

PLATE RIMS AS A GUIDE TO WHEN MADE

WIDE rim plates such as the one shown below are scarce and are likely made before 1700.



Six of the usual types of Rims found on early Plates follow in this composite photograph (both this and the above are taken from a 1932 edition of *Pewter Down The Ages* by H H Cotterell)

Type 1 – as shown from the earlier half of the 1600s (this is dated to the front 1621)

Type 1 is an incised multi reeded rim, a number of lines placed at the rim edge for decoration)

Type 2 - in use from 1650 to 1695

Type 2 is a cast on multi reeded rim – with a bolder effect than simple incised lines.

Type 3 and Type 4 – in use from 1660 to about 1705

These are different fashions of multi reeded rims

Type 5 – in use from about 1700 to 1750

Type is a single reeded rim style

Type 6 – in use from 1730 onwards

Type 6 is a plain rimmed style

There are a good number of other types of rims. The dates are at best - good estimates.

PLATE RIMS – AN ADDITION

COMMENT FROM A KNOWLEDGEABLE COLLECTOR REGARDING PLATE RIMS

Here's a quick comment on the "Guide to plate rims" page. You've taken the dating information from Cotterell's 'Pewter down the ages', but much of this dating would no longer be accepted as correct. In particular:

Type 1: Cotterell's dating here is completely wrong because the dated touch on which he based his date is now known to be fake (see PS5376). Incised reeds seem to come in slightly earlier than cast reeds, then the two run in parallel for a little while, then incised reeds fade out earlier than cast reeds. A date range of 1660-1680 is probably reasonable.

Types 2-4: There's no known dating sequence in styles of cast multi-reeded rims - each pewterer used his own style. All these types probably date 1670-1700.

Type 5: Single reeds probably start a little before 1700 - perhaps 1690. London pewterers stopped making them for the London market around 1720. However, they were still making them for the American market until at least 1800. Similarly, the Bristol pewterers (who were major exporters to America) never stopped making single reeds - they too went on to at least 1800. Thus lots of single reed plates are a lot later than 1720.

Type 6: Plain rims came in just before 1700. We know this because a pewterer who died in 1699 made them (though I forget who it was). They were still being made in 1820 (eg for the George IV coronation set).

