

THOSE GOLDEN OLDIES!

by
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Ace Match Corp. - 1936-dissolved 1957, but production stopped long before that; I've never even seen one of these covers!

Acme Match Corp. - 1920s-1931; originally Acme Match Co. Very rare; only 23 are currently listed. Also look for **Acme Quality** (footer).

Acorn Match Co. - 1920s; very rare; 4 currently listed.

Advertizit Match Co - 1938-1940; 447 currently listed.

American Match Co. - 1920s-1930s. This is the original, not the later, similarly named, company. 81 currently listed; also look for **Safety First** (footer; 8 currently listed) and **American Quality** (footer; 37 currently listed).

Approved Match No. 7 - 1910-1916; early Diamond manumark; 34 currently listed...*Good luck!*

Art Match Co. - 1920s-1935; 52 currently listed. Also look for **Art Match Quality** (footer; 11 currently listed) and **Safety First** (footer; 12 listed).

Atlantic Match Co. - early 1930s-1937; 26 currently

listed.

Atlas Match Co. - 1932-1937 (not related to current Texas company); 114 currently listed.

Blot-R-Match - Union Match Co. trademark; 1928-1938; 117 currently listed.

Book Match Co. - 1929-1933; 105 currently listed.

Chapman Match Co. - c.1930s-c.1940s; 181 covers currently listed.

Cincinnati Match Co. - c.1940s; 9 currently listed

Circle Match Co. - c.1920s; 3 currently listed.

Cleveland Match Co. c.1920s; I haven't seen any.

Clover Farm Quality - c. 1935; rare Diamond footer; few known. I've only seen one.

Coast Book Match Co. - c.1920s; 45 currently listed.

Colgate - 1930s; Diamond covers designed by Wm. Colgate. These are Group I covers—old,

difficult to obtain, and always in demand.

Collegiate Match Co. - 1920s; few known.

Columbia Match Co. - 1915-1930s; not related to later OH company; 93 XL currently listed.

Continental Match Co. - 1936-1944; not the later Lion subsidiary; 19 covers currently listed.

Crown Match Co. - 1933-1942; one of the great classics of the industry; very highly sought-after; 3,223 covers currently listed.

Diamond Match Co - Look for: **Safety First** (1915-1918; footer; 372 listed); **Diamond Match** (1920-1923; footer; 78 currently listed); **Diamond Quality** (1923-1935; footer; best known of the great classics; 4,014 currently listed)

Douglas - early 1940s; appears as a manumark, but it's unclear if this was a match company; 75 currently listed.

Eddy Match Co. - Look for **Eddy Quality** (1930s; footer; 128 currently listed).

Empire Book Match Co./Empire Match Co - (1920s-1930s. 24 currently listed). Also look for: **Empire Quality** (1920s-1930s; footer; 10 currently listed); **Empress Quality** (1930s; footer; 1 currently listed; unclear if this is an Empire cover).

Federal Match Co. - 1923-1942 (later Federal Match Corp.); one of the best known and most popular types of oldies; 3,585 currently listed.

Florida Match Co. - ?-1936; 4 currently listed.

Gem Match Co. - c.1935-c.1941; 208 covers currently listed.

General Match Co. - 1890-c.1951; 186 covers currently listed.

Gopher Match Co. - c. late 1920s; 26 currently listed (possibly a lion subsidiary).

Green Hat - 1926-c.1927; Albert Pick Hotels

trademark made by Lion; 97 currently listed.

Group I - 1930s Diamond sets w/no advertising; highly regarded, much sought-after; at least 1,500 covers exist.

Hamilton Match Co. - 1939-1946; 42 currently listed (may be a subsidiary of General Match Co.).

Hellman Match Co. - 1933-1934; 17 currently listed.

Hercules Match Co. - Pre-War; 9 currently listed. Also look for **Safety First** and **Hercules Match** footers.

Imprint Book Match Co. - c.1930s; 29 covers currently listed.

Jersey Match Co. - 1935-1948; well-known, highly sought-after; 732 currently listed; most are **Safety First**.

King Midas Match Co. - c.1939-c.1944; another well-known, much sought-after oldie; 916 covers currently listed.

Lion Match Co. - Look for **Safety First** (1922-1928; footer; 837 covers currently listed).

Magna Match Co. - Look for **Magna Quality** (1920s; footer; few are known/none are listed).

Manhattan Match Co. - 1936-c.1944; most are **Safety First** (footer); 369 currently listed.

McGill Match Co. - 1910s; 1 known (earliest known dated Political cover)...*Dream on!*

Merit Match Co. - c.1941-c.1946; most are **Safety First** (footer); 39 covers currently listed.

Michigan Match Co. - Pre-War; 36 covers currently listed.

Midget - 1934-1943; Lion trademark for its small covers. Highly sought-after; 9,011 currently known.

National Match Co. - 1912-1942; 32 covers currently listed.

Ohio Match Co. - Look for **For Safety** (1920s-1930s; footer; 86 currently listed); **Ohio ws** (2,208 listed) and the “tall” or “xtra-long” size; 175 currently listed.

Owname Products Corp. - 1925-1940s. Look for **Owname** on inside of cover; 362 currently listed.

Patented Sept. 27, 1892 - 1896-1909; manumark; earliest Diamond matchbooks; a few are known.

Republic Match Co. - c. 1939-1944; not related to later Texas company; 36 covers currently listed.

Rex Match Co. - Pre-War(?); 61 currently listed.

Royal Match Co. - Pre-War(?); 28 currently listed.

Standard Match Co. - 1917-1945; 66 covers currently listed.

Star Match Co. - 1892-1936; another one of the greats; the “tall” or “xtra-long” ones are the older varieties; 775 covers currently listed.

Stone's Quality - c.1920s; Diamond footer; 1 cover currently listed.

Superba Quality - c.1935-c.1937; Diamond footer; 2 covers currently listed.

Tulip Match Co. - c.1920s; 3 known. Also look for **Tulip Match** (c.1920s; footer).

U.S. Navy Ships, Pre-War - c. 1923-1941; a category; usually worth their weight in gold! app. 1,190 currently listed.

Union Match Co. - 1926-1938; 252 currently listed. Also look for: **Union Match Quality** (c.1927-1929; footer; 31 currently listed); **Union Quality** (1929-c.1934; footer; 158 currently listed). *See also Blot-R-Match.*

Universal Match Co. - Look for: “Tall” or “xtra-long” varieties (1925-1930s; 744 currently listed) and **Safety First** (1925-1930s; 106 currently listed).

I've stuck almost exclusively to manumarks and footers, here; there's just not enough space to discuss everything. I haven't really discussed old boxes or rare sets, for example, but the above covers are just about all the ones you would have any hopes of ever running across.

Values? There are no set values. If you want to buy or sell, prices depend entirely on who happens to be willing to pay what at one specific point in time. Today, you might be able to find someone who would pay \$20 for that Pre-War Navy Ship cover...tomorrow you might not find anyone willing to buy it for \$10. The current parameters of the market are .01 cent to \$4,001 (the price for the Washington Crisps matchbook). Most of the covers noted here might be expected to go for a high of a few dollars each.

Generally, of course, this older, rarer, harder-to-get, and more-in-demand material will bring higher prices than other types of covers. And, like everything else, prices seem to continually be increasing. Like beauty, however, value is in the eye of the beholder.

