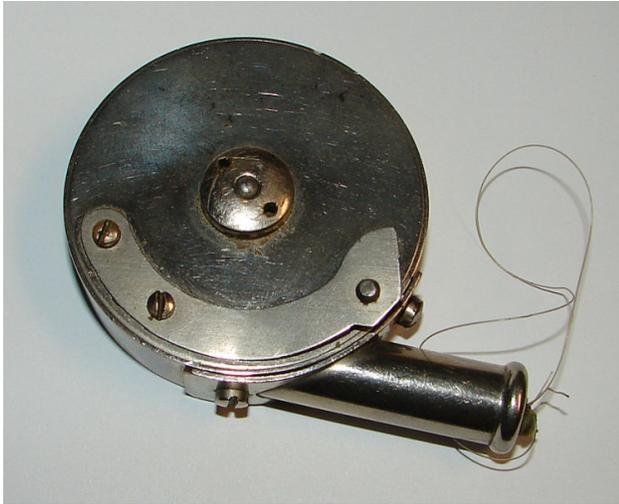


Please Do Not Abuse Your Nice Reels

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I have recently been sent an older reel to do a little work on it. This reel is as nice as any that I have seen over the years but at some point in time a previous owner unnecessarily put a few deep scratches on the arbor nut due to not knowing how to open the reel. All reels need to be opened now and then for lubrication or cord replacement. It grieves me to see such nice apparatus marred by a careless owner. Here is the reel front and back. This reel is 5.5 cm in diameter and 1.4 cm. thick.



Here are the scratches caused by using the wrong tool.



In addition to such scratches, I have seen an arbor nut like this nut ruined by a person using pliers with serrated jaws to grip this round nut.

Collectors, please take care of your collectibles by using only the proper tools on them.

Such nuts are to be loosened by special adjustable spanners as shown below. These are available from better hardware stores.



Such adjustable spanners are available with pin tips in several sizes, as well as, flat screw driver type tips as are used with lenses.



Another commonly seen adjustable spanner tool may be found in better bicycle shops. The tips on this type of tool are modified hex head screws.



The knurled edge on the above round arbor nut is for finger tightening only.

If the correct tool is not available, stainless steel pins may be made to just fit the holes in the round nut.



A flat edged tool may be inserted between the pins to loosen such a nut.



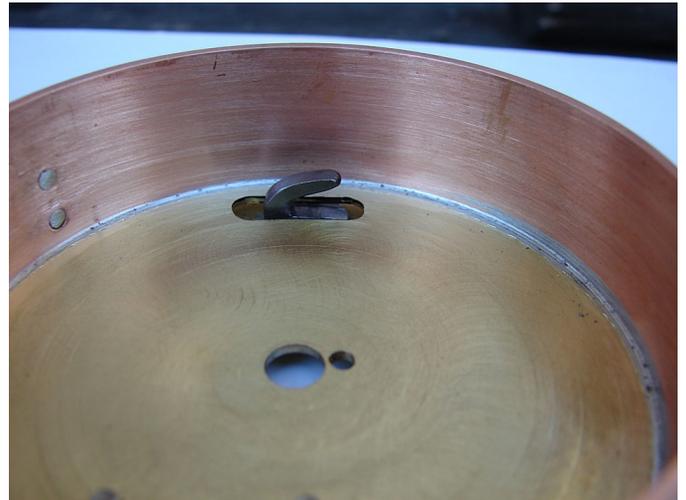
Careful use of such tooling will help you to keep your reels in first class condition.

Also of interest on this reel is the use of a pinned arbor to prevent rotation. Notice the small pin below the arbor center.

