

Matthew Read

Clockmaker - Conservator

April 2025

I am a senior conservator and clockmaker with twenty five years' experience in the museums and heritage domain. I have worked for national and regional museums and heritage organisations including The National Maritime Museum, Museum of the History of Science Oxford, The National Trust, The Bowes Museum, York Minster and private collectors and individuals. My practice reflects national and international conservation organisations' guidelines. I am an active member and Trustee of The Institute of Conservation.

The following prices are to be taken as a guide only. Preparation of a written estimate is charged at my normal day-rate plus expenses. Estimates are prepared on an individual basis following a preliminary inspection of the object. If upon closer inspection the object requires significantly more work than originally estimated, this will only be carried out following consultation with the client.

My work is normally accompanied by a short report, giving an overview of the work carried out. If a more detailed report supported by photography is required, this can be carried out on request.

Under normal circumstances, packing, and packing materials are included in any estimate. If I feel an object requires additional packing or the manufacture of bespoke packing cases, an estimate will be provided.

Before I accept an object into trust, I will make a preliminary photographic record of its condition and issue a receipt.

Other than consumables, any part removed from an object during treatment will normally be returned to the client.

Wherever practicable, any new part fitted will be discreetly stamped with mark of the manufacturer and the date of manufacture.

If any work is to be sub-contracted, the client will normally be informed beforehand.

My practice is covered by public liability and professional indemnity insurance. Goods in trust are not insured by me. Client/owners should arrange insurance for goods in trust if needed. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, goods in trust are to be insured by the client.

If case work, dial repairs or other allied interventions are needed, I work closely with a network of trusted professional conservators.

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The guide prices below are to service the clock movement. This usually includes:

Complete disassembly

Cleaning (but not refinishing) all movement parts to remove dirt and old lubricants etc.

Replacement of consumables such as weight lines

Any other minor remedial attention to bring the clock to working order

Removing dust from inside the clock case to prevent re-contamination of the movement

Price Guide – April 2025

The following typical ranges are intended as a guide only

Please contact me for a no-obligation estimate

	Guide price from £
A single train pendulum clock (one winding hole)	635.00
A fusee pendulum clock without striking (timepiece)	635.00
A fusee pendulum clock with striking	1,170.00
A three-train fusee pendulum clock	1,755.00
A two-train pendulum clock (two winding holes)	635.00
A 'Vienna' wallclock	635.00
A French Clock (Pendule)	635.00
A 30-hour two train longcase clock	877.50
A two train, eight-day longcase clock	1,170.00
A Westminster striking mantel clock (three winding holes)	1,170.00
A weight driven Westminster striking clock	1,170.00
Hourly consultation rate excluding expenses	65.00
Day rate for institutions	First day excluding expenses 585.00 Subsequent days excluding expenses 435.00
Day accommodation and subsistence	115.00
Travel expenses pence per mile	0.45