

Macmillan Hunter Sundials



macmillan hunter
SUNDIALS

Marking
precious moments
with light



The fascination of sundials

A SUNDIAL is not just a garden ornament; it is the culmination of more than 3,000 years of man's questing to unravel the mysteries of the forces that govern our world. A Macmillan Hunter bespoke sundial is both a precision instrument and a work of contemporary sculpture.

Owning a sundial

A SUNDIAL allows for meditation on the fleeting yet eternal nature of time. It invites you to chart the progress of the sun and seasons whilst reflecting on your own memorable hours. Reading the dial regularly creates a point of stillness amidst the hectic rush of life.



Sundial styles

Sundials come in a surprising variety of designs, although all are governed by the same mathematical principles. Macmillan Hunter sundials are strikingly contemporary and include three distinct styles.

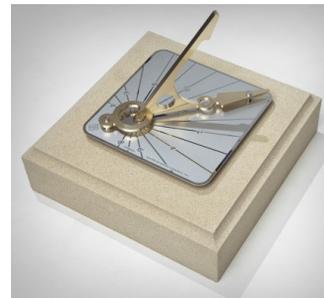
VERTICAL - From the 17th century vertical dials began to be used as public timepieces, appearing on towers and churches. A vertical dial must be placed in sunshine and aligned to face south.

HORIZONTAL - Once set to the correct alignment, the gnomon on a horizontal sundial will measure time from hour to hour as the earth spins on its polar axis.

UNIVERSAL - The universal sundial has a mechanism that allows the gnomon to be adjusted in line with the earth's axis at any latitude north or south in the world.

Crafting Macmillan Hunter sundials

ALASTAIR HUNTER is an artist and engineer whose aesthetic judgement and love of mathematics has transformed the traditional sundial into a work of contemporary sculpture. Each sundial is designed and constructed in the UK using ancient principles, original design and precision engineering



The history and principles of sundials

MEASURES OF TIME

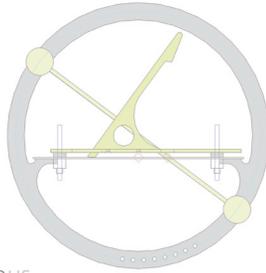
To the earliest civilisations, the passage of the sun across the sky was both mysterious and yet familiar. So much of life depended upon it that determining its movements became vital. In the rule of the Pharaohs simple measuring devices were constructed from stone, but it was the mathematicians of ancient Greece who created the first sundials. Later Julius Caesar would use the calculations of Sosigenes to modify the calendar, introducing the leap year, and in Renaissance Florence Cosimo I de' Medici would instruct Egnazio Danti to create an Equinoctial Armilla sundial, as described by Ptolemy, for measurements of great accuracy.



At last it was possible to create a calendar to determine the time of the Equinoxes and to resolve the date of Easter.

The shadow cast by the gnomon or pointer on

a sundial passes horizontally across the face of the dial in the course of a day and its position indicates solar time. The shadow travels vertically according to the seasons and the analemma or loop inscribed on many dials is used to determine the difference between solar time and mean time.

