## UNIQUE Linear Slide Rules

In **1922** Burns Snodgrass (1886-1954) founded the *Unique Slide Rule Company* in Brighton, UK. Snodgrass was the passionate and shrewd driving force behind a company that up to **1975** successfully marketed an extensive range of **linear** slide rules. He also wrote an outspoken but popular *Teach Yourself* pocketbook on how to use a slide rule. However, Snodgrass also wanted to ensure the "man in the street"

unique

could not only use but also **afford** a slide rule. So he underbid and undercut his competitors. UNIQUE-made slide rules were cut-price because they were cheaply made. The manufacturing process involved printing the scales onto strips of paper before laminating them with clear plastic. The laminated scales were then crudely pinned onto a softwood body. The accompanying thin plastic cursors were prone to breaking.

The manufacturing process stayed unchanged until the 1970's when all white plastic replaced the softwood and glued paper strips. UNIQUE-made slide rules were never in the same league as the slide rules made by makers using a dividing engine or photo etching. However, UNIQUE successfully marketed so many innovatively designed models that the company portfolio often outshone other more prestigious makers.

Model #1	Name	Туре	Size <sup>2</sup>	Scales <sup>3</sup>	Comments
	Area Calculator	Surface Areas	5″	§ / §,§ / §	Imperial-based for sq. feet or sq. yards
В	Brighton	Darmstadt	10″	cm \ K, A / B,CI,C / D,L,P   S,T / LL1,LL2,LL3 /	Only model with Trig scales on side edge
	Caterers and Confectioners	Retail	10″	s-£ / §,§ / d-s,s-£	For pre-decimal £sd
ο	Chemical	Chemical Log-Log	10″	LL2,A / B,CI,C / D,LL3	For volumetric analytical chemical calculations
С	Commercial	Business	10″	§,§,C / §,§,C / D,§,§	Unconventional layout
	Concrete Volume Computer	Concrete	6″	§ / §,§ / §	Imperial & metric versions made for several concrete- related companies
	Craft	Retail	5″	§ / §,§ / §	Imperial & pre-decimal £sd scales
	Double H	Log-Log Prototype	10″	LL01,LL02,DF / CF,CIF,CI,C / D,LL3,LL2 LL01,K,A / B,T,ST,S / D,L,LL1	Possibly named after the end braces & only known duplex model

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UNIQUE used model numbers/letters inconsistently - the model name is a more reliable identifier.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Nearly always the length in inches (") of the D scale or equivalent excluding any scale extensions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Standard notation for the listed scales rather than the proprietary notation often used by UNIQUE. When listed the "§" notation denotes a special or non-standard scale.

Model #1	Name	Туре	Size <sup>2</sup>	Scales <sup>3</sup>	Comments
D	Dualistic High-Speed (1)	Log-Log long-scale	5″	" \ D(1),§ / §,C(1),C(2),C / D,D(2) \ " / LL1,LL2,LL3 /	For "high-speed" 10" precision
D	Dualistic High-Speed (2)	Basic long-scale	5″	" \ D(1),§ / §,C(1),C(2),C / D,D(2) \ "	For "high-speed" 10" precision
D	Dualistic High-Speed (3)	Log-Log long-scale	10″	" \ D(1),§ / §,C(1),C(2),C / D,D(2) \ " / LL1,LL2,LL3 /	For "high-speed" 20" precision
D	Dualistic High-Speed (4)	Basic long-scale	10″	" \ D(1),§ / §,C(1),C(2),C / D,D(2) \ "	For "high-speed" 20" precision
E	Electrical	Electro	10″	LL2,°F,CF / DF,V,CI,C / D,°C,LL3	Unusably for an Electro no W motor/dynamo scale
	F.S. Ratcliffe	Springs poly- slide (2)	10¾"	§ / §,§,§ / §,§ / §,§ / §	For calculating helical tension & compression
	Five-Ten	Mannheim long-scale	5″	A(1),D(1) / C(1),C(2) / D(2),A(2)	Achieves 10" precision
F5	Florida	Enhanced Mannheim	5″	A / B,CI,C / D,K	Name possibly chosen for US market
F	Florida	Enhanced Mannheim	10″	A / B,CI,C / D,K / S,L,T /	Name possibly chosen for US market
	Friel-Sturdy	Radiographic Exposure	9"	§ / §,§,§,§ / §	By radiographers <i>Friel</i> & <i>Sturdy</i>
	Harfield Weight Calculator	Steel	10″	§ / §,§ / §	Imperial & metric commissioned versions made for several steel- related companies
	Interval Calculator	Calendar	10″	§ / §,C / D	For # of days between two dates in a year
	J180	Rietz	7"	K,A / B,C1,C / D,S,T,ST	All plastic primarily for US market
	J181	Mannheim	7"	A / B,C / D	All plastic primarily for US market
	J182	Log-Log	7"	LL2,S,A / B,CI,C / D,T,LL3	All plastic primarily for US market
	Jiffy	Enhanced Mannheim	4″	A / B,CI,C / D,K	Lilliput model often sold unbranded
J	Junior	Basic	5″	§ / §,§ / §	No cursor - not needed
5G	Legible	Mannheim	5″	A / B,C / D	Self-defeating < tick marks = < accuracy!
10G	Legible	Mannheim	10″	A / B,C / D	Self-defeating < tick marks = < accuracy!
5L/L	Log Log	Log-Log	5″	LL2,A / B,C / D,LL3	Sometimes with CI
T1	Log Log	Log-Log	5″	LL2,A / B,C / D,LL3	All plastic thin version
10L/L	Log Log	Log-Log	10″	LL2,A / B,C / D,LL3	Sometimes with CI
	Mini-Mannheim	Enhanced Mannheim	4″	A / B,CI,C / D,K	Lilliput model

