

1989-90 Topps Insert Master Set of 40

1989-90 Topps Master Set of 40 (loose stickers)

4 Key Stickers

Wayne Gretzky, Patrick Roy, Mario Lemieux and the Flyers Logo with Helmet Stickers.

Sticker History

This was the 5th and final year that Topps decided to put out an All Star Insert sticker set along with team logos and helmet sticker numbers. These inserts were the same size as your standard hockey card. Only the Topps NHL Hockey card packages from 1989 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. In most guides it says that there are 33 stickers, however, with the 7 logo variations, there are really 40 stickers in this set. These were not put into the O-Pee-Chee hockey card packages. All of the 12 All Star stickers were stamped with 1989 Topps on the back and 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 most obvious difference between the 1988 and the 1989 Topps insert sets are that the numbers are Red on the inside with a blue outline in 1989 whereas the numbers are blue on the inside and red on the outside in 1988 (in fact the same as in 1985, 1986, 1987 as well).

Sticker #15 Red Wings for the 1989 logo was more diagonal and white on top with more red on bottom whereas the 1988 (stamped as 1987) logo is more horizontal and red on top with more white on bottom.

On the #16 Penguins sticker in 1989, the “R” for Registered Trademark is on the left side whereas in 1988 (stamped as 1987) it is on the right hand side.

For the #18 Flames Insert sticker in 1988 (stamped as 1987) there is a “TM” logo for Trademark and logo has the red yellow red color scheme, whereas in 1989 the logo is just yellow outlined with red and an “R” for Registered Trademark.

The #21 Hawks logo in 1988 (stamped as 1987) had black facepaint, a black earring, feathers that are red, green, gold and orange with a black outline in the feathers. However, The Blackhawks logo in 1989 had red and white facepaint on

the face, a red earring, feathers that are red, green, gold and orange but with white/blue, gold, black and white outlines (respectively) in the feathers.

The #22 Kings logo went from purple and gold in 1988 (stamped as 1987) with an “R” for Registered Trademark to silver and black in 1989 (ready for the arrival of Wayne Gretzky) with a “TM” for Trademark.

The #30 Capitals logo in 1988 (stamped as 1987) the “R” for Registered Trademark is under the “C” in Capitals, whereas in 1989, the “R” for Registered Trademark is under the “I”.

For the #32 Islanders sticker, the puck in the logo in 1988 (stamped as 1987) changed from being white with a touch of blue to the puck in the logo being white on top and orange on the bottom in 1989.

The #33 Oilers sticker had an “R” for Registered Trademark in 1988 (stamped as 1987) whereas in 1989 it had a “TM” for Trademark.

The #28 Blues logo changed altogether. In 1988 (stamped as 1987), the large word “Blues” was written on top of a small musical note that has “St. Louis” written on the top line of it. In 1989, the small musical note got enlarged and the word “Blues” was gone from the logo.

The Kings (new logo) #22 and the Oilers logo #33 both have a “TM” for Trademark near their logo.

The other 19 teams all have an “R” for Registered Trademark in 1989.

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.