Appendix

SWISS PLATFORM ESCAPEMENTS

VIEW / BUY M&P PLATFORMS

Extremely high quality Swiss units that over the years have become the 'standard'. 8 leaf escape wheels. Shown approximately to scale. Fully jewelled lever escapement. No endstones.

A - 18 X 28mm



F - 23 X 36mm









SELECTING A REPLACEMENT PLATFORM

Compare the original with the illustrations shown. The position of the pinion (F) must be correct in relation to the wheel (E). The top pivot can be seen in the illustrations. Select a size nearest the original and check that it will not obstruct the dial, case etc.

Escape Wheel Pinion Count

Modern escapements are supplied with 8 leaf pinions. Other counts are available but as they are not interchangeable the platform and pinion **must** be ordered together. We cannot give a refund on the 8 leaf escape wheel originally fitted. Replacement platforms have a frequency of 18,000 vibrations per hour and the escape wheels have 15 teeth. As there are two vibrations of the balance for each tooth, then it follows that the escape wheel must rotate 600 times per hour. That is: (18,000 divided by (15 x 2)). The centre wheel (to which the minute hand is directly attached) clearly rotates once per hour, so the gearing in between must have an overall ratio of 600:1.

To calculate the number of leaves that the pinion should have to give a ratio of 600:1, count the number of teeth on wheels A, C & E. Count the teeth on pinions B & D.The number of teeth on the escape wheel pinion is $(A \times C \times E) / (B \times D \times 600)$ You can count the number of leaves on the existing platform escape wheel if this is available, but it does not always follow that the natural frequency was 18,000. In the majority of cases this is so.