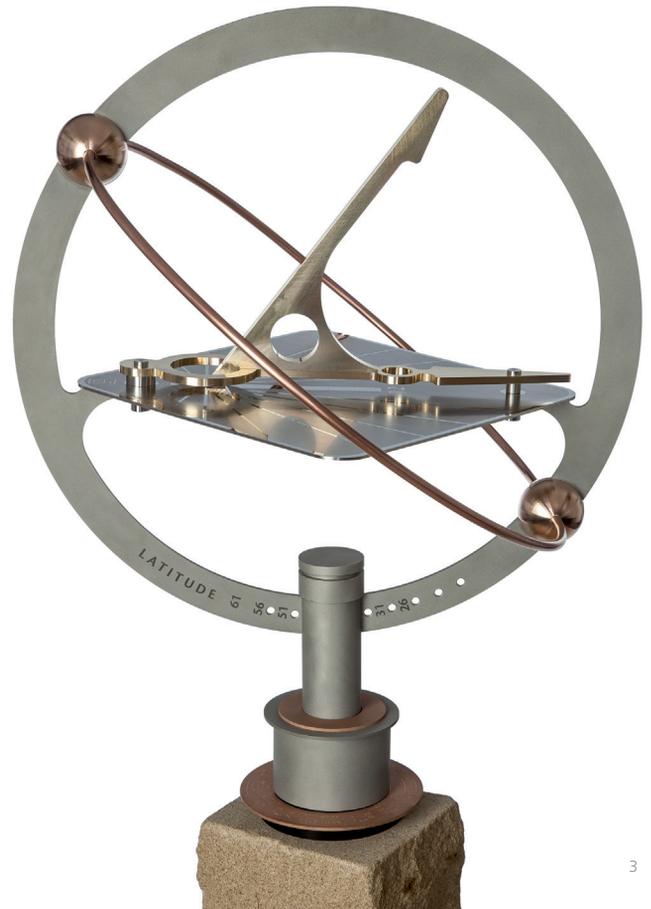


Our sundials explained

THE MACMILLAN HUNTER RANGE of sundials includes simple yet beautiful dials for measuring the hours and reading the season as well as astronomical instruments for complex calculations.

● ORBDIAL

This sets a horizontal sundial within an armillary sphere with both meridian ring and equinox ring in a design unique to Macmillan Hunter that may be the very first of its kind.



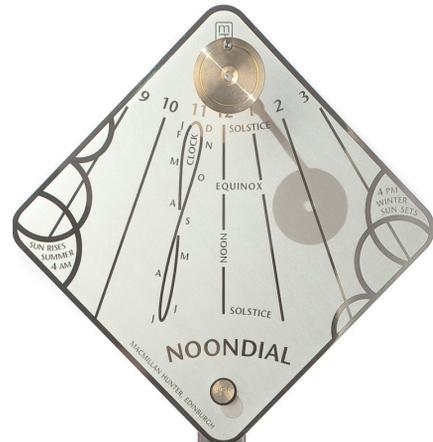
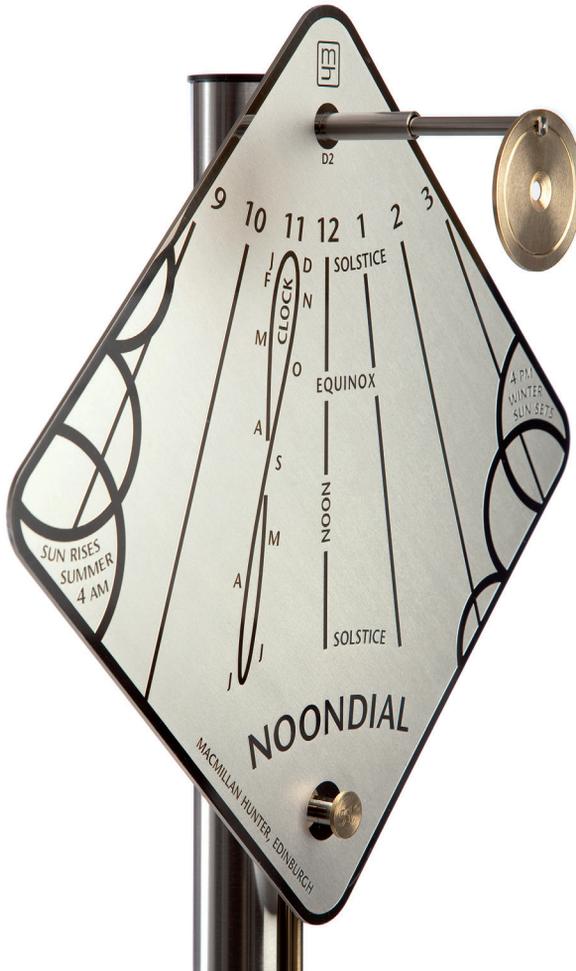
● ORBIT

Swirling planets crossing the Orbit intersect to form an oculus that casts a light spot onto the face of this freestanding vertical dial. This intriguing and beautiful sundial is a unique and original design.



