



Queen Cutlery Guide

Queen-made ROUGH BLACK knives

Fred Fisher & Dan Lago

Although never included in a catalog or shown on price lists, Queen made a series of quality knives in the Late 1940s, through the early 1950s, using black delrin synthetic handles that were jugged similarly to Rogers bone. Collectors named them “Rough Black.” Most of these knives show the early “Big Q” tang stamp, but some can be found with the “Queen Stainless,” stamp as late as 1953. Most of these knives were small frame patterns, such as model numbers 2, 5, 7, 35 and 43. However, the large Queen Jet switchblade (Model #25) also used the Rough Black jugged delrin handles (individual knives shown below.)

Some folks confuse the more frequently seen Queen City #10 jack knife with black handles as part of this series, but inspection will show clearly that they have earlier tang stamps, are less polished and use very different black handle materials. The last image shows a nice example of a Queen City jack knife for comparison. Not part of this series.



Figure 1. Set of Rough Black Knives



Figure 2. #2, Queen, serpentine jack, 2 blade, rough black imitation bone handles, brass liners, NS bolsters, no etch, Big Q tang stamp, 3-1/4"



Figure 3. #5, Queen, senator pen, 2 blade, rough black imitation bone handles, brass liners, NS bolsters, no etch, big Q tang stamp, 2-1/2"



Figure 4. #7, Queen, senator pen with bale, 2 blade, rough black imitation bone handles, brass liners, NS bolsters, no etch, big Q tang stamp, 2-1/2"



Figure 5. #25, Queen, Jet push button w/safety lock, 1 blade, rough black imitation bone handles, brass liners, NS bolsters, no etch, big Q tang stamp, 5." (Not really considered "Rough Black," shown only to show similarities in delrin handle material. Collected vigorously in its own right)



Figure 6. #35, Queen, small serpentine, 3 blade, rough black imitation bone handles, brass liners, NS bolsters, no etch, Big Q tang stamp, 2-5/8"



Figure 7. #43, Queen, small serpentine, 2 blade, rough black imitation bone handles, brass liners, NS bolsters, no etch, big Q tang stamp, 2-5/8"



Figure 8. Queen City jack knife, #10, before 1945