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Box Woes

I'm sitting here opening boxes, and it occurs to me that I really hate boxes! But, I need them since my goal in collecting is to put together the most complete representation of whatever category possible.

I'll admit right up front that I have an inherent dislike for boxes simply because of all the different sizes one has to deal with. There's no consistency across the board. They range from very small to giant-sizes.

Over and above that, though, is the *opening* of boxes. Yes, American Aces and Pocketboxes are easy [*American ingenuity!*], but with the rest you're in no-man's land. Foreign boxes, especially, seem to have been put together with super glue!

I use a letter opener. Knife blades, I find, are too prone to slice through the striker. Even still, on many of those foreign boxes, or older, brittle, or soft strikers, the letter opener still goes through them. Frustrating!

And *wooden* boxes! Many of them are simply held together by the label, and, once opened, the various box parts are literally being held together by threads!

Then there are those Italian, Portuguese, and other boxes that have the flaps! Instead of the normal one-piece box, you have 4-6 sides when opened! Very fragile and easily damaged when being mounted on pages (slotted or plastic).

Ohhhh, the trials and tribulations of being a collector! [*Ah, I feel better now that that's off my chest!*]