● NOONDIAL

The beauty of the vertical Noondial lies in its simplicity and in the elegant analemma on the dial which allows it be read for clock time as well as solar time.



● PENDULUM

In a world of data and digital time, the stilled clock pendulum hanging beneath the face of the sundial is a reminder of old rhythms of the sun.



● HOURDIAL

The classic horizontal sundial is reinvented in polished stainless steel and machined brass, with bold hour lines and sleek styling. It is a precision instrument that will measure time whenever the sun shines.



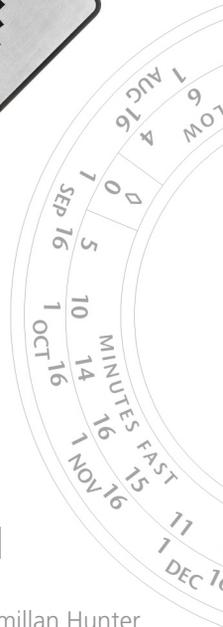
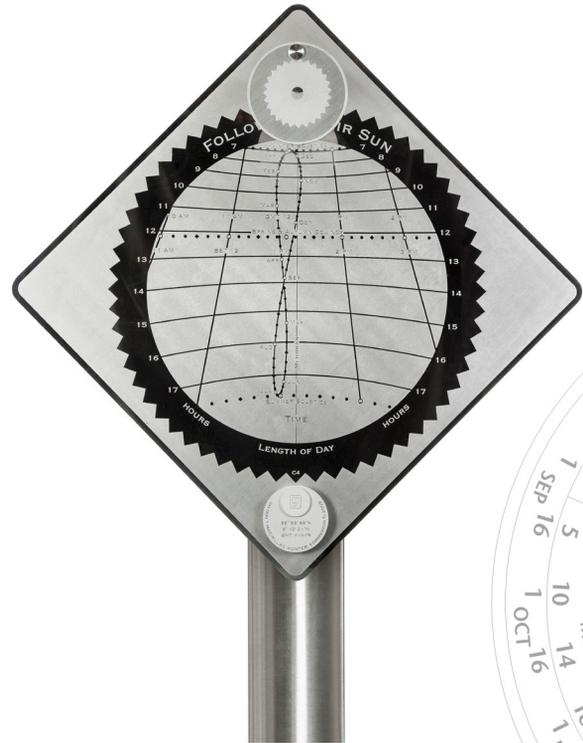
● EARTHDIAL

By placing the Earthdial on a hand-made, stoneware globe Macmillan Hunter evokes the earth spinning in space. The organic form of the globe supporting the highly engineered dial reflects the harmony between science and nature.



● SOLAR TIME

With declination lines for solstice, equinox and day length and an analemma for clock time, the vertical Solar Time is as much a scientific instrument as it is a beautiful sculpture.



Personalising your sundial



Each Macmillan Hunter sundial is made for the latitude and longitude of its location and can be inscribed with a personal legend.

Installation

Macmillan Hunter sundials are supplied with installation details, including bespoke alignment data where necessary. A full installation and alignment service is provided with Orbit and Solar Time.



Care and maintenance

All the materials used in the creation of a Macmillan Hunter sundial, including stainless steel and engineered bronze, will endure indefinitely and improve with age. Patinated colouring enhances the beauty of the dial.



What our customers have told us

“The sundial is attracting a lot of interest, and people study and discuss it for a long time. It really is an intriguing sculpture. We are very pleased to have it in our garden.”

Inverewe Garden, National Trust for Scotland.

Just to let you know the dial arrived today, it is beautiful! Once again, very many thanks for everything and very best wishes.”

Dollar, Scotland.

“The sundial has already given us a new interest in the garden and has proved to be a great conversation starter.”

Leicester, England.

“This is the inscription I would like on the sundial. It is a poem from the Sung dynasty.”

Penglai, Shandong Province, China.

Awards

“I have great pleasure in writing to congratulate you on being awarded Highly Commended in the Professional Class of the British Sundial Society's Sundial Design Competition 2010.”

