

Japanese Manufacturer's Codes for Optical Products.

Most Japanese binoculars from the 1960s and several decades later carry one or two tiny marks on the body, about 2 mm in height, frequently adjacent to the hinge axis on the rear, between the objectives. 'JB' and two or three digits identifies the manufacturer of the finished binocular, and 'JE' identifies the maker of the body. The J symbol has a small horizontal line extending from the middle of the J, and is explained in a pamphlet from the Japan Binoculars Export Promotion Association, '_63 Binoculars From Japan_'. "Combining the letters L and J (standing for Light Machinery of Japan).....on the shoulder hinges or support strut of all approved binoculars manufactured in Japan since November 1959." The JBPEA had their US office in the Japan Trade Center, 393 Fifth Ave, NY.

This list was obtained by Bill Beacom, who arranged for its translation, and converted to electronic form by Fred Schwartzman. A second, later, list added further companies; the earlier list used 'Kogaku' and the later list used 'Optical'. No dates are available for either list.

We are looking for the manufacturers represented by the missing numbers 65, 66, and 209.

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Checkup On Quality - JAPANESE BINOCULAR INSPECTION INSTITUTE

Binoculars from Japan are rigidly inspected to make sure that every component is of top quality and that all mechanisms are in perfect working order. All optical products that have passed these rigorous standards are tagged "PASSED" by the Government's Japan Telescopes Inspection Institute.

The JL mark: Only those binocular and optical manufacturers meeting Japan's Government standards of inspection and quality may use the authorized JL symbol. This symbol accompanied by the letter "E" or "B" and the number of the respective manufacturer is engraved on the objective-end hinge or on the cover plate. The letter "E" designating the metalwork manufacturer is engraved on the right and the letter "B" designating the manufacturer of the finished product is on the left.

"PASSED" labels. This oval silver paper label marked "JTII" certifies that binoculars have complied with the export standards of the Japan Telescopes Inspection Institute. It is usually found on the axle of the binoculars.

The quality of the JB marked products are rechecked by the Institute for items that are exported. This rigorous Government system insures that only top quality binoculars are exported from Japan. Know your dealer. Your final check on a quality pair of binoculars is your faith and reliance in your dealer. A reputable dealer will stand behind his optical products.

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Below are two lists, one in numeric order and the second in alphabetic order.

- JB 1 Toa Kogaku Co.Ltd., Tokyo
- JB 2 Katsuma Kogaku Kikai Co.Ltd.
- JB 3 Toei Kogaku Seisakujo Co.Ltd.
- JB 4 Toei Kogaku Co. Ltd., Hatogaya-Shi

JB 5 Meiji Seiko Co. Ltd.
JB 6 Asahi Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd., Tokyo.
JB 7 Nippon Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 8 Fuji Sbashin Koki Co. Ltd.
JB 9 Sato Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 10 Toko Seiki Co. Ltd.
JB 11 Omiya Kogaku Kikai Seisakujo, Tokyo
JB 12 Orora Kogaku Co. Ltd. - Aurora Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 14 Ueta Seiki Co. Ltd.
JB 15 Tokyo Oputikaru Co. Ltd.- Tokyo Optical Co. Ltd.
JB 16 Sankei Koki Seisakujo Inc.
JB 17 Otake Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 18 Tokyo Kogaku Kikai Co. Ltd.
JB 19 FujiKogeisha Co. Ltd.
JB 20 Mitsui Koki Seisakujo Co. Ltd.
JB 21 Kokisha Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 22 Itabashi Kogaku Kikai Seisakujo Inc.,Tokyo
JB 23 Ishii Kogaku Co. Ltd.,Yokohama
JB 24 Ichikawa Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.,Tokyo
JB 25 Zuiho Kogaku Seiki Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 26 Futaba Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 27 Sanyo Koki Co. Ltd.
JB 28 Fuji Seinritsukiki Seisakujo. Inc.
JB 29 Meikosha Inc.
JB 30 Kofu Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 31 Muraki Koko Co. Ltd.
JB 32 Miyako Seiki Co. Ltd.
JB 33 Teito Koki Co. Ltd.
JB 34 Musashi Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 35 Raito Koki Seisakujo Co. Ltd. - Lite Koki Seisakujo Co. Ltd.
JB 36 Jiyama Seiko Co.
JB 37 Yoshinon Kogaku Kikai Co. Ltd.
JB 38 Nakabishi Kogaku Inc.
JB 39 Josei Koki Inc.
JB 40 Mutsu Koki Inc.
JB 41 Shinsei Kogaku Seiki Co. Ltd.
JB 42 Nippon Garasu Kogyo Co. Ltd. Takinokawa Syuchojo
JB 43 Tozaki Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 44 Iikura Kogaku Seisakujo Inc.
JB 45 Taisei Kogaku Kogyo Co; Ltd.
JB 45 Tamron Co., Ltd., Tokyo
JB 46 Otsuka Kogaku Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 47 Tokuhiko Koki Seisakusho Inc., Tokyo
JB 48 Kazusa Koki Seisakujo Inc.
JB 49 Sankyo Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 50 Tanaka Koki Seisakujo. Inc.
JB 51 Yoshimoto Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 52 Kanto Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 53 Inoue Koki Seisakujo Inc.
JB 54 Suzuki Kogaku Seiki Co. Ltd.
JB 55 Enshu Kogaku Seiki Co. Ltd.,Tokyo.
JB 56 Hiyoshi Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 57 Oji Kogaku Kikai Co. Ltd.

