

Ibanez V2 Pickup identification and general pickup information

The first version of those pickups which were made by Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) and featured the brass base plate and printed production date code had the slotted *fake* Allen pole pieces.

The second version which featured the greyish base plate and no production date code had the 2,5mm hex pole pieces. Those were introduced ca. 1983 when the pickup production had switched to Fuji Gen.

Ibanez and Greco Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) pickup serial number format consisting of 5 numbers up to and including 1977. Ibanez Super 70 pickups have the same serial number format.

- First number = Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) pickup code (1, 2, etc.)
- Second number = Year (7=1977)
- Third number = Month (0=Jan ... 9=Oct then .=Nov, X=Dec)
- Fourth and Fifth number = Day of Month (01-31)

Ibanez and Greco Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) pickup serial number format consisting of 6 numbers from 1977 to 1982.

- First number = Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) pickup code (1, 2, etc.)
- Second number = Year (9=1979)
- Third and Fourth number = Month (01=Jan ... 12=Dec)
- Fifth and sixth number = Day of Month (01-31)

Ibanez "Super 70" and Greco "U-1000" pickups had an [alnico VIII](#) magnet. Greco "U-2000" and "PU-x" pickups had an alnico V magnet. Ibanez "Super 58" and Greco "Dry-Z" pickups had an alnico III magnet. Ibanez "Super 80" pickups had a [ceramic magnet](#). All of the above pickups [DC resistance](#) is approximately 7.5-8.0 kilohms.

Serial numbers and dating pickups:

- GRECO and Ibanez Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) pickup serial number format consisting of 5 numbers up to and including 1977. Ibanez Super 70 pickups is same as GRECO U-1000 and have the same serial number format.

First number (1, 2, 3, 5 & 8; 1, 2 & 3 are from the early years, 5 & 8 post 1980) = Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) pickup code (1, 2, etc.). Production line code.

Second number = Year (7=1977).

Third number = Month (0=Jan ... 9=Oct then .=Nov, X=Dec).

Fourth and fifth number = Day of Month (01-31).

- GRECO and Ibanez Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) pickup serial number format consisting of 6 numbers from 1977 to 1982.

First number = Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) pickup code (1, 2, etc., 8).

Second number = Year (9=1979).

Third and fourth number = Month (01=Jan ... 12=Dec).

Fifth and sixth number = Day of Month (01-31).

When the Mint Collection starts around 1982, Maxon start dropping out of making GRECO pickups and Fujigen starts making GRECO pickups. From 1982 you can't find Maxon serial number stamps on the GRECO pickups, they just have model stickers like Dry 82, Screamin, etc. But there are transitional pickups around 1982 that have Maxon serial number stamps and model stickers like Dry 82. Greco stopped putting the little rectangular stickers on the backs of Greco pickups in or around '85. As a general rule, the Super Reals have Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) made pickups and the Mint Collection have Fujigen made pickups.

DRY Z have 6 numbers in black stamped ink, followed by the letter Z. After 1982 they were renamed DRY with a DRY 1982 sticker on the bottom.

- There are also Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) pickups from the early 1980s that have serial numbers that start with a 5 and these serial numbers follow a reverse serial number format.

First number = Nisshin Onpa (Maxon) pickup code (5)

Second and third number = Day of Month (01-31)

Fourth and fifth number = Month (01=Jan ... 12=Dec)

Sixth number = Year (1=1981).

References:

[Wikipedia](#)

[Music-trade.co](#)

[Guitarsjapan.com](#)

[Japanguitars.co](#)

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