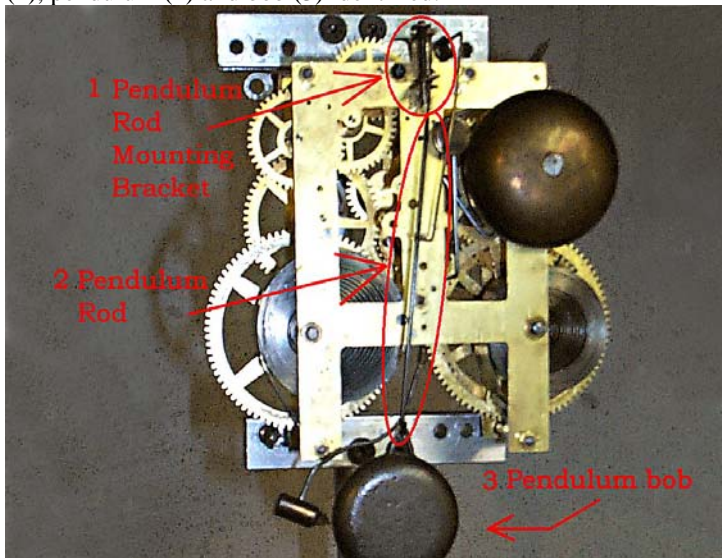


Never spray your clock with cleaners or lubricants, you will damage it. Dusty environments and areas like the kitchen where cooking oils and smoke can infiltrate the movement will also shorten the clocks useful life. If you plan on having your clock in an area like this, consider having the clock serviced more often. Serviced means taking the clock to a clock repairman and having the clock checked, cleaned and lubricated.

Mechanical clocks are not designed to be moved while the pendulum bob is attached to the pendulum rod. If the clock is moved while the pendulum bob is still attached it is possible to dislodge the pendulum rod from its mounting bracket or break the suspension spring. Should this happen the clock will be unable to run and your clock will require servicing. A photo of a clock movement is shown below with the pendulum mounting bracket (1), pendulum (2) and bob (3) identified.



The pendulum rod spring is mounted in slots in the mounting bracket.

Again, I hope you enjoy your mechanical clock. They do take a greater involvement on your part than modern electrical clocks but, at least from my perspective, that is part of their allure.

Many antique clocks have a Shellac finish that will dissolve if the finish is exposed to alcohol or alcohol based cleaners. Be very cautious when cleaning the case of your clock.

The information in this document applies Only to the American 8 day time and strike clocks sold by me. Other type clocks operate differently and using these instructions on them can and will result in damage to those clocks.

Warranty Information

Each clock carries a 1 year warranty on the movement. This is the same warranty offered by the manufacturer when the clock was made. Warranty work must be confirmed by the seller prior to bringing or sending the clock back for potential repair. The buyer is responsible for both delivery and pick up of the clock either in person or by post should warranty work need to be performed. The warranty does not cover damage caused by spring breakage. Your warranty will also be void should the movement be tampered with. Tampering with the movement can and likely will cause personal injury to you or the clock. Mechanical clock movements should only be maintained by a qualified repairman.

Congratulations on the purchase of your mechanical 8 day clock. To help you get the most satisfaction and use from your clock, please read this information. While this literature is not intended to teach you everything you should know about mechanical clocks it is a starting point and simple reference for some key points to be aware of.

Short list of steps needed to get the clock running.

1. Attach pendulum
2. Wind clock fully. Don't worry about "over winding". Wind until further winding is difficult or not possible.
3. Set pendulum in motion with a light sideways shove.
4. ADJUST BEAT: Listen to beat (the tic-toc). It should be even and regular. If not even and rhythmic, lift one side or other until in beat and if necessary, shim side as needed.
5. SET TIME: Turn the minute hand **CLOCKWISE ONLY** to desired time waiting for strike or chime at each hour (12 o'clock position).
6. REGULATING clock: "Speed UP": "Slow DOWN". If clock loses time - runs slow - use your clocks adjusting mechanism to speed it up. If clock runs FAST, do the same in the opposite direction. Regulating clock speed is explained in greater detail elsewhere in this documentation.

If you have problems please read on, the issue may be identified elsewhere in the document.

Should you have a question, you can contact me by sending an email to my email address listed on my website...
www.clockbob.com

Your movement is designed to be wound once a week and when fully wound will run a little longer than one week.

