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FILENIOS WATCHES

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ALL AROUND TOOL WATCHES

This short presentation deals with some of the most versatile (all in one) casual watches in the market, based on perhaps the easiest readable dial that has ever been used, with the so called 3-6-9-12 numerical arrangement set. Addressed to active individuals looking for the one and only watch to purchase, these timepieces should meet four additional conditions. They should be automatic or quartz, they should be robust enough tolerating the daily wear and tear in the long run, they should be water resistant at least up to 100m, and finally their case should be plain, without any kind of rotating bezel and buttons, for supporting their “dressy” mode. Above all, they justify the scope of the practical time telling tool watch, holding per case both symbolic and historical character, in an era that watches are regarded more than ever as collectible status symbol items.

Historically, this dial set was first appeared in the 1930s, attributed primarily to Rolex “Bubble Back” and Panerai Radiomir models as well as to the German WWII aircraft clocks, produced by Junghans and later on adopted by other brands like Breguet, Dodane, Mathey Tissot and Sinn ([856](#)), equipped with Valjoux movements. Further on, three of the most representative models diachronically are Rolex [Explorer](#), Omega [Railmaster](#) and Tudor [Ranger](#), first appeared in the 1950s and the 1960s.

This tribute includes 34 brand entries, presented on incremental price and covering all budgets, starting with basic/middle range models costing around 100 euro, ending up to luxury sport ones priced over 20,000 euro (in the brand new or pre-owned market) with average price below 2,000 euro. Purchased for daily use, the watches presented herein are perhaps the only ones in the market worth saving for, in case they fall outside one’s budget. My most appreciation and kind request for the utilization of the web resources referred herein, for all the photos contributing to this particular e-guide, addressed to the watch enthusiasts all over and all around!



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ICE P.LECLERCQ - Indicative price 100 euro

Preferable models the black versions reinforcing their dressy mode, from this Belgian basic range fashion brand (production in Shenzhen), founded in 2007 by JP.Lutgen. Equipped with Miyota quartz movement, housed in 42mm steel case covered by qualitative soft silicone band, with mineral crystal and water resistance up to 100m.



Photo credit Filenios archive

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BERTUCCI A-6A EXPERIOR - Indicative price 120 euro

Preferable model that with matte case introduced in 2018, from this US basic range brand. Equipped with Miyota quartz movement, housed in 40mm patented anodized aluminum unibody case (with fixed lugs) featuring screw down solid back, hardened mineral crystal, water resistance up to 100m with push-in crown, top grade luminosity.



Photo credit www.watches.com



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CITIZEN ECO-DRIVE & AUTOMATIC - Indicative price 120/160 euro

Preferable models the solar quartz Eco-Drive BM-8476 and the automatic NJ-0160 equipped with calibers E101M and MIYOTA-8210 respectively. Both are available in several editions, housed in 42mm steel (black PVD) cases featuring hardened mineral crystal and water resistance up to 100m, for two definite “value for money” watches.



Photo credit www.zegarek.net & www.citizenwatches.com

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SEIKO SOLAR & AUTOMATIC - Indicative price 150/350 euro

Preferable models the solar quartz SNE-329 and the automatic Presage SRPB-07J1/03J1 equipped with Japanese calibers V158A and 4R35B respectively, housed in 42/43mm steel cases featuring mineral/sapphire crystal, solid/open screwed back, push-in crown, water resistance up to 100m, in need for 22mm replacement strap.



Photo credit www.twobrokenwatchsnobs.com & www.uhrforum.de

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TORGOEN T10 QUARTZ* - Indicative price 200 euro

Preferable quartz models in several color variations (including carbon dials) from a brand launched in the US, in 2009. Equipped with Swiss basic Cal.RONDA-515, housed in 44mm steel cases featuring mineral (K1) or sapphire crystal, screwed back cover, push-in crown, water resistance up to 100m, in need for 24mm replacement strap.



Photo credit www.torgoen.com

*Plus GMT quartz models T9/T25 and automatic model T42 equipped with Cal.ETA-2824

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GRUPPO GAMMA VENTURO FIELD - Indicative price 350 euro

Preferable models Venturo Field I and Field III first introduced in 2018 from this microbrand based in Singapore. Equipped with automatic Cal.NH-35(Seiko), housed in 42/40mm steel cases featuring sapphire crystal, screwed solid case back, screw-down crown, water resistance up to 200m, fully reverse lumed sandwich dial (crème only).



Photo credit www.microbrand.store



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CERTINA DS PODIUM* - Indicative price 400 euro

Preferable models the automatic ref.C00140711 and the GMT quartz ref.C03445511. Equipped with automatic Cal.ETA-2824 or quartz Cal.ETA-F06.421(COSC) respectively, housed in 38/41mm steel cases featuring sapphire crystal, open/solid push-in case back, protected push-in crown, water resistance up to 100m, micro-adjusted bracelet.



