

RMS INSTA-POLL

“What percentage of plastic pages do you use for your collection as opposed to what percentage you use paper pages? If you use other storage means, such as storage boxes or trays, also give percentage for that, please.”

[March - 92 responding]

| <u>Plastic Pages</u> | <u>Paper Pages</u> | <u>Trays/Boxes</u> | <u>Drawers</u> | <u>Displayed</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 100%.....24 | 80%.....1 | 100%.....6 | 50%.....1 | 25%.....1 |
| 99%.....4 | 85%.....1 | 90%.....2 | 40%.....1 | 1%.....1 |
| 98%.....1 | 75%.....1 | 65%.....1 | 5%.....2 | 0%.....90 |
| 95%.....1 | 70%.....4 | 60%.....3 | 0%.....88 | |
| 92%.....1 | 60%.....3 | 50%.....5 | | |
| 90%.....8 | 50%.....2 | 40%.....4 | | |
| 80%.....4 | 40%.....2 | 35%.....1 | | |
| 79%.....1 | 35%.....3 | 30%.....1 | | |
| 75%.....3 | 30%.....2 | 25%.....1 | | |
| 70%.....6 | 25%.....3 | 20%.....4 | | |
| 66%.....1 | 20%.....3 | 15%.....2 | | |
| 65%.....3 | 15%.....1 | 10%.....10 | | |
| 60%.....1 | 10%.....7 | 5%.....5 | | |
| 50%.....7 | 5%.....3 | 2%.....1 | | |
| 40%.....9 | 3%.....1 | 1%.....3 | | |
| 30%.....3 | 1%.....1 | 0%.....41 | | |
| 25%.....1 | 0%.....52 | | | |
| 20%.....2 | | | | |
| 15%.....2 | | | | |
| 10%.....4 | | | | |
| 0%.....7 | | | | |

Well, not many surprises here. The hobby continues to shift to plastic pages. Those pages were both the most often cited as being used exclusively and least often cited as never used. Over a third of those responding use plastic pages for at least 90% of their collections.

Many of the collectors using paper pages noted that they were in the process of going to all plastic but hadn't reached that goal yet. Some, including myself, noted that with large collections it was doubtful that if that goal would ever fully be reached—just too many covers, and the cost would be prohibitive.

I was a little surprised at the 44% that indicated that none of their covers were in trays or boxes. I find, at least, that trays are just so convenient for those large collections that are collected by list—Towns, for example. You don't have to have those covers readily accessible in albums, to check and see if you have those covers or not, because you're working off a check list. So you can save all that space and expense of dealing with pages and albums by simply housing that collection in trays or boxes (I prefer trays).

Collectors with small collections have more freedom and options as to ways in which to house those covers.