

















**Knitting Needle Brands and Company Names  
Special Collection -  
Tubes, Boxes and Clasps as Knitting Needle Holders**

Name	Comments	Type				
<p>Needle Owners/Data Contributors -- Pat Ashford, Rhonda Barratt, Heike Belter, Christina Bertrand (inc her newsletter NeedleNotes), Judy Cameron, Naomi Cidder, Judith Durbridge, Yvonne Haylock, Ineke Hulsman, Sue Lennon, Gay Lines, Pam Mycock, Nancy Nehring (inc her site lace buttons), Molly Pearce, Rike Platenkamp, Joyce Poynter, Jean Price, Marilyn Tebb, Beryl Warne, Shelia Williams, Robyn Zloch, Hazel and David Arnold, Barbara Smith (inc the Knitting &amp; Crochet Guild UK), Nicola Kissane, Erin Titmus, June Rivett</p>						
		Metal	Wood	Cardboard	Clasp	Plastic
<p>** See Molly Procter, <i>Needlework Tools and Accessories - a Collectors Guide</i>, 1990, p. 114 "From the 1880s to the 1930s several manufacturers or wholesalers marketed sets of needles in plain wooden cylinders."</p>						
<p>Abel Morrell - on their wooden tubes, the firm used either stamps with the company name and the size, or a pasted-on labels with more merchandising information, including a hand-applied size.</p> <p>Note the label has the Cross Fox trademark, indicating the label was printed after Abel Morrell took over Lewis &amp; Baylis in 1898</p>				CC 1070		
<p>Abel Morrell's Cross Fox - issued after Abel Morrell merged with Lewis &amp; Baylis in 1898.</p>				CC 1182		
<p>Acorn Stoves - a similar tube was sold for Acorn Stoves holding wax-tipped tapers to light gas burners, but this one is definitely marked for knitting needles and has the divisions to keep the sizes separate. See also group photos below.</p>				CC 200		
<p>Alfred Shrimpton - this wooden tube has the firm's very well known Maltese cross label, but also the address of the US reseller "273 Church Street, New York City" America</p>	<p>See Figure 3</p>			x		
					cc 1050	
<p>American Needle Co</p>					CC 2653	
<p>Apex</p>	<p>See Figure 1 - orange label, hard to read</p>			pressed tin		
<p>BagLady - for modern needle lace double points - similar plastic tube to Laxis.</p>						CC 3451
<p>Baldwin &amp; Walker - gift from firm to retailers? Or gift to end purchaser?</p>					CC 923	






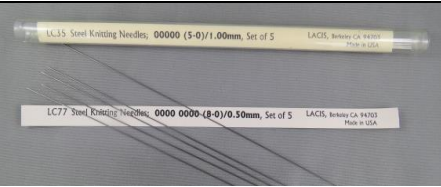


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		Metal	Wood	Cardboard	Clasp	Plastic
Blue Sky - modern brand for needle lace knitting		CC2249				
Boye - pressed tin with name impressed on tin case	See Figure 1	CC 1557				
Boye - pressed tin with label	See Figure 1	CC 878				
Boye - plastic tubes printed for aluminum and plastic double points - "made in USA"						x
"Compact", The		CC 711				
Crescent Manufacturing Company - shows trademark on the end piece and name on the side - see also group photo below		x				
Crescent Manufacturing Company - "The Durable Case"		CC2157 or 874				
Cross Fox - pressed tin with name impressed on tin case and size impressed separately on the end piece. Presumably this was issued by Lewis & Baylis before they merged in 1898 with Abel Morrall.	See Figure 1	pressed tin				
Crowley, Wm & Sons		CC 2507				
Diamond - cardboard box contains corrugated cardboard packaging inside and is marked for 5 needles				CC 941		

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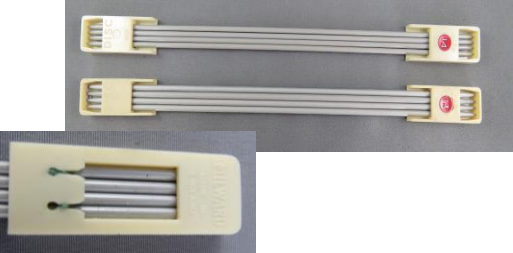



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Diadem- leather or leatherette sleeve bordered in white metal	 			CC 187		
Double Century - this brand name was initially used by James Smith & Sons to mark the 200th anniversary of the founding of the company back in 1698. The firm was later sold to Milwards, who continued to use the name for a "superior" brand of KN - without the Milward or the original James Smith name being shown.		cc 1941				
"The 'Dreadnought Cylinder' containing 1 Set of Elastic Steel Knitting Pins - A Capital Knitting Pin & Pencil Case". Tube also says regd trade mark and, elsewhere, SIZE (but size is not indicated on the tube)				cc 2358		
Eureka		x				
Excelsior, The	See Figure 4. Incorporated Aug. 22, 1898, in Me., to manufacture sewing machines and knitting machine needles, bicycle spokes, etc.			CC 1771		
Farmer and Company - Sydney		x				
Gloria		x				
Golden Fleece - 1920s-1930s ??				x		
Hall, William, & Co - shown larger than lifesize - width of the clasp is one-half inch					x	
Head, W.H., & Son - very large cardboard tube, about 1.5 inches in diameter (perhaps not originally for KN ?)	See figure 3 below.			CC 449		

