How often does my clock need to be serviced?

If your clock has been overhauled within the past 3 years, the pivots need a general oiling with fine clock oil and the metal to metal surfaces need to be relubricated with fine clock grease. Clocks should be completely overhauled every 10-15 years.

What does "a complete overhaul" consist of?

A complete overhaul consists of complete disassembly of works, two cycles through two separate ultrasonic solutions, all pivots polished to mirror-like finish, new bushinggs put in all worn pivot holes, pivot holes not requiring new bushings are pegged cleaned, all lantern pinions tightened, escapement palates polished or resurfaced, springs washed and lubricated with high grade spring lubricant, weight cables replaced, broken gear teeth replaced, time gear train counted and beat-per-hour rate calculated, reassembly of clock, oil with fine clock oil, metal to metal friction points lubricated with fine grease, mounted on test stand for final adjustments and electronic regulation, return works to case, make final adjustments.

My clock isn't keeping consistent time, I think it only needs to be cleaned and oiled. Do you provide that service?

If your clock isn't keeping consistent time, it's usually due to a build up of dirt and abrasive emulsions around the pivots. This usually leads to wear on the pivots and pivot holes. If the clock is cleaned and lubricated without polishing worn pivots or bushing worn pivot holes the clock will continue to run inconsistently. It will also continue to wear, resulting in more extensive damage and a need for more expensive repairs.

Why does my clock stop intermittently?

Clocks working inconsistently are usually the fault of a build up of dirt and oil. It's approaching time for a full overhaul before the clock comes to a complete stop.

What kind of oil should I use on my clock?

Only fine natural or synthetic clock oil should be used on clock. All pivots should receive a very small amount of oil every 3-5 years. Never oil clock gears. Clock gears by design must run dry.

Why doesn't my 8 day clock run the full week?

If your clock is spring driven, this is usually what caused by a weak or exhausted mainspring, which would need to be replaced. If your clock is weight driven, the clock can come tto a stop four days after lifting the weights. This is caused by a subtle movement of the clock case known as "Wednesday Syndrome" and is easily fixed by securing the clock to prevent motion.

I forgot to wind my clock and it stopped. How should I reset thhe time?

Never turn the minute hand counterclockwise. This may cause significant damage to the gears and striking mechanism. To set the correct time, slowly turn the minute hand around the clock until the desired time is reached. If you have a clock that strikes and/or chimes, pause at each quarter hour to allow the chimes to go through their sequence.

If I'm away from home for more than a week, what is the best thing to do to my clock?

If your clock has a pendulum, it is best to stop the pendulum from sswinging in order to prevent the strike sequence from getting out of synchronization.

What do I do when it's time to "fall back or spring forward"?

When you "spring forward", simply move the minute hand around the clock, allowing the clock to strike at aaall strike points. To "fall back" with a pendulum driven clock, stop the pendulum swinging for one hour. If your clock does not have a pendulum, you must move the minute hand around the clock 11 times, pausing at each quarter hour to allow the clock to strike/chime when necessary.

What do I do if my clock is running too slow or too fast?

In order to alter the speed of the clock, you need to change the length of the pendulum by raising or lowering the pendulum bob. This is accomplished by turning the nut unnderneath the pendulum bob. To speed it up, turn the nut to the right to raise the bob. To slow the clock, turn the nut to the left to lower the bob. "Raise it up, speed it up; lower it down, slow it down"

How accurately can I expect my mechanical clock to keep time?

Don't expect the accuracy of a quartz movement. The finer mechanical clocks can be expected to keep accurate time within a minute a week. With other clocks, you may see a 3-5 minute variation per week. If the time difference is more than 5 minutes per week on a pendulum clock, regulate the clock as described above.