

# Anniversary Clock Identification

by  
Mervyn Passmore

To help you identify your clock, Mervyn Passmore has released some pre-publication pages from his forthcoming book 'Anniversary Clock Identification' due to be published at the end of 2009.

The following pages should help you identify your clock, but please remember that these pages are draft pages and may contain errors and omissions, and that this document is copyright.

If you feel that the clock described in the following pages does not use the same movement as your clock, please let us know how your clock differs, so that we can make further enquiries.

If the pages do match your clock, and you need a suspension wire, a suspension unit or a key for this clock, you can normally order these direct from Meadows & Passmore. For your convenience the M&P part numbers of the parts have been added to the foot of each page. They will not be in the final publication.

To order online, simply go to M&P's online store at [www.m-p.co.uk](http://www.m-p.co.uk) and paste the part numbers into the search box.

You can also order by phone on +44 (0) 1273 421321.

If you are having difficulty setting up your clock, Mervyn Passmore's 'Anniversary Clock Adjusting' book is also available from the online store, part number 0412 016226.

## ANNIVERSARY CLOCK IDENTIFICATION



**Mervyn Passmore**

## The principle manufacturers

These were the principle manufacturers of Anniversary Clock movements and clocks. It is common, especially in the USA, to find movements stamped with the importer's name or trademark, but these firms were not manufacturers. For example, Henry Coehler Co. Inc of New York (HECO) can frequently be found on German movements. In the UK, BHA (B. H. Abrahams) can often be found on Gustav Becker clocks. Neither firm manufactured 400 day clocks.

| <u>Company name</u>                     | <u>Trademark or logo</u> |
|---|--------------------------|
| Badische Uhrenfabrik                    | B                        |
| Edgar Henn                              | EHF                      |
| Franz Hermle & Sohne                    | FHS                      |
| Grivolas**                              | Pendules 400 jours       |
| Gustav Becker                           | GB                       |
| Jahresuhrenfabrik August Schatz & Sohne | Schatz                   |
| Kern & Sohne                            | KS                       |
| Kieninger & Obergfell                   | Kundo                    |
| Kienzle Clock Factories                 |                          |
| Konrad Mauch                            | Koma                     |
| Nisshin Clock Industrial Co. Ltd**      | Master                   |
| P Hauck                                 |                          |
| Sigfried Haller                         | Haller                   |
| Uhrenfabrik Herr*                       |                          |
| Uhrenfabrik Reiner*                     |                          |

\* Uhrenfabrik Herr and Uhrenfabrik Reiner worked very closely together and in many respects the parts appear to have come from same tooling.

\*\* All the firms in this list were based in Germany with the exception of the Nisshin Clock Industrial Co. Ltd. of Japan and Grivolas of France.

## Identification methods

### Alphabetical listings

Movements are listed in the identification section in alphabetical order of manufacturer, but this is not the most efficient way to identify a clock, partly because many plates have no name or logo on them, and some bear misleading importer's names or logos. The alphabetical listings are for final verification of the exact model, and for further information.

### Flow charts

By far the quickest way to identify a clock is by combination of any name or logo and the plate sizes. Simply follow the flow charts until you find the correct page number.

### Obvious characteristics

An expert will be able to recognize many small and simple characteristics immediately, and this knowledge can be of great help when making online auction purchases. The shape of a click to the style of a locking device can be all it takes to identify a movement. Many tips are shown on the identification pages as **Rapid Recognition Tips**.

### Warnings

Never assume that two identical cases will have the same movement inside.

Never put too much faith in a pendulum, dial or other item that may have been married up or replaced in the past.

Some of the early standard movements look extraordinarily similar to the inexperienced eye.

Plate measurements are given to the nearest millimetre. Whilst later movements were mass produced and therefore consistent, early plates were hand finished. The height and width of early examples of the same movement can vary up to a millimetre.

## Movement sizes and names

Movements in this book have been classified by generic names, rather than by manufacturers' names. During the first 70 years of the 20th century, the movements in these clocks changed in size several times, resulting in four general movement types.

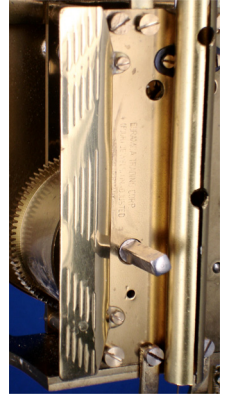
### Standard

This was the size of plate that most movements were made to until around 1950. Most were in the region of 70mm wide and 90mm high.

### Standard Narrow

From the early 1950's manufacturers realised that by reducing the plate width to around 45mm, the clocks could enter the USA as a watch as opposed to a clock, thereby attracting a lower rate to import duty. Most models use exactly the same gears in the standard and standard narrow versions.

