

2022-23 Topps Set of 689

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4 Key Rookie (RC) Stickers

Matty Beniers, Cole Caufield, Cole Perfetti and Moritz Seider.

Sticker History from 2022-23 Topps

This is the Largest (3rd year in a row) NHL Hockey stickers set of all time at 689 stickers in this year's set. Topps in its 4th year taking over from Panini as the official provider of NHL Hockey Stickers after Panini's 14 year run of producing stickers from 2004-2018. (Panini did not produce NHL stickers in 2007)

Yet again, a large number of sought after foils in a set with 140 different foil stickers to collect (down from 159 from last year).

A mind blowing 20.3% of the set was foils! So Foils for this year were just a little more than 1 in 5 stickers in the set, and were in packs at a ratio of 1 in 5 stickers per pack.

Included in these 140 Foils were: 67 Superstar Foil stickers where two or three star players were featured per team, 29 Foil Team Mascots. The teams that did not have a mascot featured were the Red Wings, Rangers and Kraken. The Wings, Rangers and Kraken featured an extra superstar instead of a mascot. There were 32 Team Logo Foils, 6 Ice Vibrations (Best Player Foils) and a 6 Piece Stanley Cup Trophy Puzzle. There were also 549 regular paper glossy style stickers (which accounted for 79.7% of the set).

Also of note is the fact that once again, 4 stickers were COMPLETE VARIATIONS of 4 stickers in from the album and ONLY available exclusively as an album insert. Stickers #41, 244, 295 and 484 showed a variant picture on the album panel. I've "personally" numbered them (680-683). These 4 stickers were NOT available in packs.

In addition to the 4 Variation Exclusive “album only” stickers, there were 6 other SLIGHT VARIANT stickers on this “album panel”. These 6 stickers are :#95, 159, 211, 219, 450 and 470. Sticker #95 was a slight reduction but the exact same picture, #211 was the slightest reduction and also the exact same picture. #159 and #219 were the exact same picture except the ones on the album panel were slight enlargements. Sticker #450 was an obvious enlargement. Sticker #470 was the slightest enlargement. I've “personally” numbered these as (684-689).

We cracked open 64 boxes (4 cases) of 2022-23 NHL Topps Stickers. Here are the numbers:

Topps inserted ONLY one Foil Sticker in every pack (50 a box). It would take you at least 7-8 boxes to get at least one of each Foil (there are a lot of doubles). Opening over 24 boxes, some stickers I only saw 3 of. It is extremely hard to assemble complete sets from this series.

Considering that the price per box is about \$65 including shipping, realistically, it would take you

about 6-7 boxes in order to make a complete set with a TON of doubles. That is a cost of \$325-\$390 for the average collector opening packages.

Topps.com and their reps at the National Sports Card Expo in November of 2019, made it clear that the company DOES NOT provide an opportunity to order missing stickers (as Panini did). They actually recommended I go to the secondary market or open more packs as the only way to complete my set. Realistically, it's more fun opening packs anyway.

This 2022-23 year of Topps celebrates the 4th Year of Topps getting back into the hockey stickers market. Last seen briefly in 2003 (as a mini stickers set) and then before that, in 1999 and 1997 making NHL sticker re-useable decal sheets, then before that, Topps insert stickers (in hockey card packs) from 1985-1989, then from 1982 and 1983 (Topps made NHL packs of stickers and albums) as they are doing again today

Sticker Facts

The size of each full sticker is 7.3 cm X 5.3 cm (2.88 in X 2.1 in). There were 50 packages in each wax box, which originally retailed for \$1.50 a pack. Each package contained 5 stickers (which included 1 of the 140 foils per package). The minimum number of packages needed to make a full set (assuming absolutely no doubles) is again, an NHL stickers record of 136. Remember, as noted above, there are 4 Variation stickers ONLY found in the album. There is ONLY one version of the sticker album: the cover features Kirill Kaprizov, Connor McDavid Aleksander Barkov, Trevor Zegras, Steven Stamkos and Auston Matthews,.

The 2022 Stanley Cup winners were the Colorado Avalanche and Cale Makar won the Conn Smythe Trophy as the NHL Playoffs MVP.

Season Facts

This was the 105th season of operation of the NHL (104th of play). In 2022, Juraj Slafkovsky was the 1st overall draft pick and played for the Montreal Canadiens in his first NHL season.

From the 2021-22 NHL season: Toronto Maple Leafs forward Auston Matthews won his 1st Hart Memorial Trophy and 1st Ted Lindsay Award of his career.

Expansion Notes

The Seattle Kraken were full fledged members of the NHL in the 2021-22 season. The Seattle Kraken played in the Pacific Division.