



Swiss Time

"WHERE WATCHMAKERS WORK"

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Diver's Watch

A dive watch needs to be maintained properly to keep you safe under water. By taking a few extra minutes before and after your dive, you can add years to the life of your watch. Another great reason to take care of your dive watch, beside safety, is that some of these watches can cost thousands of dollars.

After each dive, rinse off your watch with fresh water to remove any traces of salt water, which can be corrosive. Even if you are swimming in a pool, make sure you rinse the watch, as chlorine can be as bad as salt water on the metal and gaskets. As you rinse you should rotate the bezel to make sure any dirt, sand, or grit that got stuck underneath can be rinsed away. This also helps to make sure any salt water is rinsed away as well.

Also, keep your dive watch out of hot tubs, saunas, and showers. The rapid temperature changes, soapsuds can be harmful to your watch. So just take it off before you go in these environments. It is important to remember that a watch's water resistance cannot be permanently guaranteed. It may be affected by the aging of gaskets or by an accidental shock to one of the components such as crown, pushers and crystal. We recommend you to have the water resistance of your timepiece checked periodically to verify that all gaskets are functioning as designed.

If you have a screw down crown, make sure it is screwed down all the way before getting the watch wet. Be aware that diving chronograph watches are **NOT** typically designed to have chronograph buttons used underwater. Doing so may let water in, thus compromising the watch.

If you follow these simple steps, your dive watch should last many years. Remember, your dive watch helps keep you safe in the water, so, treat it with respect.



Some older dive watches may be able to be reconditioned with new gaskets installed and tested. But considering the expense and jeopardy you might be better off enjoying your older watch outside of the water and buying a newer dive watch to use in the water. Professional divers rely on their equipment. Having an older watch fail increases your risk of an underwater mistake that could risk your life. You would be far better off treating older or vintage dive watches as if they were no longer water resistant.

Water resistance of new watches is rated based on a standardized laboratory pressure test. The different levels of water resistance as expressed in meters are only theoretical. They refer to the depth at which a watch will keep out water if both watch and water are perfectly motionless. These conditions, of course, are never met in the real swimmer or diver's world. In real life, the movement of the wearer's arm through the water increases the pressure on the watch dramatically; so your watch should not be worn to the depths indicated by testing machines. The depth specified on the watch represents the results of tests done in a lab, not in a pool or the ocean. Watches labeled water resistant (WR) without a specification of level should not be submerged at all.

Our Water Resistance Recommendations:

30M / 3 Bar / 100Ft: Will withstand splashing but not recommended for underwater use.

50M / 5 Bar / 164Ft: Suitable for surface swimming.

100M / 10 Bar / 328Ft: Suitable for swimming, snorkeling, and other mild water sports.

200M / 20 Bar / 662Ft: Suitable for sub aqua diving.

300M / 30 Bar / 993 Ft: Professional divers rated watch.