Edgar Henn cunningly produced a narrow movement with two detachable plate extensions. The movement was imported by the Euramca Trading Corporation at the watch tariff. Prior to sale, the plate extensions were fitted, giving the appearance of a standard and therefore more up-market movement.



*Edgar Henn's movement with side extensions fitted.*

### Miniature

The next development was the miniature movement, a substantially smaller and more advanced clock. The width generally remained similar to the standard narrow movement, but the height dropped to around 60mm.

### Midget

Finally, the fourth group of movements emerged, to cater for the demand for much more compact clocks under smaller domes. The width remained similar but the height dropped to around 55mm.

Confusingly, Kieninger & Obergfell modified their miniature movement and turned it into a midget without reducing the plate size. They cut out a large rectangle from the bottom of the backplate of the miniature movement, so that the pendulum could be raised significantly. The cut-out allowed the pendulum hook to be above the platform without fouling the plates. A squat pendulum and a different suspension turned it into a Midget.



*Miniature*



*Midget*

Not everyone kept to these generic names, and it is common to see references to models such as Junior and Baby.

To avoid confusion, all the movements in this book are classified using the generic family names wherever possible.

**On each identification page a list of data is provided:**

**Plate shape**

Rectangular, Round, Vest shape or Triangular

**Plate width**

Width of the backplate in millimetres, to the nearest millimetre.

**Plate height**

Height of the backplate in millimetres, to the nearest millimetre.

**Gap between plates**

This is the internal gap between the plates in millimetres, to the nearest millimetre.

**Escapement type**

Dead beat or Pin Pallet. Please refer to the descriptions overleaf.

**Original key size**

The distance between the flat surfaces of the nearest standard key

**Winding side**

Left or Right when viewed from the winding shaft.

**Pivot adjuster**

Eccentric nut. A round bush in the plate with a slot to enable it to be rotated with a screwdriver  
Screwed bracket. Normally combined with the suspension support  
Adjustable arm. The pivot hole is in an arm cut out of the backplate that can be bent if necessary.

**Locking device**

Position and style of the locking system. Please refer to the descriptions overleaf.

**Pendulum type/s**

Known types, such as Disc, 3-ball, 4-ball

**Mainspring barrel**

Width and diameter of the spring barrel in millimetres

**Replacement wire**

Standard wire number, followed by the Horolovar size

**Replacement unit**

The appropriate Horolovar suspension unit number

**Jig settings**

The distance between the bottom of the top block and the fork followed by the distance between the bottom of the top block and the top of the bottom block.

**Mainspring**

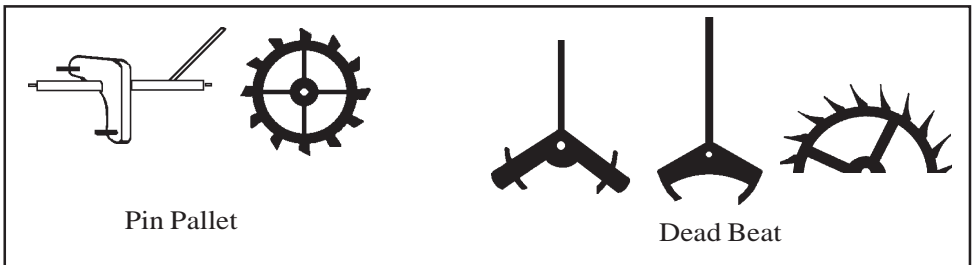
The width, strength and diameter of the nearest suitable spring, followed by the length in brackets. e.g. 13 x 0.36 x 30mm (972mm)

**Beats per minute**

The number of rotations of the pendulum per minute

**Bob weight**

The typical weight of pendulum

**Escapement types**

Manufacturer:

**Kern & Söhne**

Backplate information:

**May have:**

**KS in a dashed circle**

**KERN & SÖHNE GERMANY**

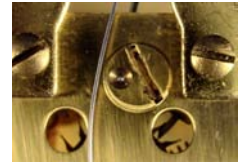
**No (0) JEWELS UNADJUSTED**

Model:

**Kern Miniature**

**Lefthand winder, Eccentric nut**

**44mm x 60mm x 20mm**



*Eccentric nut  
adjuster*

Notes:

This model has the winder on the left. Two variations of this model exist. This one has the eccentric nut. Not to be confused with the model that uses a screwed bracket adjuster, although the plate dimensions and wheels appear identical.