JB 58 Ryuko Seisakujo
JB 59 Mitsui Kogaku Seisakujo
JB 60 Akebono Optical, Tokyo
JB 60 Wakaba Koki Seisakujo Inc.
JB 61 Meiho Kogaku Seisakujo Inc.
JB 62 Oshiro Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 63 Ofuna Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 64 Kobayashi Kogaku Scisakitjo. Inc.
JB 65
JB 66
JB 67 Esaka Kogaku
JB 68 Sono Kogaku Kikai Co. Ltd.
JB 69 Akebono Kogaku Kogyo Co
JB 70 Sugamo Kogaku Seisakujo
JB 71 Toho Koki Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 72 Rubina Koki Co. Ltd.
JB 73 Tsuchida Kogaku Seisakujo.
JB 74 Omori Sogo Kogaku Kogyo
JB 75 Seki Kogaku Kikai Co. Ltd.
JB 76 Izumi Seiki Seisakujo. Inc.
JB 77 Koronbia Kogaku Co. Ltd. – Columbia Kogaku Co.
JB 78 Kuribayashi Kogaku Seisakujo
JB 79 Furukawa Kogaku Seisakujo
JB 80 Sansei Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd
JB 81 Copitar Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 81 Takahisa Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 82 Sanwa Kogaku Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 83 Nakamura Kogaku Kogyo Seisakujo Inc.
JB 84 Oei Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 85 Kawashima Kogaku Seisakujo
JB 86 Niigaki Kogaku Seiki Seisakujo
JB 87 Yachiyo Kogaku Co. Ltd
JB 88 Kofuku Sangyo Co. Ltd. Kowa Koki Seisakujo
JB 89 Sekiguchi Kogaku Seisakujo. Inc., Tokyo
JB 90 Someno Koki Seisakujo
JB 92 Hayashi Kokisha
JB 93 Seiwa Kogaku Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 94 Ibuki Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 96 Fuji Koki Seisakujo Inc.
JB 96 Nikkei Optical Co., Ltd., Tokyo
JB 97 Soneda Kogaku Kenkyujo Inc.
JB 98 Seiwa Seiki Seisakujo Inc.
JB 99 Tokushu Kogaku Seisakujo Co Ltd.
JB 100 Nippon Koki Co. Ltd.
JB 101 Hifumi Kogaku Kikai Co. Ltd.
JB 102 Hoya Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 103 Teihoku Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd., Tokyo (Tohoku)
JB 104 Kyanon Kamara Co. Ltd. - Canon Camera Co. Ltd.
JB 105 Toyoshima Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd
JB 106 Sanko Kogaku Seisakujo Inc.
JB 107 Jyonan Kogaku Kikai Seisakujo. Inc.
JB 108 Kenkosha Inc.
JB 109 Chiyoda Kogaku Seiko Co. Ltd.