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		Metal	Wood	Cardboard	Clasp	Plastic
Hero - plastic tube printed for aluminum and plastic double points						CC 3095
Household Knitting Pin Set - the needle size is written on the label	See Figure 4		X			
International Knitting Pin Case - triangular. The other two sides of the case show a ruler with inch and metric divisions and a "comparative weights of kilogrammes & pounds"		CC 1811, 862				
Jahncke & Co - around 1880 this firm developed the "Mitrailleuse-style" holder for sewing and knitting needles and other straight items like matches or hairpins - see Mitrailleuse. The name sometimes appears on the metal ends of these holders, noting Jahncke as the patent holder.		x				
James Smith & Sons - initially issued the high-end Double Century brand to mark the 200th anniversary of the founding of their company in 1698. The James Smith & Son name appeared on the label.	See Figure 1	605				
JustRite - in this photo, the American firm's name has been stamped on a wholesaler's box containing 1 dozen needles (presumably to be sold in sets of 4 needles without branding). The needle size has also been stamped on the box.				2550		
JustRite - some labels include the firm's trademark.			3133			
Kirby Beard & Co		x				
Lacis - modern needle lace doublepoints  These needles are stated to be .5 mm in width. They gauge 23/24 on the earliest bell gauges, so they are the finest gauge needles I have ever owned						CC 1448
Lady Smith		x				
Liberty - originally this box was printed with 1 DOZEN, but this is blacked out and the box re-stamped with 5 needles, meaning the whole box could be sold in one transaction.				CC 2482		







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		Metal	Wood	Cardboard	Clasp	Plastic
<p>Lighthouse - this firm used a clasp to hold sets of 4 or 5 needles. The clasp is shaped as a representation of the firm's lighthouse trademark shown in a later printed paper packet. Lighthouse is a brand name of Morris &amp; Yeoman</p>					CC 520	
<p>London Needle Co, The - stamped on the wood and very hard to read</p>	<p>See Figure 4</p>		CC 2365			
<p>Martha Washington</p>		x				
<p>Milward - this great needlemaking firm continued use of the pressed tin holder under the name "Double Century" (after acquiring this device with the take-over of James Smith &amp; Sons) - see group photos. It also used a wooden tube on which Milwards pasted a paper label</p>		x	x			
<p>Milward - later for the Milwards Disc brand (1950s?), the firm used plastic point-protector-type holders with the two ends held together by a large plastic band.</p>					CC 904	
<p>Milward - two other clasps for the Disc brand - soft plastic</p>						x
<p>Mitralleuse Knitting Pin Case (actually "mitralleuse" is a common designation of type, but here used as a brand name. I have at least 3 colours.)</p>		CC 3555				
<p>Morris &amp; Yeomans - the firm's name and the size are stamped on the wooden case</p>			CC2371			

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"Neatality" Knitting Pin Case		pressed tin				
Nuns - American firm sold many needles made in Germany. tube is cardboard or composition				2466		
Patons & Baldwins Ltd - this small cardboard box would have been issued after 1920, as the two great yarn houses amalgamated in that year				x		
Penelope pressed tube with rounded ends similar to Nun's		CC1201				
Progress - note trademark on the label			CC1938			
Royal Society				CC 3170		
Quaker Maid			CC2072			
"Silver Queen"		pressed tin				
Thos Harper & Sons (cc 197)	See Figure 3		CC 2916			
Thomas Perks & Sons - Redditch needlemakers - label on this very large wholesaler's tube says 1/4 gross, that is 36 needles to be sold in sets of 4 without any other branding.	See Figure 3		CC 793			
Universal	See Figure 3		cc 594			
"Winifred C..."			CC 1327			
Wm Crowley & Sons - see photo under Crowley.						
<b>UNBRANDED TUBES AND CLASPS</b>						
unbranded but described as "Cast Steel Knitting Needles"			CC 3133			

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Redditch - unbranded with a manufacturer or depot name but stamped with <i>place name</i> of manufacture. Redditch was world famous at this time for needle manufacture			x			
unbranded but described as "Superior Steel Knitting Needles"			x			
unbranded cardboard with decorative trims - there are many varieties of these - some with knitting needles, some with netting gauges or other implements				x		
unbranded pressed tin case, same shape as Penelope and Nun's						
unbranded pressed tin case, same shape as Cross-Fox		2758				
unbranded clasp - these seemed to be used up to mid-20th century, in both UK and Australia					x	
unbranded but with the needle size on paper label "No. 16 Knitting Pins"			CC 2153 ?			
unbranded narrow tubular tin holder for DP KN		CC3098, CC2758				

### Group Photos

Figure 1 - Various styles of pressed tin cases, from top down : first two are James Smith & Son's Double Century; Crescent Knitting Pins with their crescent trademark on the front of the label and "the Durable Case" on the reverse of the label; Apex Knitting Pin Set with orange label; "Neatality" Knitting Pin Case; The Cross Fox knitting pin case; Boye's case - same pattern but impressed in the UK for Boye to sell in the USA; Boye with their name inserted on the same label as used for James Smith & Sons' Double Century at the top of photo.



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Figure 2 - From top, Acorn, Kirby Beard, Farmers, Crescent



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		Metal	Wood	Cardboard	Clasp	Plastic

Figure 3 - Wooden and cardboard tubes : from top, W.H. Head & Son; Thomas Perks & Sons' Knitting Pins - 1/4 gross; Universal, with orange label; Progress with label becoming unglued; Alfred Shrimpton with the firm's well-known Maltese Cross trademark; Thomas Harper and Sons



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Figure 4 - Unbranded - or very hard to read because of the spiral application of the label : Excelsior, American Needle Co, Household Knitting Pin Set, and No 16 (size of pins)



Figure 5 - the same tin tube has been painted with four different brand names , and the same face appears on two of the brands.



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