Chairman of Judging Panel, British Sundial Society.

“RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2012 Certificate of Commendation awarded to Macmillan Hunter for the high quality presentation of their stand.”

The Royal Horticultural Society.



Getting started

To discuss your project, please contact **Alastair Hunter** on **0131 468 2616** or sundials@macmillanhunter.co.uk. Or, complete the slip below and tell us about your interest, which sundial style:

Vertical Horizontal Universal

which design:

Orbdial Orbit Noonial Pendulum
Hourdial Earthdial Solar Time

which type of place:

Private garden Public space Memorial
Commercial Sports Other

Your name _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Email _____

Phone _____

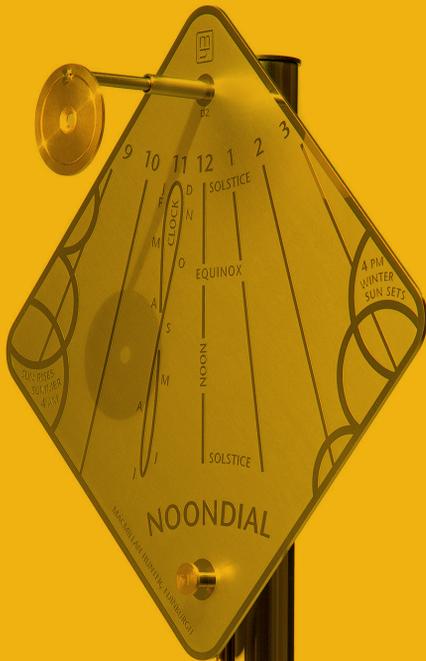
Your particular request _____

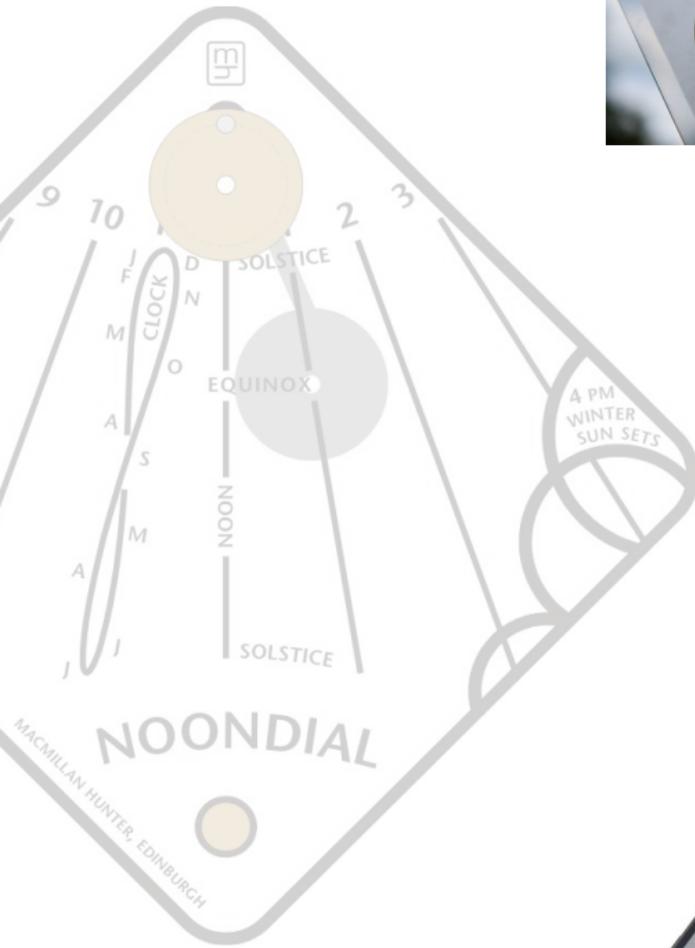
Signed _____

Date _____

Please return to
Macmillan Hunter Sundials,
3 Peel Terrace, Edinburgh EH9 2AY, UK

We will confirm your requirements in writing together with advice on payment.





Macmillan Hunter Sundials
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