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GERMAN PATENT LETTER CLUES - DRPs AND DRGMs

These tables were prepared for an article, "German Patent Letter Clues," written by D.K. Stevenson, which first appeared as a three-part series in Volume 21 (1998), Numbers 4, 5, and 6, of Clocks magazine. They appear here by express permission.

The tables can be used as a means of estimating when either of two types of German patents commonly found on industrial-era clocks was first granted. The DRP, or *Deutsches Reichspatent*, was a "proper" patent, assigned from 1877 until 1945. The DRGM or *Deutsches Reichs - Gebrauchsmuster* type was a utility model patent (not to be confused with the *Geschmacksmuster*, the registered or industrial design type). These "small" or "petty" DRGMs were available from 1891 until 1945, as well.

It must be stressed that these two tables, and especially the one for the DRPs, can only be used in estimating, as opposed to determining, the date of a patent and, as a result, the "not earlier than date" of a clock. The reasons for this stem from particularities of the German patent system, but are detailed in the article, along with information on how to establish exact dates, etc.

Germany's Patent System from 1877 to 1945

DRP's (Deutsches Reichspatent)

DRGM's (Deutsches Reichs Gebrauchs
Musterschutz)

1877 *3411	1911 242088	1891 2056	1918 688628
1878 *6679	1912 255067	1892 8972	1919 727717
1879 *11626	1913 268710	1893 20295	1920 761167
1880 *15416	1914 281478	1894 33473	1921 801527
1881 *18780	1915 289455	1895 49316	1922 834056
1882 *24288	1916 295948	1896 67052	1923 861682
1883 *27473	1917 303620	1897 85651	1924 893495
1884 *32827	1918 309830	1898 108672	1925 933595
1885 34234	1919 317672	1899 126198	1926 974245
1886 38146	1920 331398	1900 144790	1927 1015246
1887 42053	1921 346119	1901 165285	1928 1056593
1888 46038	1922 366682	1902 189298	1929 1101263
1889 50360	1923 386998	1903 214121	1930 1152262
1890 55109	1924 407544	1904 238941	1931 1200312
1891 60637	1925 423264	1905 266693	1932 1244424
1892 66524	1926 438755	1906 294709	1933 1284566
1893 73048	1927 453955	1907 325053	1934 1322191
1894 79009	1928 469676	1908 360057	1935 1358462
1895 94731	1929 487987	1909 402990	1936 1395077
1896 90382	1930 515098	1910 445285	1937 1424955
1897 95758	1931 541041	1911 490792	1938 1453664
1898 101372	1932 566771	1912 534165	1939 1478890
1899 108398	1933 590225	1913 582561	1940 1495080
1900 116997	1934 607057	1914 621440	1941 1512233
1901 127464	1935 623205	1915 640793	1942 1526138
1902 138166	1936 640081	1916 656863	1943 1536386
1903 148046	1937 654446	1917 673159	1944 1538970
1904 157582	1938 669858		

1905 167075	1939 685412		
1906 180522	1940 700197		
1907 193391	1941 715116		
1908 205494	1942 729894		
1909 217299	1943 743163		
1910 229496	1944 756825		
	1945 759516		

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