

Serial Number Chart

for Acoustic and Classical Guitars

In the following charts, you can determine the year of manufacture for a Yamaha acoustic or classical guitar.

The first step is to find the serial number—a combination of letters and/or numbers—and the “Made in...” label (Japan, Taiwan, or Indonesia) on the guitar. You should be able to find these near the soundhole label or the stamp inside the guitar.

Once you have those two pieces of information, find the country of origin and serial number in one of the following charts and, using the Letter-to-Number Reference Chart below, calculate the year of manufacture for your guitar.

LETTER-TO-NUMBER Reference Chart

Often, some of the letters in the serial numbers represent specific numbers which, in turn, stand for the month and year of manufacture. See the chart below for the code.

H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	10	11	12

SAMPLE

Serial Number: IM705J 1991, July

I M 7 0 5 J

Internal Production Code

This three-digit number represents the unit number

Month, June (M=6)

Year 1992 (I=2)

1941–1965 No documentation available

System # A1

1966–1985

Custom Shop

Made in Japan

Sequential Serial Numbers

#001–1042

System # A2

1986–1990

Custom Shop

Made in Japan

Serial Number: I6001 1986, February

I 6 0 0 1

| | | | |
| | | | | Unit Number

| | | | |
| | | | | Year, 1986

| | | | |
| | | | | Month, February (I=2)

System # A3

1991–1996

Custom Shop

Made in Japan

Serial Number: HN701J 1991, July

Note: Each month started with 700.

H N 7 0 1 J

| | | | | Internal Code

| | | | | Unit Number

| | | | | Month, July (N=7)

| | | | | Year 1991 (H=1)

System # A4

1997–2003

Custom Shop

Made in Japan

Serial Number: NH001 1997, January

N H 0 0 1

| | | | | Unit Number

| | | | | Month, January (H=1)

| | | | | Year, 1997 (N=7)

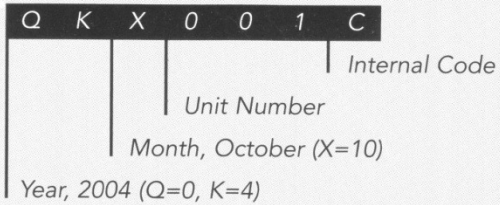
System # A5

2004-

Custom Shop

Made in Japan

Serial Number: QKX001C 2004, October



System # A6

1946-1968

Tenryu/Wada Factory

Made in Japan

This is a five digit sequential system.

There is no specific year of manufacturing data available.



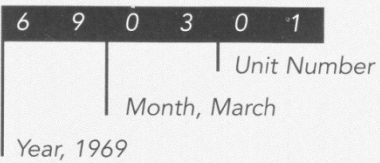
System # A7

1969-1984

Tenryu/Wada Factory

Made in Japan

Serial Number: 690301 1969, March



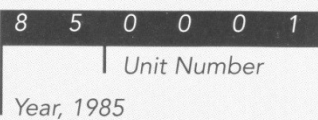
System # A8

1985-1986

Tenryu/Wada Factory

Made in Japan

Serial Number: 850001 1985



System # A9

1971-2001

Kaohsiung Factory

Made in Taiwan

Serial Number: 11001001 1971, October 01

1 1 0 0 1 0 0 1

| | | | | | | | Unit Number

| | | | | | | Day, 01

| | | | | | | Month, October

| | | | | | | Year, 1971

Note: This system allows for duplicate numbers.

System # A10

2001-

Kaohsiung Factory

Made in Taiwan

Serial Number: QHY157001 2001, November 15

Q H Y 1 5 7 0 0 1

| | | | | | | | Unit Number

| | | | | | | Day, 15

| | | | | | | Month, November (Y=11)

| | | | | | | Year 2001 (Q=0, H=1)

Note: Y2K issue came into play here. "Q" indicates the number zero for 2000.

System # A11

1997-1999

Yamaha Music Craft

Made in Japan

Serial Number: NM501J 1997, June

Every month the number started with 500.

N M 5 0 1 J

| | | | | | | Internal Code

| | | | | | | Unit Number

| | | | | | | Month, June (M=6)

| | | | | | | Year, 1997 (N=7)

Note: Same system as Custom Shop, System #A3

System # A12

1999-

Yamaha Music Craft

Made in Japan

Serial Number: PK201 1999, April

Starting in this year, each month the unit number started with 200.

P K 2 0 1

| | | | | Unit Number

| | | | | Month, April (K=4)

| | | | | Year, 1999 (P=9)

System # A13

2001-

Yamaha Music Craft

Made in Japan

Serial Number: QIK001A 2002, April

Q I K 0 0 1 A

| | | | | Internal Code

| | | | | Unit Number

| | | | | Month, April (K=4)

| | | | | Year, 2002 (Q=0, I=2)

System # A14

1990-1996

YMMI (Yamaha Music Manufacturing Indonesia)

Made in Indonesia

Serial Number: 00915001 1990, September 15

0 0 9 1 5 0 0 1

| | | | | Unit Number

| | | | | Day, 15

| | | | | Month, September

| | | | | Year, 1990

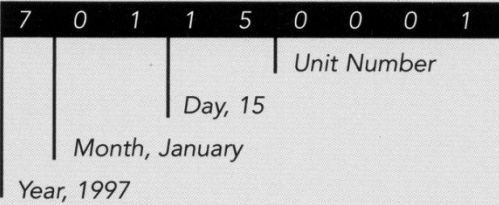
System # A15

1997-1999

YMMI (Yamaha Music Manufacturing Indonesia)

Made in Indonesia

Serial Number: 701150001 1997, January 15



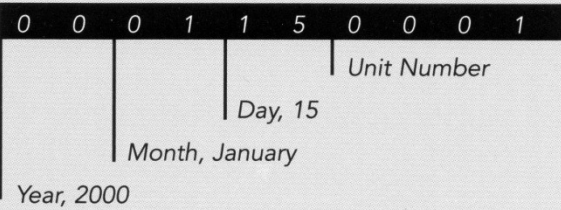
System # A16

2000-

YMMI (Yamaha Music Manufacturing Indonesia)

Made in Indonesia

Serial Number: 0001150001 2000, January 15



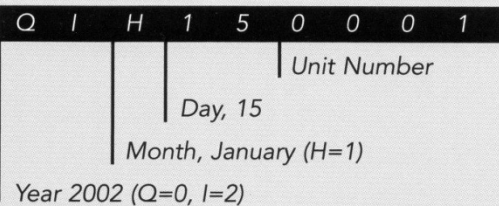
System # A17

2001-

YMMI (Yamaha Music Manufacturing Indonesia)

Made in Indonesia

Serial Number: QIH150001 2002, January 15



Note: The above charts include the majority of Yamaha acoustic (and acoustic-electric) and classical guitars manufactured. However, in some cases, the serial number information is no longer available and/or, for the lowest priced models, is not listed. Additionally, in some cases, exceptions to the rule will apply.