

# YORK

Year	2500 per/Yr.	2700 Per/Yr.	2750 Per/Yr.	2800 Per/Yr.	2900 Per/Yr.	3000 Per/Yr.	Per J. Swain
1890	----	----	----	----	----	----	800
1891	----	----	----	----	----	----	1200
1892	----	----	----	----	----	----	1600
1893	----	----	----	----	----	----	2000
1894	----	----	----	----	----	----	2400
1895	----	----	----	----	----	----	2800
1896	----	----	----	----	----	----	3200
1897	9500	1300	----	----	----	----	3600
1898	12000	4000	2000	----	----	----	4000
1899	14500	6700	4750	2800	----	----	4600
1900	17000	9400	7500	5600	1800	----	5200
1901	19500	12100	10250	8400	4700	1000	5800
1902	22000	14800	13000	11200	7600	4000	6500
1903	24500	17500	15750	14000	10500	7000	7500
1904	27000	20200	18500	16800	13400	10000	9500
1905	29500	22900	21250	19600	16300	13000	12000
1906	32000	25600	24000	22400	19200	16000	14500
1907	34500	28300	26750	25200	22100	19000	17500
1908	37000	31000	29500	28000	25000	22000	20800
1909	39500	33700	32250	30800	27900	25000	24400
1910	42000	36400	35000	33600	30800	28000	28000
1911	44500	39100	37750	36400	33700	31000	31800
1912	47000	41800	40500	39200	36600	34000	35800
1913	49500	44500	43250	42000	39500	37000	40000
1914	52000	47200	46000	44800	42400	40000	44200
1915	54500	49900	48750	47600	45300	43000	48400
1916	57000	52600	51500	50400	48200	46000	52400
1917	59500	55300	54250	53200	51100	49000	55400
1918	62000	58000	57000	56000	54000	52000	58400
1919	64500	60700	59750	58800	56900	55000	61400
1920	67000	63400	62500	61600	59800	58000	64400

1921	69500	66100	65250	64400	62700	61000	67900
1922	72000	68800	68000	67200	65600	64000	71400
1923	74500	71500	70750	70000	68500	67000	74900
1924	77000	74200	73500	72800	71400	70000	78400
1925	79500	76900	76250	75600	74300	73000	81900
1926	82000	79600	79000	78400	77200	76000	85400
1927	84500	82300	81750	81200	80100	79000	88900
1928	87000	85000	84500	84000	83000	82000	92400
1929	89500	87700	87250	86800	85900	85000	95400
1930	92000	90400	90000	89600	88800	88000	97900
1931	94500	93100	92750	92400	91700	91000	99900
1932	97000	95800	95500	95200	94600	94000	101900
1933	99500	98500	98250	98000	97500	97000	103900
1934	102000	101200	101000	100800	100400	100000	105900
1935	104500	103900	103750	103600	103300	103000	108400
1936	107000	106600	106500	106400	106200	106000	110900
1937	109500	109300	109250	109200	109100	109000	113400
1938	112000	112000	112000	112000	112000	112000	116400
1939	114500	114700	114750	114800	114900	115000	119400
1940	117000	117400	117500	117600	117800	118000	122400
1941	119500	120100	120250	120400	120700	121000	125400
1942	122000	122800	123000	123200	123600	124000	128400
1943	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
1944	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
1945	124500	125500	125750	126000	126500	127000	131400
1946	127000	128200	128500	128800	129400	130000	135400
1947	129500	130900	131250	131600	132300	133000	139400
1948	132000	133600	134000	134400	135200	136000	144400
1949	134500	136300	136750	137200	138100	139000	150400
1950	137000	139000	139500	140000	141000	142000	158400
1951	139500	141700	142250	142800	143900	145000	167400
1952	142000	144400	145000	145600	146800	148000	175400
1953	144500	149800	147750	148400	149700	151000	182400

**ESTIMATING THE DATE OF MANUFACTURE:**

The estimated production curves for the YORK Band Instruments are based on instruments for which serial number and date of manufacture are known. The beginning serial numbers on the above lists were calibrated by counting backwards from known/verified serial number (#112000). In addition, an

estimation of monthly-output in the early part of the century, and a correlation of serial numbers with patent dates which appear on certain York instruments, has been taken into account. Six individual yearly production rates are plotted above, and it is projected that the closest estimate of the actual year of manufacture can be estimated by establishing a range of possible dates from these production curves. For example, an instrument with the serial number 28000 could have been made between the years 1904 and 1910, depending on the actual rate of production. It is believed that the yearly production rate of 2750 instruments probably comes the closest to meeting all the criteria used to establish this table, but variations in yearly production are not known, so the range of dates is probably the safest way to "guesstimate" the date of manufacture.

The last column represents a provisional estimate of serial numbers correlated by John J. Swain in 1996. These numbers seem to be consistently higher than the other 5 columns; I do not know how he arrived at his numbers.

## HISTORY

James Warren York was born on November 24, 1839, in Exeter, New Hampshire. He first worked for the Boston Musical Instrument Manufactory and in 1882 moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan where he first played in a music pit. He then owned his instrument manufacturing company until his retirement to California in 1917. He died in Los Angeles on February 9, 1927.

York manufactured a full line of brass instruments, both under its own name and proprietary brand names. York briefly participated in two partnerships, Smith & York (1883) and York & Holton (1885). In 1884 the company was known as J.W. York and Company. In recognition of his infant son Charles E. York, he renamed the company York & Son in 1887. York further changed the company's name to York & Sons in 1898 to include his other son, Frank W. York. Both sons were active with the company until about 1913.

In 1897, Alfred J. "Bill" Johnson became the company's foreman. In 1913, Johnson, along with John and James Duffy, formed a stockholding company, and when the York family relinquished all interest in the company in 1926, Johnson became a co-owner. The company was then known as the York Band Instrument Company. In December 1940, York was sold to Carl Fischer Musical Instruments and Johnson left the company. During World War II the company manufactured munitions. After the war, York produced student-line instruments. In 1971, Tolchin Instrument Company who then owned York, closed the factory. Proprietary rights were ultimately purchased in 1976 by Boosey & Hawkes.

If you note any discrepancies, or have additional information concerning this company, we would appreciate it VERY much if you would pass it on to The Music Trader. Thank you!

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