**Kern Miniature****Lefthand winder, Eccentric nut****44 x 60 x 20mm****Notes**Publisher's note:

*The author is aware that a small number of clocks using this movement use a slightly shorter, thinner wire, but has yet to establish exactly how to identify which clock cases are affected in this way.*

**Rapid Recognition Tips****Data**

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Plate shape .....        | <b>Rectangular</b>                        |
| Plate width .....        | <b>44mm</b>                               |
| Plate height .....       | <b>60mm</b>                               |
| Gap between plates ..... | <b>20mm</b>                               |
| Escapement type .....    | <b>Dead beat</b>                          |
| Original key size .....  | <b>3.50mm</b>                             |
| Winding side .....       | <b>Left</b>                               |
| Pivot adjuster .....     | <b>Eccentric nut</b>                      |
| Locking device: .....    | <b>Beneath the base</b>                   |
| Pendulum type/s .....    | <b>4-ball</b>                             |
| Mainspring barrel .....  | <b>14mm x 27mm</b>                        |
| Replacement wire .....   | <b>No. 3 (Horolovar: 0.0020"/0.051mm)</b> |
| Replacement unit .....   | <b>12C</b>                                |
| Jig settings .....       | <b>4mm, 77mm</b>                          |
| Mainspring .....         | <b>12 x 0.33 x 25mm (697mm)</b>           |
| Beats per minute .....   | <b>6</b>                                  |
| Bob weight .....         | <b>255g.</b>                              |

*M&P part numbers, not for final publication:*

**Suspension wire: 0401 002015**

**Suspension unit 0679 001203**

**Mainspring: 0607 122515**

**Key: 0333 035014.**

Examples of clocks fitted with the KS Miniature lefthand eccentric nut movement





Manufacturer:

**Kern & Söhne**

Backplate information:

**May have:**

**KS in a dashed double circle**

**KERN U. SÖHNE GERMANY**

**NO (0) JEWELS UNADJUSTED**

Model:

**Kern Miniature**

**Lefthand wind, bracket**

**44mm x 60mm x 20mm**

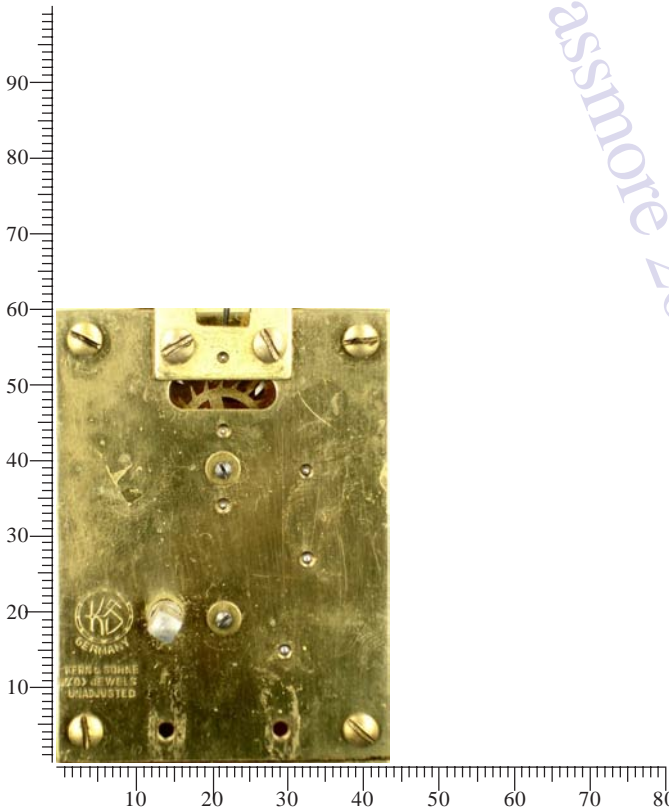


Notes:

This model has the winder on the left. Two variations of this model exist. This one has the screwed bracket adjuster. Not to be confused with the model that uses an eccentric nut, although the plate dimensions and wheels appear identical.



*Screwed bracket adjuster*



**Kern Miniature****Lefthand winder, bracket****44 x 60 x 20mm****Notes***Publisher's note:*

*The author is aware that a small number of clocks using this movement use a slightly shorter, thinner wire, but has yet to establish exactly how to identify which clock cases are affected in this way.*

**Rapid Recognition Tips****Data**

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
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| Plate width .....        | <b>44mm</b>                               |
| Plate height .....       | <b>60mm</b>                               |
| Gap between plates ..... | <b>20mm</b>                               |
| Escapement type .....    | <b>Dead beat</b>                          |
| Original key size .....  | <b>3.50mm</b>                             |
| Winding side .....       | <b>Left</b>                               |
| Pivot adjuster .....     | <b>Screwed bracket</b>                    |
| Locking device: .....    | <b>Beneath the base</b>                   |
| Pendulum type/s .....    | <b>4-ball</b>                             |
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