JB 110 Taiyo Kogaku Seisakujo Inc.
JB 110 Tsukuba Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 111 Tosco Co., Ltd., Tokyo
JB 112 Keizan Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 113 Ito Kogaku Kikai Seisakujo. Inc.
JB 114 Arai Kogaku
JB 114 Hoya Optical Co.,Ltd.,Tokyo
JB 115 Kanagawa Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd, Kamakura-Shi
JB 116 Hattori Koki Seisakujo
JB 116 Nichiryō Co., Ltd., Tokyo
JB 117 Nikken Kogaku
JB 118 Yoshikawa Koki Co. Ltd.
JB 119 Nisshin Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 120 Noppon Koki
JB 121 Oizumi Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 122 Imai Kogaku Seisakujo
JB 123 Kansai Kogaku Seisakujo
JB 124 Oda Kogaku Seiki Co. Ltd.
JB 125 Inoue Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 126 Yabe Kogaku Kiki Seisakujo Co. Ltd.
JB 127 Koei Seiki Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 128 Taishin Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 129 Narimasu Koki Seisakujo
JB 130 Komiyakogaku Sangyo Co. Ltd.
JB 131 Yamanoi Kogaku Co Ltd
JB 132 Taiei Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 133 Kamakura Koki Co. Ltd., Warabi-Shi
JB 134 Kozan Kogaku Seisakujo Co. Ltd.
JB 135 Eikosha Sagyojo Co. Ltd.
JB 136 Araki Kogaku Seiki Seisakujo
JB 137 Katsuno Koki Seisakujo
JB 138 The Oriental Trading Co., Ltd., Tokyo
JB 138 Toyo Jitsugyo Co. Ltd.
JB 139 Busho Kogaku Seisakujo. Inc. (Bushu), Saitama.
JB 140 Toyo Kogaku Kogyo Co Ltd
JB 141 Tonan Kogaku Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 142 Subaru Kogaku Kikai Co. Ltd.
JB 143 Nagashima Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 144 Tokuei Seiki Kogyojo Co. Ltd.
JB 145 Kimura Kogaku Seisakujo
JB 146 Warabi Kokisha
JB 147 Sankaku Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 148 Misuzu Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd
JB 149 Urawa Kogaku Seiki Seisakujo Co. Ltd.
JB 150 Kuramochi Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 151 Daito Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 152 Taito Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 153 Kitano Koki Seisakujo Co. Ltd.
JB 154 Sanei Kagaku Kenkyojo
JB 155 Ichihara Kogaku Renzu Seisakujo
JB 156 Nippon Sogan Co. Ltd.
JB 157 Kuroki Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 158 Towa Koeki Co. Ltd.

