



Swiss Time

"WHERE WATCHMAKERS WORK"

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Key Wind/ Key Set Pocket Watch

Early pocket watches required a key to undertake the winding and setting – just like clocks of their day. The majority of these watches use the same key to set and to wind the watch; although some have different keys. Make sure you have the correct key for winding and setting your pocket watch. Using a key that is too big will soon round off the square corners of the winding and setting arbors creating a much bigger repair problem. If you don't have keys for your watch please let us know and we can help accommodate your needs.



Winding the Key-Wind/Set watch is fairly straightforward. First, carefully open the rear case cover to reveal a hole with the winding arbor. Simply push the key onto the arbor and wind in a clockwise direction. Most Key Wind watches will wind in the clockwise direction

however, a few were made which wind in the counterclockwise direction. Wind the watch until you reach the end of the mainspring and it won't wind any further. If you only wind the watch until you feel tension, it will not be enough, and your watch will never function properly. You must wind your watch until it stops.



A routinely serviced and well-maintained pocket watch should have a run time of 24 to 36 hours with a full wind. High-grade pocket watches can have a longer run time, with some including the Illinois Bunn Special having a run time of approximately 60 hours. Please note if you do not use your pocket watch everyday it is all right to let it sit; you do not have

to wind it when it is not in use. If you do use your watch on a daily basis it is a good idea to get in the habit of winding your watch everyday; this helps with consistent timekeeping.

Setting the Key-Wind/Set watch is accomplished by carefully opening the hinged bezel (which holds the crystal in place). Open the bezel to reveal the setting arbor where the hands sit; the key will fit over it. When setting the watch keep the key perpendicular to the dial being careful not to hit the hands with either the key or your hands. Rotate either clockwise or counterclockwise to set your watch. Never attempt to set the watch by moving the hands with your fingers; you will break them. Please be advised on the rare occasion some Key-Wind/Set watches have a setting arbor next to the winding arbor in the back of the watch.

