

Leatherettes...or What the Heck is This?

Well, first off, you'll probably notice pretty quickly that it's no use running pictures of such covers because the identifying feature of Leatherettes is the *texture*. They feel and look like leather. Somehow, photocopying the covers just doesn't pick up that quality!

They can be very attractive covers, although not necessarily in a showy fashion. Like leather, they exude a quality of luxury and elegance. Not surprisingly, most are brown, but there are other colors (white, black, gray, yellow). Size-wise, I can only judge by my own collection: I have 4 20-strikes, 26 30-strikes, 1 40-strike, and 1 box.

Almost all carry manumarks from novelty or advertising companies, although I have two early ones by Monarch Match Co., and the box is by Universal (from Japan).

There are very few of them around. I only know of the 32 I have. There's no listing on this type of cover. It's a small category and would be easy to maintain if anyone would care to do it. Such small categories are very popular with collectors; almost all have their little pet topics for any number of reasons.