Clock Ticker

MAKE YOUR CLOCK TICK AGAIN



Richard MacLean
1224 Sierry Peaks Drive
Prescott, AZ 86305
Cell: 480-227-7079
Richard@Clock-Ticker.com
www.Clock-Ticker.com

Estimates are free when the clock is brought into the shop. Home visits for estimates are typically $50 to $100, depending on the distance to your location (< 5 miles to < 20 miles one way). Mileage over 20 miles is charged at $4 per mile, with total miles calculated as follows (e.g., 25 miles one way = $200 round-trip). Please recognize that this is both my time and vehicle use. Typically, tall, grandmother, grandfather, and large wall clocks remain on-site (i.e., the movement is brought back to the shop), especially if they have beveled glass. If the clock remains on site, a "House Call Repair Agreement" must be signed.

Recognize that problems cannot be readily observable until I disassemble the clock. If I uncover additional issues, I will provide a revised estimate, and you will have the option to either continue with the repairs or cancel the work. You are encouraged to come into the shop under such circumstances to see precisely what has been discovered and needs repair. You will only be charged for the work performed and the costs for parts. Typically, I do not restore cabinets until after the mechanism has been repaired and proven to work.

You know how many dollars you have to spend and how much risk you are willing to accept. You also know if you have "sentimental feelings" for your clock or if this is just a timepiece used for utility purposes. For many of my customers, price is not a factor, only the desire to get a family heirloom operating once again.

The first service level is a "quick fix," if possible, to get it running. It may run for a long time for a minimal cost.

The second service level involves completing some repairs, but not all of the recommended repairs or case restoration. Eventually, your clock may stop and need a complete overhaul or movement replacement. If a new movement is available, I will offer this choice to you. It may or may not be less than an in-shop overhaul, but it will increase your chance of getting your clock back sooner. You could also opt for conversion to a battery quartz movement.

The top service level is a full-service repair. See the elements of a complete overhaul at the end. This service can provide many more years of enjoying your clock.

I will explain the benefits and risks you would be taking at each level of service. If the full repair service or movement replacement is chosen, it comes with a one-year guarantee on labor [1]. In-home repairs are also guaranteed but come with a charge for each home visit—evidence of alteration or tampering voids this warranty. Do not spray your mechanism with WD-40 to get it going! Minor timekeeping adjustments are the owner's responsibility.

Some clocks may be turned down for repair under certain situations. A waiver may also be requested. For example, the beveled glass may be under stress fracture and could break at any time. I use reasonable care at all times, but I cannot be held responsible if something suddenly fractures. Note that clocks are often antiques, literally made in the days of the Model T Fords. Just as with an old car, if I replace the engine (e.g., mainspring), I cannot guarantee the other parts, such as the drive shaft (e.g., time intermediate wheel). The labor rate is $100 per hour (less than Bubba at the local car dealership,

i.e., $100-200/hr). I often spend more time on a clock at no additional charge if I have quoted a fixed price or if it presents an interesting challenge. I charge less per hour for a beautiful 250-year-old family heirloom than for a 50-year-old standard clock. I encourage you to search online and compare our costs to those of other repair shops. Labor is not taxed, but parts must be taxed at 9.1%.

Services	Starting labor prices for these services. Does not include parts.
Basic Movement Service[2]	
Time only clock	**$120**
Clock with hour strike	**$150**
Clock with strike and single chime melody	**$180**
Clock with strike and triple chime melody	**$210**
Clock with chime tubes (Typically a high-end grandfather)	**$300**
Anniversary clocks[3]	**$200**
Cuckoo clock service	
Time & cuckoo service (two-weight)	**$180**
Time, cuckoo & music box service (three-weight) [4]	**$250**
Estimates	
In shop	**Free**
In a customer's home	Applicable house call charge
Special charges	
House call, including pick-up of clocks for repair. Must sign the additional agreement, "House Call Repair Agreement," before the visit.	**$50 to $100**, depending on the distance to your location. [5]
Cabinet restoration[6]	**$100** per hour or as quoted
Set up a grandfather clock (after a move, or newly delivered, uncrated)	**$100** plus house call charge
Bushings (parts only)[7]	**$20.00** each

Complete Overhaul

A *complete* overhaul will include most, if not all of the following:

- Take the movement apart and clean it;
- Examine the parts for wear and damage, and check for correct operation;
- Case restoration as agreed;
- Repair the pinions, polish the pivots, bush worn pivot holes, clean the pivot holes, repair the mainspring ratchets, test and correct wheel meshing, and check the mainsprings;
- Replace worn strike hammerheads;
- Assemble and lubricate the movement;
- Test the movement and regulate it;
- Install the movement in the case and put it in beat;
- Adjust the strike, and make other necessary adjustments;
- Test the clock for at least two days while regulating it for correct timekeeping; and
- I will notify you by phone or Email that the clock is ready.

Footnotes

1. Performance (i.e., accuracy) can depend on the type and age of the clock. If a mechanical clock can maintain accuracy within +/- 15 minutes over 8 days, it is doing well, especially for spring-driven clocks. Clocks with weights tend to do better since the driving force is relatively constant. Clocks are typically wound once a week, and any slight corrections are made at that time. Some antique clocks keep amazingly accurate time. The bottom line is that if you want accuracy, buy a $20 battery quartz clock.
2. Prices are for clocks that are serviced using ultrasonic or solvent cleaning and do not require ***plate separation***. This type of cleaning typically can be done on clocks without barrel mainsprings (i.e., exposed springs). If the plates need to be separated and the clock completely overhauled, including the removal of mainsprings from the barrels, there will be additional charges, which will be discussed before any work commences.
3. Anniversary clocks are particularly sensitive to how they are set up in the home to bring them "in beat.". There is a reason that they are called "Hitler's Revenge." You will be instructed how to do this, both verbally and in writing, but it can be a tedious challenge to set these up. I typically let these run for a week or more in the shop, but I cannot guarantee the clock setup will be proper.
4. Music boxes are often the weak point in cuckoo clocks. A replacement music box or a music regulator is expensive ($100 and $30, respectively) and requires tedious hand fitting. You will need to decide if it is worth the cost vs. a whole new clock. For family heirlooms, price may not matter.
5. For example, the distance is from 5 miles to 20 miles one way. Mileage over 20 miles is charged at $4 per mile, with total miles calculated as follows (e.g., 25 miles one way = $200 round-trip). Before the visit, you must sign the "House Call Repair Agreement."
6. Cabinet restoration is often the most time-consuming part of a repair. It is also a matter of taste as to how far to go. Valuable antiques retain a greater value if left close to the original (i.e., current condition) with only significant flaws such as cracks or broken glass repaired. However, some may want it to look closer to how it did when it was new, 50 or more years ago. It is up to you.
7. A total disassembly of the clock will be needed, and the price for the movement overhaul is adjusted accordingly.