

Available Movements

Cuckoo Clocks are available in different styles with different movements. Some designs are quite common – like the Dear Head Top – but over the time many different colors, styles and basic characteristics find their way to the hearts of the customer. For sure the cuckoo clock manufacturers were always eager to create new models to find new customers.

The basic difference between the clocks – beside the attributes on the clock front side, the different paintings and house styles are the movements.

These different movements / models are available

- ▶ [One Day Movement Cuckoos](#)
- ▶ [One Day Musical Cuckoos](#)
- ▶ [Eight Day Movement Cuckoos](#)
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- ▶ [Quartz Cuckoo Clocks](#)
- ▶ [Mantle Clocks](#)
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Generally Black Forest cuckoo clocks are driven by a mechanical movement which is run by weights under the clocks. To keep them working you have to pull up the weights from time to time. With 8-day cuckoo clocks you have to do this once a week, with 1-day cuckoo clocks each 24 hours.

Attention:

The quality of the movement is a very important aspect. The movement is like the heart of your clock. So make sure that you buy a clock with an original swiss movement. Do not hesitate to ask in the shop if they can tell you where the movement comes from. Mostly with the movement comes a certificate, or you see a kind of stamp at the movement. A original swiss movement guarantees you also a 1-2 year warranty on the movement. Cheap movements won't do that.



Typical clock movement



1-Day Movement Clocks

All "1-day" Cuckoo Clocks are fitted with a quality mechanical movement that requires winding every 24 hours. At the full hour a little door opens to reveal the cuckoo bird on a perch which calls the number of hours (for example; at 12 o'clock you will hear 12 cuckoo calls). The cuckoo bird also calls once on the half-hour. No music comes with this clock. A 1-Day Clock is mostly the cheapest cuckoo clock you can get – regarding the fact if you want additional music or an 8 day movement. You only have two little weights hanging under the clock. One is to keep time – the other for the cuckoo.

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1-Day Musical Clocks

"1-Day Musical" Cuckoo Clocks feature two quality mechanical movements that require winding daily. At the full hour, a cuckoo bird calls the number of hours followed by a melody (for example; at 5 o'clock you will hear 5 cuckoo calls). On the half-hour, the cuckoo calls once and then a second melody plays. The two tunes are produced by tiny notes plucked by a rotating drum. Over the years a lot of melodies were produced – the most wanted tunes are "Edelweis" and "The Happy Wanderer". Most clocks are standard equipped with those two songs. Different clock companies offer different melody combinations – but this will take extra time while ordering and additional costs. These clocks have always a "M" in the ordering no combination. "M" stands for music. Three weights are visible under the clock – one for the melody, one for the time movement and one for the cuckoo.



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8-Day Clocks

All "8-day" Cuckoo Clocks are fitted with a mechanical movement that requires winding every 8 days. At the full hour a little door opens to reveal the cuckoo bird on a perch which calls the number of hours (for example at 3 o'clock you will hear 3 cuckoo calls). The cuckoo bird also calls once on the half-hour. The visible difference between 1-Day to 8-Day clocks are mostly the size of the weights. They 8-Day clock weights are bigger thus more heavy than the 1 day weights. So don't worry if the shipping costs are higher than for a 1 day clock. These clocks have always a "A" or an "8" in the ordering no combination. "A" stands for 8-Day movement.

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8-Day Musical Clocks

In general there is except the music not much difference between this clock and the standard 8-Day clocks. "8-Day Musical" Cuckoo Clocks feature two quality mechanical movements that require winding every 8 days. At the full hour, a cuckoo bird calls the number of hours followed by a melody. On the half-hour the cuckoo calls once. The two tunes, playing alternatively each hour, are produced by tiny notes plucked by a rotating drum. With this kind of clock you always purchase a "full-package-clock", which means there is nothing better to get. 3 heavy weights are visible under the clock – so these clocks are always pretty expensive to ship due to there weight. These clocks have always a "MA" or an "M8" in the ordering no combination. "A" stands for 8-Day movement and "M" for music.

If you find a "T" in the ordering no – which is most common in this price category – it indicates that something is moving or turning on your clock. This could be dancers, or a water-mill or movable animals.



Moving music dancers

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Quartz Cuckoo Clocks

Quartz cuckoo clocks are driven by batteries. They are not as authentic as mechanical cuckoo clocks, the "feeling" is quite different because they are using an animated cuckoo made of plastic and a recorded cuckoo sound. Nowadays more and more old fashion clocks are equipped with this kind of movement. Most batteries will last approximately 1 year depending on conditions. All are fitted with manual volume control and shut-off switch. One thing that is unique about some quartz cuckoos is that it has a photo-cell which is a light sensor so you also have an automatic night shut-off. When you turn your lights off at night, it automatically turns off the cuckoo call. During the call of cuckoo the double doors open and the cuckoo bird comes out. With some models the cuckoo bird actually flaps his wings as he cuckoos to the sound of running water in the background. The call itself is the actual recording of a cuckoo bird in the wilds.

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Mantle Clocks

This clock category do not belong consequently to the cuckoo clock family. Mantle clocks have in many cases been considered a memory of the past until recently. Some cuckoo clock manufacturers have introduced an amazing range of exciting and innovative mantle clocks to suit any style of interior, both traditional and contemporary. The selections are made up ranging from "1-Day" to "8-day" mechanical clocks with or without music. Some of them feature traditional designs like cuckoo clock houses as well the well-known Westminster chimes. Distinctive mantle clocks are fitted with "triple chime movements" or highly polished "bell movements" adding an extra sense of elegance and class, sure to impress family and friends. These clocks can be made out of solid hardwood case with brown cherry finish, are equipped with Roman dials, alarms and polished goldtone bezels. Attributes you will hardly find on a traditional cuckoo clock.



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Grandfather Clocks

Like the just mentioned Mantle clocks, Grandfather Clocks have also stamped their unique appeal over many years and are becoming more and more popular every day. The increasing demand for exquisite distinguished furniture leads the clock manufacturer to offer an extensive range of stylish clocks. Experienced and refined craftsmen decorate exclusive Grandfather clocks with the highest quality movements, assuring an experience of warmth and ambience in your own home. Like cuckoo clocks, each Grandfather Clock is hand-assembled, adjusted and controlled by expert clockmakers to guarantee the perfect function of these impressive timepieces. Most available clocks are fitted with an "8-day" mechanical movement that requires winding every 8 days. A standard Grandfather clock is fitted with a triple chime, chain driven movement, regular polished brass weights and pendulum and a blue moon phase.

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The World of Cuckoo Clocks www.cuckooclocks.com ???