

HOW TO TELL AN ORIGINAL BELFAST PATTERN PUMP FROM A CHINESE REPLICA

Here is a list of things I have seen in Chinese copies:

1. They are often very shiny but this method will not work if they have been re-painted by their owner.
2. They have sharp bucket hooks often with a very distinct casting line running symmetrically through them.
3. They have cast iron handles (which sometimes break). The way to tell they are cast is to look for a casting line along the length of the handle. The handles are also in a slightly higher position on copies, however this is an obscure method.
4. They nearly always have "RANKIN & CO BALLYMENA" written around the rim. The writing is also very sharp and even, which is unlike the originals.
5. Most pumps with this mark are replicas but there are a few originals with this mark around and not to mention marks like "A. RANKIN", "C. RANKIN MAGHERAFELT",

"RANKIN" is a mystery that will probably never be completely solved but these small things will make it easier to see if Belfast pattern pumps are originals or replicas. We have perfected this technique so we can usually recognise a replica even driving past at 30 MPH!



Original



Chinese Replica