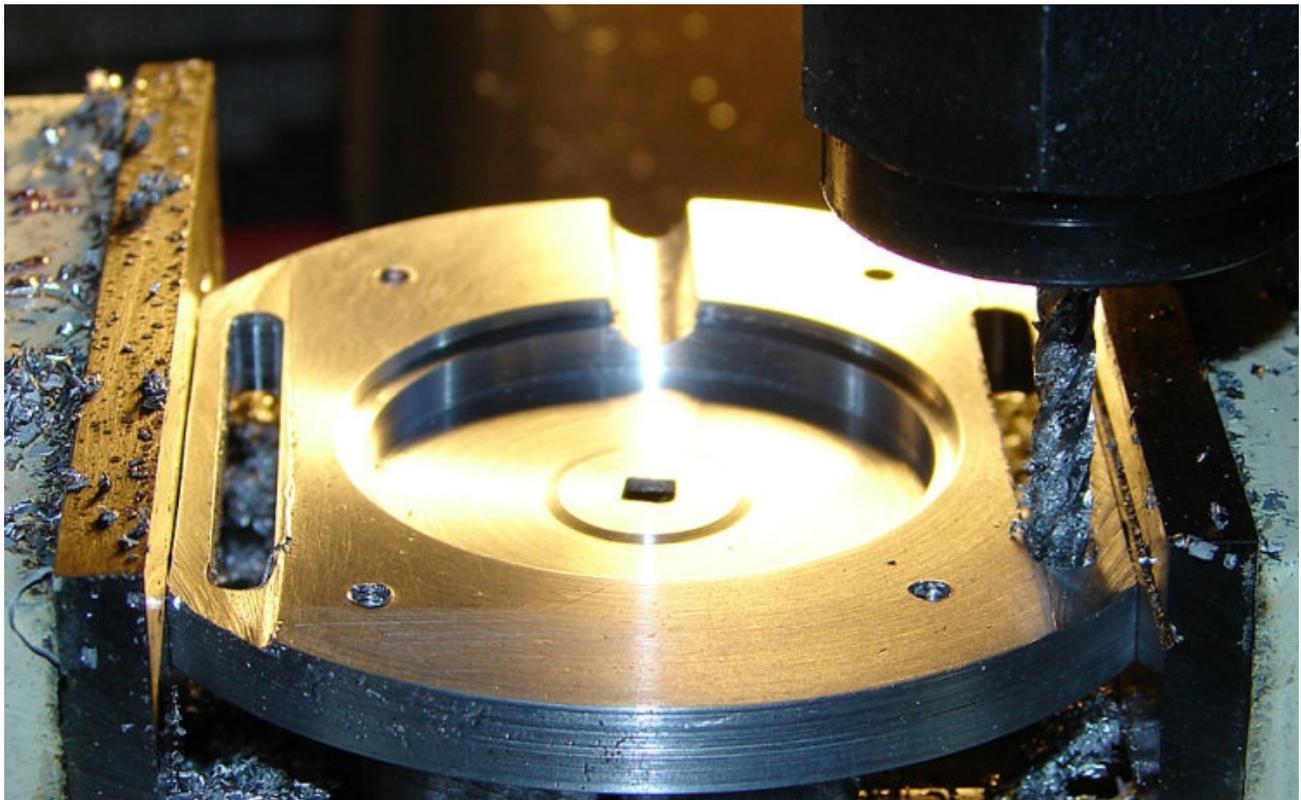


Here is a close up of the arbor pin on a large reel that I made. On this reel the round nut actually conceals the pin when in position. A pinned arbor is a standard method of securing an arbor.

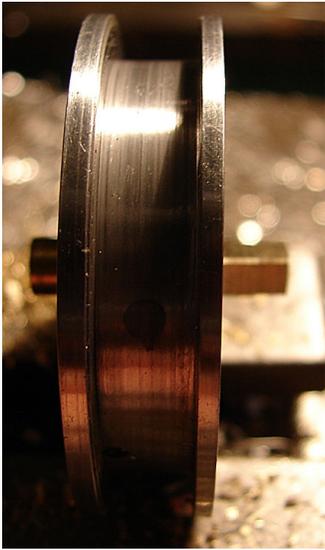
Below are shown a pin style arbor and the reel case for it from a large reel that I made. They are the same on smaller reels.



The alternative is often seen on Martin and Hammerton reels - a square end on the arbor locked in position by a square hole as seen below in the reel I am in the process of making. Neither method is necessarily better than the other.



Below are shown a take-up reel drum and arbor from a reel that I am making - notice the square end.



These two images are of an old Martin ring reel that I worked on. Notice the square arbor holes.



On less expensive reels the arbor is often soldered or riveted to the reel case or barrel. Hopefully the above info will be of use to collectors or those wanting to work on a reel.