Model #1	Name	Туре	Size <sup>2</sup>	Scales <sup>3</sup>	Comments
м	Monetary	Monetary	10″	s-£,d-s / B,§,C / D,£	For pre-decimal £sd
N	Navigational	Enhanced Mannheim	10″	1:500000   §,A / B,S,T,C / D,T   1:1000000	Little in scale layout to justify model name
	Percentage Butting	Metal Seams	10″	§ / §,§,§ / §	For metal can production
	Pioneer Long Scale	long-scale	12½″	§,§,§,§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§,§	Peripheral hairlines on cursor fundamental to using the unique scales and their layout
	Rolling Mill Calculator	Steel poly- slide (2)	10½"	§ / §,§,§,§,§ / §,§ / §,§,§,§ / §	Based on patent GB659754 by Antolij Mogiljanskij
	Study 500	Enhanced Mannheim	10"	K,A/B,CI,C/D,ST	All plastic primarily for US market
	Study 700	Log-Log	10"	LL2,S,A / B,CI,C / D,T,LL3	All plastic primarily for US market
	Study 900	Rietz	10"	K,L,A / B,CI,C / D,S,T,ST	All plastic primarily for US market
	Ten-Twenty	Mannheim long-scale	10″	A(1),D(1) / C(1),C(2) / D(2),A(2)	Achieves 20" precision
TER No.1	Transmission Equivalent Resistance	Cabling	10″	§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§,§ / §,§,§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§,§,§ /	For 50 V. BALLAST GPO telephone cables
TER No.2	Transmission Equivalent Resistance	Cabling	10″	§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§, §,§,§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§,§,§ /	For 50 V. NON- BALLAST & SIEMENS GPO telephone cables
TER No.3	Transmission Equivalent Resistance	Cabling	10″	§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§,§ / §,§,§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§,§,§ /	For 40 V. C.B. GPO telephone cables
TER No.4	Transmission Equivalent Resistance	Cabling	10″	§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§,§ / §,§,§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§,§,§ /	For 22 V. C.B GPO telephone cables
TER No.5	Transmission Equivalent Resistance	Cabling	10″	§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§,§ / §,§,§,§ / §,§,§,§,§,§,§,§,§ /	For all exchanges GPO telephone cables
	Tube Making and Deep Drawing	Machining	10″	§,§ / §,§,§,§,§ / §,§	For drawing sheet metal through a dye to make a tube
	UNIQUE	Mannheim	10″	A / B,C / D	Early model with no model # or name
	Universal	Log-Log	10"	LL2,S,A / B,CI,C / D,T,LL3	Earliest in series with metal/plastic cursor
U1/2	Universal I	Log-Log	5"	LL2,S,A / B,CI,C / D,T,LL3	Trig scales on stock
Т4	Universal I	Log-Log	5"	LL2,A / B,S,T,C / D,LL3	All plastic thin version
U1	Universal I	Log-Log	10"	LL2,S,A / B,CI,C / D,T,LL3	Trig scales on stock
U2/2	Universal II	Log-Log	5"	LL2,A / B,S,T,C / D,LL3	Trig scales on slide
U2	Universal II	Log-Log	10"	LL2,A / B,S,T,C / D,LL3	Trig scales on slide
U1/2	Universal One	Log-Log	5"	LL2,S,A / B,CI,C / D,T,LL3	All plastic later series

Model #1	Name	Туре	Size <sup>2</sup>	Scales <sup>3</sup>	Comments
					with parallel lines logo
U1	Universal One	Log-Log	10"	LL2,S,A / B,CI,C / D,T,LL3	All plastic later series with parallel lines logo
U2	Universal Two	Log-Log	10"	LL2,A / B,S,T,C / D,LL3	All plastic later series with parallel lines logo & trig scales on slide
	Wilkinson Sugar	Retail / Conversion	10"	s-£ / §,C / D	For Anglo-American pre-decimal market