

HOBBY HISTORY

Foreign Made: III

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The Merchandise Marks Act changed at the end of the 1960's, and the labeling requirements became not so strict. The last Foreign Made issues date from 1972, which is probably why there are only a few, skillets around. There are also a few booklets, mostly with Japanese matches, which is interesting, as the one low cost source which does not seem to feature at all as a source of "Foreign Made" matches on boxes is Japan. Having said all that, there are now many skillets with "Made in the EEC", which is probably happening for all the same reasons for which Foreign Made was originally created.

Throughout this article, I have used the phrase "Foreign Made". Equally, "Foreign Matches", or "Foreign Make", or just "Foreign" apply.

I have set out two pages of illustrations [in this series], one representative of the pre WW2 period, and one post WW2, hoping to illustrate the different styles for both periods.

I think about 2000 different labels exist, but I may be somewhat off the mark. New ones are occasionally reported. They are partly an outcome of the political upheavals of the 20th century, and are well worth collecting.

Typical Post-1945 Foreign Made