JB 159 Myoko Kogaku
JB 160 Myoko Kogaku
JB 161 Hakko Seiki Co. Ltd.
JB 162 Akebono Kogaku Seiki Seisakuju
JB 163 Tokyo Koki Seisakujo
JB 164 Toyoshima Koki Seisakujo
JB 165 Yabuki Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 166 Komiya Kogaku Kenkyuio
JB 167 Ikkosha
JB 168 Hirabayashi Kogaku Seisakujo
JB 169 Ota Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 170 Koseiki Seisakujo. Inc.
JB 171 Noguchi Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 172 ShowaKokiSeizoCo. Ltd.
JB 173 OkayaKogakuKikai Co. Ltd.
JB 174 Chitose Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 175 Toyo Kogaku Kenkxuio.
JB 176 Sanyo Koki Co., Ltd., Tokyo
JB 176 Toyo Koki Kogyo Co.
JB 177 Keihin Seiko Co. Ltd.
JB 178 Shinyo Koki Seisakujo
JB 179 Otaki Kogaku Seiki Seisakujo
JB 180 Tsukumo Seisakujo
JB 181 Yamagami Kogaku Seisakujo
JB 182 Yarnato Koki Seisakujo
JB 183 Izumi Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 184 Akatsuki Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 185 Fuji Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 186 Nikko Seisakujo Co. Ltd.
JB 187 Kurumada Kogaku Kogyojo
JB 188 Daiichi Seiko Co. Ltd.
JB 189 Sawama Kogaku Seisakujo
JB 190 Nitto Koki Co. Ltd.
JB 191 Seiwa Optical Co., Ltd., Wako-Shi
JB 191 Yoko Sangyo Co. Ltd
JB 192 Hoja Koki Seisakujo. Inc.
JB 193 Atorasu Koki Seisakujo Inc. (Atlas Koki Seisakujo)
JB 194 Miyagaki Kogakusha
JB 195 Kawashima Seisakujo
JB 196 Kokoku Seiki Seisakujo Co Ltd.
JB 197 Sankyo Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 198 Tenwa Seiki Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 199 Keihoku Kogaku
JB 200 Nansei Koki Seisakujo. Inc.
JB 201 Takeuchi Shokai Seisakujo
JB 202 Jyohoku Kogaku Kogyo Kyodo Kumiai Sogankyo Chosei Daiichi Jigyajo
JB 203 Fujita Kogaku Kogyo Co. l.td.
JB 204 Chuo Koki Seisakujo
JB 205 Ileiwa Koki Co. Ltd.
JB 206 Fujita Koki Seisakuio. Inc.,Tokyo.
JB 207 Aporon Koki Seisakujo
JB 207 Hitachi Optical Co., Ltd., Tokyo
JB 207 Hiyoshi Optical Co.,Ltd.,Tokyo

JB 208 Katon Kogaku Seisakujo Inc. (Carton Kogaku Seisakujo)
JB 209
JB 210 Oishi Kogaku Kogyosho. Inc.
JB 211 Toho Seiki Co. Ltd.
JB 212 Sanwa Seiki Co. Ltd.
JB 213 Daito Kikai Seisakujo Co. Ltd.
JB 214 Miyama Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 215 Jyosei Koki Seisakujo
JB 216 Noguchi Koki Seisakujo
JB 217 Kawashima Seisakujo
JB 219 Tokoki
JB 220 Ato Kogaku Co. Ltd. - Art Kogaku Co. Ltd.
JB 221 Akabori Kogaku Kikai Seisakujo
JB 222 Kanda Koki
JB 223 Zaika Co. Ltd.
JB 224 Ikko Seiki
JB 225 Fuji Kogaku Kenkyujo
JB 226 Otake Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 227 Jya Seikosha
JB 228 Kanagawa Kogaku Kogyo Co. Ltd.
JB 229 Kanto Seimitsu Sogankyo Chosei Gijutsu Kyodo Kumiai
JB 230 Higashi Nippon Kogaku Kikai Kyodo Kumiai
JB 230 Palus Optical, Tokyo
JB 231 Hiroyuki Tochiwara
JB 231 Tochiwara Optical Co., Ltd., Tokyo
JB 232 Akira Ishii
JB 233 Shuzaburo Ishikawa (Ishikawa Optical Ind.),Tokyo
JB 234 Yoshitada Matsumaru
JB 235 Takeo Saito
JB 236 Shuzaburo Wakabayashi
JB 237 Motooka Yoshikimi?
JB 238 Toshio Maruyama
JB 239 Ogoshi (?)
JB 240 Teiji Hirose
JB 241 Kazuo Tsuchihashi
JB 242 Tornoaki Ogawa
JB 243 Suwa Koki Co. Ltd.
JB 244 Tosei Kogaku
JB 248 Opal Optical, Tokyo
JB 250 Fujimori Optical Co., Ltd., Tokyo
JB 251 Toho Optical Mfg. Co., Ltd., Tokyo
JB 256 Shinsei Optical Co., Ltd., Tokyo
JB 257 Kyoshi Optical Co. Ltd., Tokyo
JB 272 Atsugi Optical, Tokyo.
JB 274 Kohiyama Seisakusho, Tokyo
JB 277 Orient Co., Saitama
JB 345 Kobayashi Co., Ltd., Kyoto

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