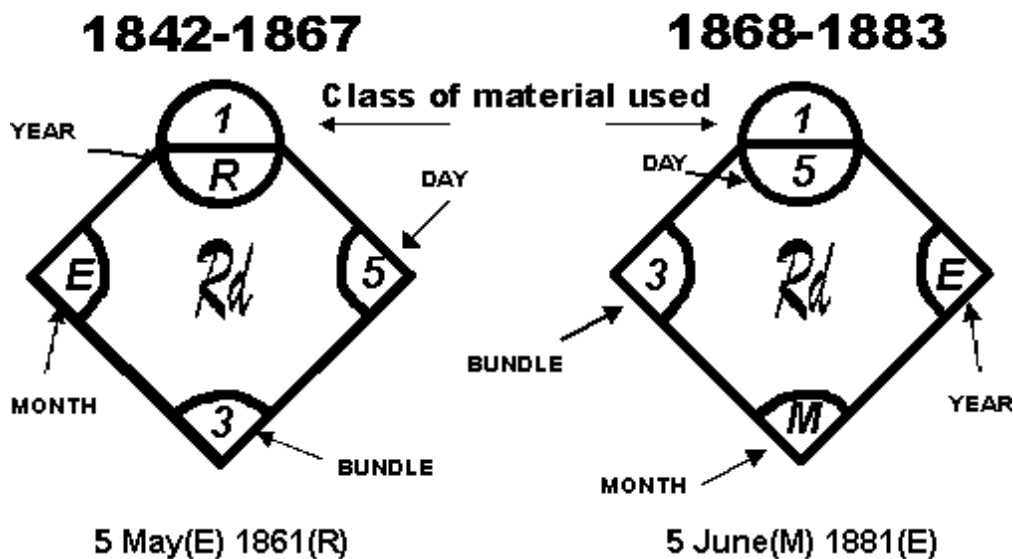


Registered Designs 1842-1883 : Diamond Marks

During the period 1842-1883 the Patent Office issued a diamond mark along with the registration number when a design was registered. Besides indicating that the design had been registered, diamond mark offered the buyer the reassurance of knowing an item was of British design. It assured the person registering the design a degree of protection from copying. The protection was dependent on the type of material and the class in which the product was placed.

The mark was created to identify the type of material used (known as the *class*), how many items were included, (sometimes known as bundles or packages), and the date of registration. Below is a description of the marks and the means to decode them. Note that the registration number does not form part of the mark. The centre is occupied by the abbreviation *Rd* signifying that this is a Patent Office mark standing for *Registered Design*.

On the Diamond Mark you will see that the year of registration is shown along with the month code. The correct year can be found from the year codes tables and the month from its table below. However, you will also see that there are two ranges of year codes; 1842-1867 & 1868-1883.



CLASS OF MATERIAL	MONTH CODES		YEAR CODES	
			1842-67	1868-83
1 - Metal	A	December	A	1845
2 - Wood	B	October	B	1858
3 - Glass	C	January	C	1844
4 - Earthenware	D	September	D	1852
5 - Paper Hangings	E	May	E	1855
6 - Carpets	G	February	F	1847
7 - Printed Shawls	H	April	G	1863
8 - Other Shawls	I	July	H	1843
9 - Yarn	K	November	I	1846
10 - Printed Fabrics	M	June	J	1854
11 - Furnitures (printed fabrics)	R	August	K	1857
12 (i) - Other Fabrics	W	March	L	1856
12 (ii) - Other Fabrics (Damasks)			M	1859
13 - Lace			N	1864
			O	1862
			P	1851
			Q	1866
			R	1861
			S	1849
			T	1867
			U	1848
			V	1850
			W	1865
			X	1842
			Y	1853
			Z	1860
				1871
				1870
				1878
				1881
				1873
				1869
				1872
				1880
				1883
				1882
				1877
				1875
				1874
				1876
				1868
				1879

Exception Notes:

In 1857 the letter **R** was used during 1-19 September and during 1860 the letter **K** was used for December. From 1-6 March 1878, **W** was used for the year in place of **D**; and **G** was used for the month in place of **V**.

Acknowledgement: Extracted from the National Archives website; Crown copyright acknowledged.