, however, with the 7 logo variations, there are really 40 stickers in this set. All of the 40 stickers were stamped with 1987 Topps on the back and the 12 All Stars were identified with either First Team or Second Team All Star selections.

Here is the frequency of appearance of the different helmet sticker digits and sticker pucks. The #1 appears 5 times, #2 appears 6 times, #3 appears 5 times, #4 appears 6 times, #5 appears 2 times, #6 appears 4 times, #7 appears 6 times, #8 appears 4 times, #9 appears 6 times and #0 appears 3 times. Sets of 3 sticker pucks appear on 8 total cards so 24 little sticker pucks are available in this set. The toughest digit to find in this set is the “5”, the second rarest digit to find is the “0”.

The backs of the 1987 stickers are mostly red whereas the backs of the 1986 stickers are mostly blue.

Both 1986 and 1987 stickers have a glossy finish on the backs.

The #17 Rangers and #26 Flyers stickers are the only ones that are exactly the same with an “R” for Registered Trademark from 1986 and 1987.

The #25 Whalers sticker has green “R” for Registered Trademark in 1986 but a black “R” for Registered Trademark in 1987.

The #23 Canadiens has a red “R” for Registered Trademark in 1986 but in 1987 has blue “R” for Registered Trademark

instead.

The #20 Nordiques has a “C” for Copyright in 1986 but an “R” for Registered Trademark in 1987.

The #18 Flames from 1986 has an “R” for Registered Trademark, but in 1987 has “TM” for Trademark.

The other 15 logos in 1987 #13 Maple Leafs, #14 Sabres, #15 Red Wings, #16 Penguins, #19 Jets, #21 Blackhawks, #22 Kings, #24 Canucks, #27 Devils, #28 Blues, #29 North Stars, #30 Capitals, #31 Bruins, #32 Islanders, #33 Oilers In 1987 NOW have an R beside them as registered trademarks.

The backs of the 1987 and 1988 logo stickers are exactly the same. For both 1987 and 1988, Topps used sticker logo inserts #13-33 with only the 1987 stamp on them.

There are no 1988 stamped #13-33 logos that exist. Both 1987 and 1988 stickers have a glossy finish on the backs.

The All Star stickers #1-12 show different players from 1987 to 1988.

The Flames #18 has a “TM” for Trademark.

The other 20 teams now all have an “R” for Registered Trademark in 1987.

None of the 21 logos are missing an “R” for Registered Trademark or a “TM” for Trademark.

### **Sticker Facts**

The size of each sticker was about about 8.9 cm X 6.4 cm (3.5 in X 2.5 in). There was no album made for this set.