SENKLOTE, PLUMB BOBS, PLOMADA, FILIO A PIOMBO, FIL A PLOMB, ŞAKÜL

PLUMB BOBS OF THE WORLD

Different types and shapes in the countries and continents
This short introduction is especially prepared for the
1. PLUMB BOBS COLLECTORS MEETING
   June 8, to June 10, 2006
   in Istanbul/Turkey
   by

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     PLUMB BOBS and other interesting tools, like chalk lines, saw sets, razor
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If you have any questions……..ASK!
Remark

• Not all of the shown plumb bobs are from my collection, especially the „high tec“.
• Some are from collections of friends, some pictures are from ebay auctions or other web pages
• This presentation shows only a small part of the large world of plumb bobs!
Typical shapes of different countries

• Germany/Deutschland
• France/Frankreich
• England/Groß Britannien/ common wealth
• America/U.S.A. /Canada
• Asia/Asien/China
• Turkey/Türkei
• others
Deutschland 1
and the neighbours in Europe

Plumb bobs of the world
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Deutschland 1 usual shape /Standardlot

- conical
- Material: iron, brass, zinc die cast
- Iron tip fix
- Brass screw to fix the line
Deutschland 1 masons / Maurerlot

- Cylindric (flat bottom) with wooden round spacer
- Spacer diameter +1mm to the plumb bob
- Rubber as shock-absorber
Deutschland 1 masons or carpenters

- Material iron or brass
- Spacer round or ornated
- Marked with year and signet
Deutschland 1 technical

• Heavy (5 to 10 kg) without ornates
• Ring to fix the line or cable
• Cast iron, turned iron or brass
Deutschland 1 for architects

- Brass, steel, cylindric
- Reversible tip or with cap
- Tip is inside on transport
- Used also in the German Army (12-digit- Code)
- Used as flat bottom or tip plumb bob
Deutschland 1 carpenters / Zimmermannslot

- Brass casted
- Tip unscrews and is reversible
- Shown in catalogue BERGHAUS 1913
Deutschland 2
and the neighbours in Europe
Deutschland 2 bullets

- Made from bullets
- Especially after the wars
- Top was adapted with holes for the line
Deutschland 2 diverse

- Free masons
- Two materials
- Hollow, filled with lead shot
Deutschland Advertising / Werbung 1

- Golden cover (made in Idar-Oberstein) plumb bob made for Mercedes for BAUMA ´80 (exhibition for machines and vehicles for construction.)
  Produced by Firma Gampper
• Ash-tray made by brickworks SCHUZ AG for his clients
• created by the artist Kurt Feuerriegel
• Material: baked clay
Deutschland (DDR)
German Democratic Republic

- Zylindric with tip
- Made by Georg Kührt in Zella Mehlis (DDR) 1964 and 1991
- marked EVP = price for the client in MDN Mark Deutscher Notenbank oder M Mark der DDR
Frankreich /France
Frankreich masons / Maurerlot

- The typical French plumb bob is a truncated cone with spacer
- Material: cast iron
- Square spacer
- Marked on spacer and plumb bob with a number
- Made by CF Camion Freres and others
Frankreich carpenters / Zimmermannslot

- Very old French carpenters plumb bob
- Materials plumb, sometimes brass
- Only known in France
- In the middle three wires to fix the line
- Used to build barns
- Simple to mold plumb in stone
Großbritannien/commonwealth

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Großbritannien/commonwealth onion

- Typical English shape
- Used also in all colonies as Australia, India etc.
- Produced in England and Germany (Gampper)
- Often marked with Edward Preston, Henry Boker, F.H. Prager, Air ministry, etc.
• With the hook it was fixed under the tripod of a level or theodolit
• Often the ball was of ivory (billiard balls)
Großbritannien/commonwealth bridgebuilders

- To reduce the influence of the wind the bridge builders used very heavy plumb bobs
- They were fixed not with a line, but with a wire
- Brass with steel tip
U.S.A. part 1
U.S.A. Standardlot

- This is the usual plumb bob in the U.S.A.
- Like a carrots, brass, long part to store the line
- Changeable steel tip
- Sometimes spare tip in the head
- Leather holster to fix on a belt
U.S.A. STARRETT

- STARRETT round head, the new one has six sided head
- Mercury filled = No. 87
- Iron = No. 177
- Patent for the filling and the head to fix the line
- No.87 in size A, B, C, D with 3, 6, 12 and 18 oz (with mercury)
- No.177 2 1/2, 5, 8 and 14 oz
U.S.A. chalk line combination

