

# BRAMAH'S HISTORY - Chronological History of Bramah

## A Chronological History of Bramah Locks 1784 to 2002

Date	Company name/Address/Event	Lock Markings
21st August 1784	Bramah Lock Company, Denmark Street, St. Giles. The lock patent was granted.	Locks marked I (or J) Bramah. Patent
1784	Moved to 124 Piccadilly, London.	
1789-1797	Henry Maudsley Works Manager.	
2nd June 1798	Patent extended for a further 14 years.	Locks marked I (or J) Bramah and a crown – no word Patent. Locks marked I (or J) Bramah with or without crown, but with address 14 or 124 Piccadilly.
1801	The Bramah Challenge padlock, now in the Science Museum, was placed in the shop-front of 124 Piccadilly.	
1805	Prior to 1805 the key 'bit' faces a smooth expanse of metal. After 1805 the 'bit' is directly opposite one of the several slots.	
1813	Eldest son Timothy joined the business as a partner and the Company name was changed to Bramah & Son.	
1814	Joseph Bramah died.	
1821- 1836	Two other sons Francis and Edward became partners and the Company changed its name to Bramah and Sons.	
1837- 1841	A new partner joined the Company and the name was changed to Bramah and Robinson.	
1841	The lock business was separated from the engineering business. The former became Bramah & Co and the latter became known as Bramah, Prestige and Ball.	
1851	The Bramah lock controversy. Great Exhibition at Crystal Palace. Bramah & Co was still at 124 Piccadilly London.	
1871	Down Street, Piccadilly, W. The first mention of Needs & Co (Late Bramah & Co) patentees and sole lock manufactures of Bramah patent lock etc.	Locks probably marked J T Needs & Co. Down Street, Piccadilly, W.
1875	Needs & Co patent lock makers, 128 Piccadilly.	Locks probably marked J T Needs & Co. 128 Piccadilly.
1885	Needs & Co still at 128 Piccadilly.	
1901	Company owned by J T Needs & Co and held Royal Warrants from Queen Victoria and King Edward VII. The works were in Deering Street. In 1901 the Company was bought by Whitfield Safe & Lock Company.	Locks marked J T Needs & Co 100 New Bond Street (Late J Bramah 124 Piccadilly)
1904	The business name was changed back to Bramah & Co and the engineering works was moved to Oldbury Place. A Royal warrant was granted by King George V – Bramah & Co patent lock makers to the king, 100 New Bond Street.	
1919		Locks marked with 32 Old Bond Street
1926 - 1934	Company took over 2 Nottingham Street.	Locks marked with 2 Nottingham Street address.
1934	Incorporated as Bramah Manufacturing Co Ltd and name then changed to Bramah's Ltd	
1936 - 1939	Moved from 2 Nottingham Street to 11 Old Bond Street.	Locks Marked with 11 Old Bond Street address.

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Date	Company name/Address/Event	Lock Markings
1939-1963	All bespoke locks made at Oldbury Place. In 1963 the Company was purchased by Mr Len Young who within three months designed and launched the current low volume high security range of products.	Locks marked 31 Oldbury Place address.
1966	Bramah's Ltd purchased by J R Bramah & Co Ltd and renamed Bramah Security Equipment Ltd its name today.	7 Guard Mechanism Current.
1986	Jeremy Bramah purchased the Company.	
1987	Assembly moved from 31, Oldbury Place W1 to Hornchurch in Essex, where a complete manufacturing plant was set up. Sid Pinner Works Manager..	Locks marked I (or J) Bramah and a crown – no word Patent. Locks marked I (or J) Bramah with or without crown, but with address 14 or 124 Piccadilly.
1991	Works Manager Bill Kirk. Bramah launched its Swiss style profile locks.	
1998	Works Manager Mike Bocking. Bramah produced a narrow stile Cabinet lock 32mm.	
2002	All Bramah Deadlock Forends and Coinbow keys marked with Queens Golden Jubilee mark, for one year until May 2003.	Locks marked Queens Golden Jubilee 2002.