Mechanical clocks like yours are designed to run on a level steady surface or platform. Level being both left to right as well as front to back. The clock has been set "in beat" after it was rebuilt and then tested. "In beat" means the clocks tic-toc is even resulting in your clock keeping the best time. Clocks that are not "in beat" will run poorly or potentially not at all.

I have a small website setup where a copy of this document can be found, photos of previous repairs and an email link should you wish to send an email.

That address is... <http://www.clockbob.com>

I sincerely hope you enjoy your mechanical clock, I have and continue to find them fascinating and enjoyable. For a more in depth process of setting up your clock and some brief explanations, please continue reading.

How to setup your clock and set the time.

Position your clock on a level, stable surface as discussed earlier. Place the pendulum on the pendulum rod hook on the inside of the clock. This will vary a little from clock to clock but every clock has a pendulum rod with a hook that the pendulum must hook on to. For example: Ingraham clocks typically have the pendulum in the front of the clocks movement while others have them on the back. Examples of each location are shown below. Ingraham, front mount on the left and a Seth Thomas which is a back mount shown on the right.



Once the pendulum is on the pendulum rod, open the “bezel” (front glass cover) and fully wind the clocks time and strike winding arbors. Typically these will wind in opposite directions inward to the center of the dial. But there are some clocks that will vary from this. Never force the key while attempting to wind the clock. Light pressure should let you know if you are attempting to wind in the correct direction. Also avoid trying to get that last click in when winding. The only difference it will make is you may damage the clock.

The two winding arbors are circled in the picture to the right. In this example the time side is on the right and the strike side on the left.



Setting the time

To set the time on the mechanical clock, rotate the minute hand in a clockwise direction to the 12 o'clock position. Shortly before the 12 you will hear the clock go into “warning”. Warning is the process where the clock is preparing itself to strike. If the number of hours struck (chimed) is not equal to the hour the hour hand is pointing to, you can carefully rotate the hour hand to reflect the number of strikes/chimes you just heard. For example if the clocks is striking 3 times, rotate just the hour hand to the number 3. The strike and the hands now reflect the same time. Next, set the time. In the example the clock is set at 3 o'clock. If the actual time is 5:15 we would carefully rotate the minute hand forward (clockwise) until the half hour strike (a single strike or bell, depending on the clock type) then to the 4 o'clock strike (waiting for the clock to finish the 4 o'clock strike sequence), next to the 1/2 hour strike and then to the 5 o'clock sequence (waiting for completion) then to 5:15. You clock must complete each hourly strike sequence before you move the minute hands ahead.

Other wise you risk getting the hour being shown out of sequence with the hour being struck. If this should occur you will need to reset the hour hand and go through the process of setting the time again.

The clock can not start ticking by itself. You must give the pendulum bob a little sideways nudge to get it started. If you hear the tic-toc then you've done your job and keeping time the “ole time” way.

Regulating (adjusting) clock speed

Every mechanical clock has some type of adjustment to allow the clock to be set to run faster or slower. Some have a smaller hole in the clock face that allows you to use the small end of the clock key to turn the adjustment right or left and subsequently speed up or slow down the clock. Others use a small horizontal wheel that is accessed on the face of the clock. The wheel will spin left and right to accomplish the same purpose. While still others have no adjustment on the clock face and instead use a nut on the bottom of the pendulum bob (the weight on the pendulum rod). This nut will spin up and down to speed up or slow down the clock. Examples of this type bob are shown below.



Pick a day of the week to wind the clock and on that day get in the habit of winding your clock. While the clock will run longer than one week, as the springs wind down they loose power and your clock will begin to lose time.

If for some reason you forget to wind your clock and it runs down, fully wind the clock (both the time and strike side winding arbors) then use the same process mentioned earlier to get your clocks time set.

There are pins and lifting levers in the clocks movement and as the clock goes into warning (when the clock is preparing itself to strike) moving the hand counter clockwise will damage the clock. The only time it is acceptable (safe) to turn the minute hands counter clockwise is highlighted in green in the picture to the right.

“Be Careful”!



Your clock has been lubricated with the proper lubricant but should be serviced every couple of years. Never spray your clock with cleaners or lubricants, you will damage it. Dusty environments and areas like the kitchen were cooking oils and smoke can infiltrate the movement will also shorten the clocks useful life. If you plan on having your clock in an area like this, consider having the clock serviced more often. Serviced means taking the clock to a clock repairman and having the movement checked, cleaned and lubricated.