

Longcase clocks

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Antique Longcase Clocks

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Longcase Clocks

Pricing depends heavily on quality, condition, movement and maker.

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Harrison's maintaining power, the deadbeat escapement and developments in the field of temperature compensation were all innovations of the 18th century - the period that saw the birth of the regulator clock. They were sent for repair to a named Poul Ottesen Arboe in and as a result of his repair of them he learned enough about clocks to begin to make his own.

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These range from the simplest estate-made pine case and painted tin dial, to Boulle marquetry and silvered brass. Equally, the traditional view that a brass dial clock is more valuable than a painted or white-dial clock has been eroded. But, across a typical year, only a small handful is likely to be available.

Longcase Clocks

On a local scale there are distinct characteristics observed in clocks made in different clockmaking centres of England. These venerable timepieces, housed in elegant cases of ebony, walnut, mulberry, marquetry or japanned lacquer, have a long collecting history and appeal beyond the relatively small field of horology. Longcase clocks often referred to as Grandfather clocks, and depending on their size.

Longcase Clocks

Whatever lies beneath the hood, the most immediate difference between one longcase and another is seen in the design of the case or the treatment of the face.

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Out of fashion and sometimes simply too large for the modern home, the many clocks currently selling at auction for under £1000 appear excellent value for money.

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The increased accuracy made possible by the anchor motivated the addition of the two clock faces in the next few decades. The top end is typically occupied by so-called Golden Age clocks by celebrated makers from the late 17th and the first half of the 18th century.

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