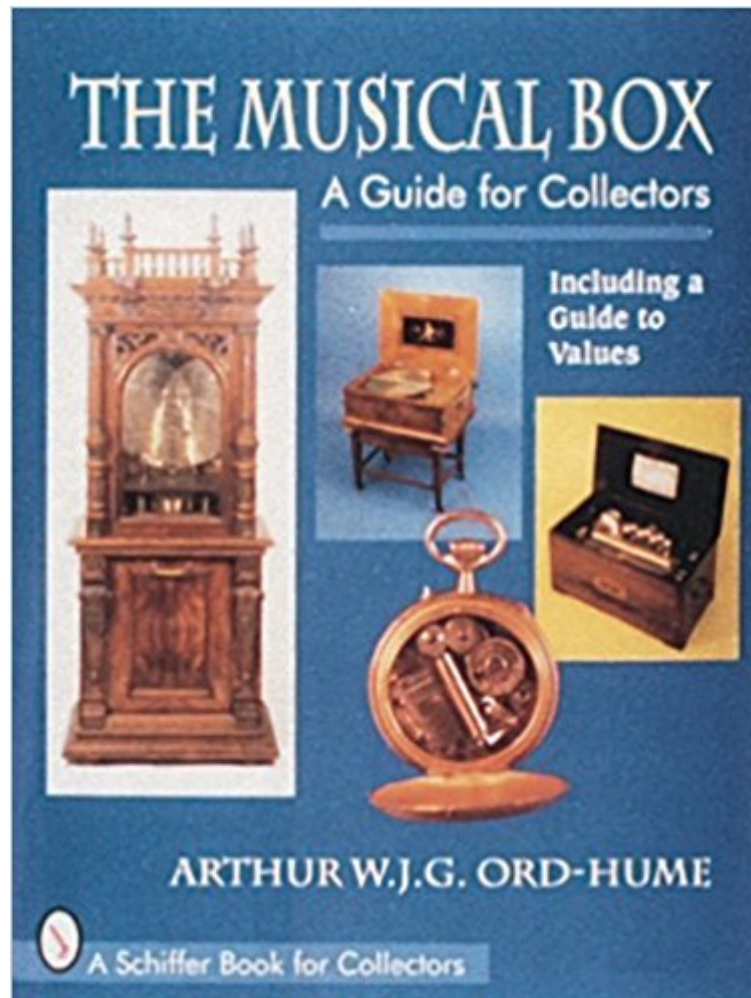




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# The Musical Box: A Guide For Collectors



## Synopsis

Musical boxes have been made by master artisans since the 1700s, playing classical music, hymns, operatic arias and popular tunes by means of discs or cylinders. The industry started in Europe, flourishing in Switzerland, Germany, and Great Britain, finally crossing the Atlantic to America, before ending in the early 20th century. This book is the definitive reference for anyone interested in the history of music, mechanical music, and musical technology, with complete diagrams of the various types of mechanical movements used over the centuries, indexes of manufacturers, box styles, and tune sheets, complete American and British patent lists, tips on maintaining, repairing, and purchasing boxes, and a price guide. Many of the loveliest musical boxes ever crafted are illustrated in full color in this book, with hundreds more black and white photographs showing their mechanical workings. Eighty detailed diagrams explaining their functions help collectors use, maintain and repair the boxes in their collections.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Dr. Arthur Ord-Hume is England's foremost scholar of musical boxes, and spends much of his time traveling internationally to conduct research and to educate others about the subject. He is a founding member of the Musical Box Society of Great Britain, a member of the Musical Box Society International, and runs the Ord-Hume Library of Mechanical Music & Horology in Surrey, England.

So very nice, love the pictures!

Ord-Hume is one of the most renowned authors on this subject, along with Q. David Bowers (Encyclopedia of Automatic Musical Instruments). This is 343 pages packed with amazing information for the collector, or someone just starting out that wants to know more, or for a person doing a research report. This book won't become stale, as the last boxes were made around 1910. An excellent appendix section on identification of tune cards (the paper inside the music box that lists the songs it plays. Thirteen chapters covering things like history, how they are made, advice for collectors, conservation and protection, an index of makers, hundreds of illustrations, many in color. There are a few books every true collector should have and this is one of them.

This was a good purchase for me. The book was pricey for a used book but I feel I got my money's worth. The Musical Box has many illustrations (including tune cards) and had lots of good information. I have been trying to identify and date an old family music box... This is the third book I have purchased and has been the most helpful.

Very good book, great seller.

good

interesting book, but was looking for more information on repairing music boxes.

As others have said, this profusely illustrated book tells you everything you might want to know about music boxes. As a beginning collector, I bought it to learn about the subject; steeling myself to deal with one of those dull scholarly tomes. I need not have worried. It is not only a technically rich resource, it is written with light-hearted style and grace and is a pleasure to read.

Ord-Hume presents an exhaustive work on the subject of music box collecting. This book has almost everything you need to know including identification of tune-sheets, manufacturers, music box styles and types. He includes a guide to values which is probably already out-dated, but it gives a good idea of what different boxes are worth. If you want to know what a rigid formation box is, it's in there. If you want to know the difference between a mandoline box and a organeoclide, you'll learn it there. It's an excellent reference book, and I even read it as I would a novel, it's that well presented.

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