THE ITALIAN MANDOLIN: its evolution, nomenclature and types

1. Mandolina or Mandolino 3x2-1 gut strings c.1650 Venezia, Anonymous
2. Mandolinino 3x2-1 gut strings 1680 Cremona, Antonio Stradivari
3. Mandolinino 3x2-1 gut strings 1690 Perugia, Pietro A. Gavelli
4. Mandolinino 3x2-1 gut strings 1700 Perugia, Pietro A. Gavelli
5. Mandulino 6x2 gut strings 1726 Rome, Benedetto Sanbretto
6. Mandolinino 6x2 gut strings 1797 Milano, Giuseppe Prezler
7. Chitarra battuta (5/6) 7x2 metal strings c.1750 Central Italy, Anon.
8. Mandolinino Genovese 6x2 metal strings c.1755 Genova, Cristano Nomancher
9. Mandolinino Scilitiano 4x3 metal strings c.1760 Sicilia, Anon.
10. Mandolinino Napoli 4x2 metal strings 1758 Napoli, Cavallerio Bonafico
11. Mandolinino Napoli 4x2 metal strings 1771 Napoli, Donnus Filano
12. Mandolinino Napoli 4x2 metal strings 1790 Napoli, Giovanni B. Fabbricatore
13. Mandolinino Napoli 4x2 metal strings 1829 Napoli, Pasquale Vacinella
15. Mandolinino Roma 4x2 metal strings c.1755 Roma, Gaspare Ferrari
16. Mandolinino Roma 4x2 metal strings c.1750 Roma, Anon (G. Ferrari)
17. Mandolinino Milanese 6x1 gut strings c.1795 Milano, Anon.
18. Mandolinino Milanese 6x1 gut strings c.1825 Milano, Anon.
19. Colascionico Southern Italy (2 or 3) x1 gut strings c.1655 Southern Italy, Anon.
20. Mandolinino 'a quatro corde singole' 4x1 gut strings c.1700 Venezia, Anon.
21. Mandolinino 'a quattro corde singole' 4x1 gut strings 1761 Brescia, Carlo Sauli
22. Mandolinino Cremonese (bresciano) 4x1 gut strings c.1755 Cremona, Anon.
23. Mandolinino Cremonese (bresciano) 4x1 gut strings 1790 Cremona, Matteo Scordari
24. Mandolinino Napoli 4x2 steel strings 1819 Napoli, Gaetano Vacinella
25. Mandolinino Napoli moderno 4x2 steel strings 1800 Napoli, Raffaele Calce
26. Mandolinino Napoli moderno 4x2 steel strings 1910 Napoli, Raffaele Calce
27. Mandolinino Napoli moderno 4x2 steel strings 1921 Napoli, Raffaele Calce
28. Mandolinino Roma moderno 4x2 steel strings 1888 Roma, Giovanni de Sants
29. Mandolinino Roma moderno 4x2 steel strings 1865 Roma, Giovanni de Sants
30. Mandolinino Roma moderno 4x2 steel strings 1897 Roma, Giovanni de Sants
31. Mandolinino Roma moderno 4x2 steel strings 1899 Roma, Giovanni B. Maldura
32. Mandolinino Roma moderno 4x2 steel strings 1965 Roma, Luigi Embregher
33. Mandolinino Lombardo 6x1 gut strings c.1900 Milano, Carlo Albertini
34. Mandolinino Lombardo 6x1 gut strings 1900 Milano, Pietro Arminini
35. Mandolinino Bresciano 4x1 gut strings c.1900 Milano, Carlo Albertini

4a. Mandolinino Genovese Italy. From c.1735 to c.1775. Played with a feather quill.
Tuned in fourths: ee-ee-d-g'-g'-f'-e'-e'

4b. Mandolinino Scilitiano Italy. From c.1755 onwards. Played with a feather quill.
Tuned in fourths: g'-g'-f'-e'-e'-d'-c'-c'


7. Mandolinino Milanese Italy. From c.1790 to c.1870. 6 gut strings: 3 inner wound-on silk, gut and 3 made of plain gut. Played fingestile. Or with a plectrum made of cherry wood. Tuned in fourths: g'-b'-a'-f'-e'-e'

8. Colascionino (a tre corde) Italy. From c.1850 until c.1770. 2 or 3 single gut strings. Played fingestile or with a plectrum made of the wood of the cherry tree. Tuned in fifths or fourths.

9. Mandolinino 'a quattro corde singole' Italy, From c.1715 onwards. Played fingestile or with a feather quill. Of great importance for the development of the metal-strung mandolin types. Especially with regard to the inner construction: the upwards bended soundboard to withstand the downwards pressure of the metal strings.

10. Mandolinino Cremonese Italy. From c.1750 to c.1870. 4 single gut strings. Played with a plectrum made of the wood of the cherry tree. Tuned in fifths: g'-d'-a'-e'

11. Mandolinino Napoli Moderno Both types from c.1890 until today. 4x2 strings of bronze and steel. Played with a tortoise shell plectrum. Nowadays with a plectrum made of celluloid or plastic.