

UNCATEGORIZED

CLOCKWORKS

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Do you know how a mechanical clock works? Here is my attempt to explain this to my children:

[MEDIA=20]

The power (the white solid wheel at 4 o'clock) is attached to a series of wheels (black, green, pink) that finally carry the hands.

The clock would run as fast as possible if the power wheel would not be limited by a second set of wheels (blue, yellow, red) leading to white escapement, that is leading to a periodic repetitive action allowing the power to escape in small bursts rather than drain away all at once.

The trick is with the special form of the white [escapement](#) wheel at 12 o'clock which lifts up the pallet arbor periodically. The pallet arbor has 2 pallets, which enter the spaces between the wheel teeth; it rocks back and forth in a consistent way as it is also connected to a pendulum. As each tooth moves in and out of the teeth, it allows the wheel to turn in repetitive actions.

More clock photos at [human clock](#); we will need this principle at a later stage.