

The Big Ben

The main bell, officially known as the "Great Bell" but better known as Big Ben, is the largest gong in the tower and part of the Great Clock of Westminster.

The original bell was a 16 ton (16.3 tonne) hour bell, cast on 6 August 1856 in Stockton-on-Tees by John Warner & Sons. The person who designed it was Edmund Beckett Denison, the clock took 13 years to get built and it was completed in 1859.

The height of the tower is about 316 feet or 96 meters tall and to climb from bottom to top are 334 steps.

The materials of it are:

850 cubic meters of stone.

2,600 cubic meters of brick.

Anston stone from Yorkshire and Clipsham stone from Rutland.

Caen limestone, imported from France.