- Chalk line from RIDGELY
- Patent US909846 Jan. 12, 1909
- Handle to roll up the line is also pin to fix the line for using as a chalk line
U.S.A. STANLEY with internal reel

- STANLEY (works very well)
- Built in reel with brake
- Patent US151521 June 2, 1874
- exists in
  No. 1 (small) 8 oz brass
- No. 2 (large) 13 oz brass
- No. 5 iron; size like No. 2
U.S.A. part 2
U.S.A. acorn shaped

• Acorn shaped plumb bobs are very popular in U.S.A. and Canada
• Cast iron with bad surface
• Not very exact in using as plumb bob
U.S.A. fat turnip

- These turnips are very popular in the U.S.A.
- Cast iron in red or black
U.S.A. PERFECTION

- Patent US787896 Apr. 25, 1905
- Very thin sheet metal filled with lead
- Nearly all of them are in bad shape except some from Nelsons collection :-)

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Plumb bobs of the world
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U.S.A. spring protected tip

- BERGER 12
- Spring protected tip
- Double tip to turn
- There are a lot of patents to protect the tip
U.S.A. GENERAL boxed

- This very usual plumb bob from GENERAL is sold in a tin box
- Very good protection
U.S.A. lamp / common sense

- Called “Lamp” or “common sense”
- reversible
- heavy and impressive
- Marked 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 in small characters
- Produced by LEISTNER and HEIMBACH
U.S.A. part 3 “hightec” inside
U.S.A. part 3
KNAUS patent Apr. 3, 1962 US3027977
U.S.A. part 3
no patent found, maker unknown
U.S.A. part 3
BOSSERDET

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U.S.A. part 3
SPAETH Sept.6, 1932 US1876473
U.S.A. part 3
RIDGELY Jan. 12,1909 US909846
U.S.A. part 4 curiosities
U.S.A. with thermometer

- with thermometer
- Used in sugar refineries to measure the temperature inside of the liquid sugar
- Not really a plumb bob, but a weight
U.S.A. combinationen

- A small plumb bob in a bigger one
- Perhaps home made
U.S.A. papering plumb bobs

- This wooden half plumb bob hangs exactly plumb
- Used for paper hanging
Canada Hercules

• This is the only shape I know from Canada: HERCULES
• This one is made in Germany (GAMPPER) and shipped to Canada
Afghanistan 1

• Made of brass
• Shape like strawberry
• A small tip
• Head with a hole and a ring or moulded
• Some with round spacer from brass
Afghanistan 2

• Made from brass or iron
• Shape like an ellipsoid
• A small tip
• Head with a hole and a ring
China 1

- Mingh dynasty = 1368-1644
- Qing dynasty = 1644-1911
- Republic of China = 1911-1949
- Peoples Rep. of China (Separ. Taiwan) = 1949-
Shape in Republic of China 1911-1949 and Peoples Republic of China 1949 - “modern” shape now
**FAKED**: NEW engraving in an old pb to make it very old.

Sold as 1876 PB from > 1911, mark says: “The second year of Guangxu” (emperor in Qing dynasty from Feb. 25, 1875 – Nov. 14, 1908 => 1876) 😞
China 4 chalk line

- Protected with brass
- Interesting iron handle
India 1

All “ENGLISH” shapes
India 2

Iron or brass
New Zealand, Australia

All “english” shapes

CT Carter Tools

ChCh NZ

Plumb bobs of the world
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Osmanisches Reich / Turkey / Ottoman

Plumb bobs of the world
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Osmanisches Reich / Turkey / Ottoman
Type 1

- So called OTTOMAN-BOBS
- longish
- Head with one or two thick parts
- Round or sic sided body
- Rounded tip
- Used by the Ottomans (Turkey)
- Produced handmade single
- Usually of brass
Osmanisches Reich / Turkey / Ottoman Type 2

- Looks like a musical top
- Ever round
- To fix the line it has a hole
- The tip is rounded
- Is produced in this shape in our days
- Produced of brass handmade
Osmanisches Reich / Turkey / Ottoman Type 3

• Round head with hole
• Long neck to wind up the line
• Round tip
• Produced in brass handmade
Osmanisches Reich / Turkey / Ottoman Type 4

• Round head with hole
• Long neck to wind up the line
• Body like a French plumb bob
• Produced of iron
• turned
Osmanisches Reich / Turkey / Ottoman Type 5

- Triangle flat instrument
- Two hooks to hang it on a horizontal line
- An additional plumb bob is fixed at the inner part or with a long line outside
- Ornate
- Is this shape only known in the Ottoman empire
PLUMB BOBS IN EUROPE

Plumb bobs of the world
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PLUMB BOBS IN ASIA