



86 Exchange Street Portland, Maine 04101 (207) 773-0997 www.myswisstime.com info@myswisstime.com

Stem Wind/ Pin Set Pocket Watch

The pin set (aka nail set) system is a setting mechanism rarely seen on American watches, but occurs more commonly on early European timepieces. A small yet protected button appears on the side of the watchcase, most often by the stem, or between the 11:00 position and the 4:00 position. Pin setting is not a very common setting system and will rarely be seen on higher-grade watches.

When the crown is pushed in, in the winding position, simply turn the crown in a clockwise direction, which will wind the mainspring. Some people wind their watches in a clockwise and counterclockwise motion. Please note your watch only winds in



the clockwise motion; some people find it easier to "back-wind" so as not to have to remove their hand from the crown. It will do no damage to your watch to "back-wind" or wind in the counterclockwise direction as watches have a ratcheting system to allow for this feature keeping your mainspring from unwinding. 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 35 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





Setting button

in the habit of winding your watch everyday; this helps with consistent timekeeping.

Setting a pin set watch is accomplished by using a fingernail to simply depress the button on the side. Pushing the pin set button engages the setting mechanism. While the button is pressed down turn the crown to the desired time. Release this button and your watch will return to its proper winding position.