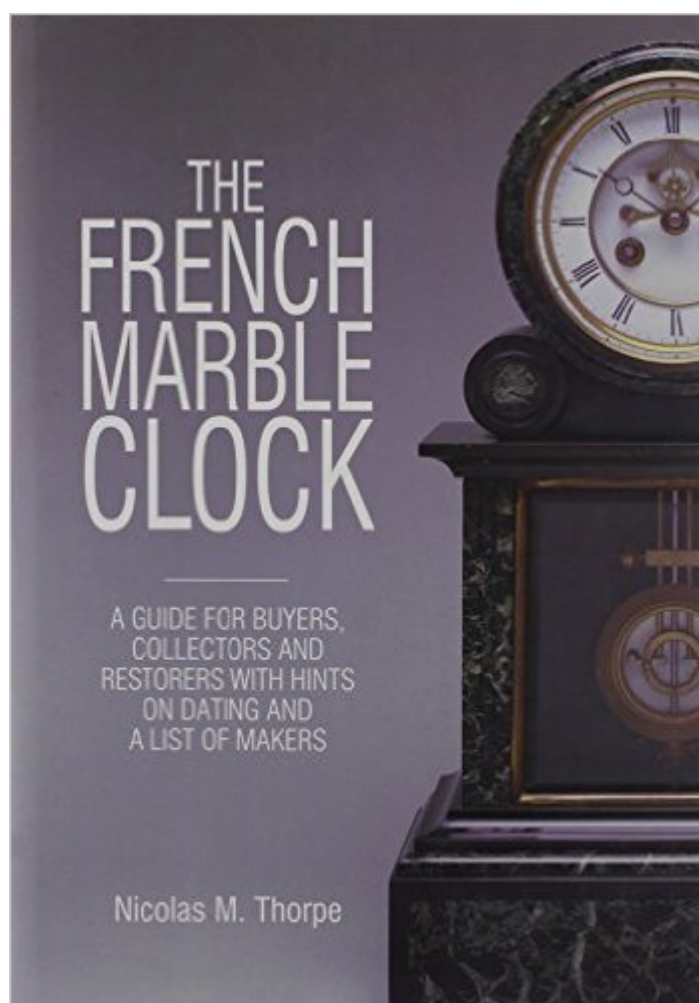


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The French Marble Clock: A Guide For Buyers, Collectors And Restorers With Hints On Dating And A List Of Makers



Synopsis

The French Marble Clock is the first complete book on the subject, written by Nicolas Thorpe, who is an enthusiastic collector. The opening chapters reveal the history of the marble clock along with new information about their origins and makers. The author then takes a detailed look at the famous pendule de Paris movement that is found in many French mantle clocks from the 19th and early 20th centuries. Sound and sensible advice is given about examining, dating, and buying, together with a clear explanation of the function of parts of the movement. This is essential reading for those wishing to restore timepieces or clocks with striking movements. The chapters on restoration and clock case styles are all clearly illustrated.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

How many times have you seen one of those big old French marble clocks for sale at auction or in a shop? Were you intrigued by the craftsmanship, curious about the history, or just impressed by the size? Wonder no more, now that Nicolas Thorpe has written this useful guide to these relics of a past age. These clocks were made during the 1830 to 1930 period, and they fall into my definition of an investment antique. They were expensive when new, still useful, and won't be made again. Yet they seem undervalued in the market. Thorpe discusses the aesthetic, historical, and practical aspects of these behemoths. Much of the book is a simple, practical course in cleaning and restoring these cases and movements. It is directed at the LAYMAN, not the expert. If you have never repaired a clock, if you are reasonably handy you can follow Thorpe's directions and do it

right. Even if you only own one French marble clock, you should have this book. Whether it's a petite boudoir timepiece or a fireplace mantel juggernaut, your understanding and enjoyment will be enhanced by this book.

This seems to be the only English-language recent book available about these clocks. While it's somewhat limited in scope, it does provide a usable history of these clocks and some of their more prominent makers. The book also contains a lot of useful advice on repairing these and other, similar clocks. The illustrations are very nice. My only real disappointment was that very few movement-makers are listed, so the book doesn't help much in researching specific clocks not made by the few most prolific makers.

Informative book. Great tips and written clearly and concisely.

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