

Desk Clocks

George Nelson, 1947/1953



Desk Clocks

In 1947, the American designer George Nelson was commissioned to create a collection of clocks. Nelson analysed how people used clocks and concluded that they read the time by discerning the relative position of the hands, which made the use of numbers unnecessary. Furthermore, since most people wore wristwatches, he assumed that clocks had become more of a decorative element for interiors.

These ideas provided the basis for the first collection of 14 timepieces, consisting of a completely new style of wall clocks and compact table clocks, which were launched on the market in 1949. Although the models all shared one common feature – the absence of numbers – the diversity of their shapes, colours, materials and designs could hardly have been greater.

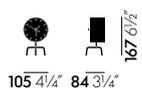
In the 35 years that followed, the designers at Nelson Associates conceived more than a hundred different clock models: wall clocks, portable table clocks and built-in clocks. After Nelson's death in 1986, his archival estate, encompassing roughly 7400 manuscripts, plans, drawings, photographs and slides dating from 1924 to 1984, was acquired by the Vitra Design Museum.

Vitra began reissuing the Nelson Clocks in 1999 and updates the collection from time to time. The Desk Clocks are available in various shapes and materials. Equipped with high-quality quartz movements, they continue to offer a refreshing alternative to conventional clocks.

Materials

- **Materials:** brass, acrylic glass, polyurethane, solid walnut.
- **Product contents:** high-quality quartz clock movement, 1.5 volt battery included.
- **Origin of wood:** walnut (*Juglans nigra*) from Western Europe and/or Poland.

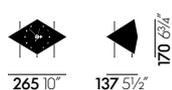
DIMENSIONS



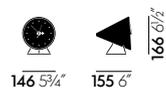
Tripod Clock



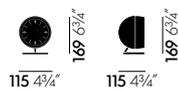
Night Clock



Diamond Clock



Cone Clock



Chronopak



Cone Base Clock