Photo credit www.corvusbrasil.com

*Plus the affordable quartz model C00141011 equipped with Cal.ETA-F06.111

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RAVEN AIRFIELD AUTOMATIC - Indicative price 450 euro

Preferable model the non-date version introduced in 2022, from this particular microbrand based in the US. Equipped with automatic Cal.NH-38(Seiko), housed in 40mm steel case featuring sapphire crystal, screwed solid back, water resistance up to 200m, Super-LumiNova X1 markings, 20mm drilled lugs for easy strap replacement.



Photo credit www.ravenwatches.com



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VICTORINOX I.N.O.X QUARTZ - Indicative price 500 euro

Preferable models ref.241776/77(c)/1778/1779/1883(τ)/1894(s) available since 2017. Equipped with quartz Cal.Ronda-715, housed in 43mm cases made of carbon, titanium or steel featuring sapphire crystal, screwed solid back, screw-down crown, water resistance up to 200m, for one of the best casual-sport watches up to 1,000 euro.



Photo credit www.wornandwound.com



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STEINHART OCEAN METROPOLE - Indicative price 550 euro

Preferable models ref.103-1341/42/43/44 available since 2022. Equipped with Swiss automatic elaborate grade Cal.SW-200 (based on ETA-2824), housed in 39mm steel case featuring sapphire crystal, solid screwed back cover, screw-in crown, water resistance up to 100m, drilled 20mm lugs, Superluminova BGW9 dial index with 4+ color options.



Photo credit www.steinhartwatches.de



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COLLINS HYPERION - Indicative price 550 euro

Preferable model the silver edition, assembled in the US and introduced in 2019. Equipped with Swiss automatic fully regulated Cal.SW-200 (based on ETA-2824), housed in 40mm brushed steel case featuring sapphire crystal, sapphire display back cover, water resistance up to 100m, Super-LumiNova markings on matte black dial.



Photo credit www.collinswatch.com



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ORIENT STAR SPORTS OUTDOOR - Indicative price 600 euro

Preferable models RE-AU0203B/AU0204L introduced in 2019. Equipped with in-house Japanese automatic Cal.F6N43 with hacking and power reserve function, housed in 41mm brushed steel case featuring sapphire crystal, screwed open back cover, screw-down crown, water resistance up to 100m, in need for 21mm replacement strap.



Photo credit www.fratellowatches.com



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DEKLA TACTICAL CUSTOMIZED - Indicative price 850 euro

Preferable model the Turbulenz V.2 built exclusively in Germany and introduced in 2020. Equipped with Swiss Cal.SW-200 (based on ETA-2824), housed in 40mm hardened steel case featuring sapphire crystal, screwed solid case back, screw-down protected crown, water resistance up to 200m, Super-LumiNova markings on the dial.



Photo credit www.deklawatches.com



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LUM-TEC COMBAT AUTO - Indicative price 1,000 euro

Preferable model the steel B52 introduced in 2022 and built in Ohio-US. Equipped with the automatic Swiss Cal.RONDA-150 (based on ETA-2824), housed in 43mm steel case featuring coin-edge bezel and PVD gun metal hard coating, sapphire crystal, water resistance up to 200m (Viton gaskets), MDV custom SuperLuminova application.



Photo credit www.facebook.com/lumtecllc



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FORTIS SPACEMATIC - Indicative price 1,000 euro

Preferable model the steel ref.623.10.158 introduced in 2016. Equipped with the Swiss Cal.UW-31 (based on ETA-2836), housed in 40mm steel case featuring sapphire crystal, screwed solid case back, push-in crown, water resistance up to 100m, Super-LumiNova markings, plus crown turning dial indications for the day/date adjustment.



Photo credit www.uhrforum.de



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ORIS BIG CROWN (SWISS HUNTER TEAM) - Indicative price 1,000 euro

Preferable model 01.733.7649.4063 introduced in 2011 with grey dial. Equipped with automatic Cal.733 (SW-200 no date) housed in 38mm steel case with coin-edged bezel featuring sapphire crystal, screwed open back cover, screw-in crown, water resistance up to 100m, Super-LumiNova markings on matte dial, micro-adjusted steel bracelet.



Photo credit www.watchuseek.com

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EPOS PASSION 3401 - Indicative price 1,100 euro

Preferable models ref. 3401.132.20.55/56 with black or blue dial available in 2020s. Equipped with automatic Cal.ETA-2824, housed in 43mm steel case featuring sapphire crystal, bolt screwed open back cover, water resistance up to 100m with push-in crown, 22mm lugs ideal for custom strap replacement, top grade sand blasted dial.



Photo credit www.timeandwatches.pl

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GUINAND FLIGHT OFFICER - Indicative price 1,100 euro

Preferable model the new entry level one introduced in 2021 from a historical Swiss-German brand based in Frankfurt. Equipped with automatic Swiss top grade (Glacydur balance wheel) Cal.SW-220, housed in 42mm open back satinized steel case featuring sapphire crystal, water resistance up to 100m, push-in crown, X1 grade luminosity.



Photo credit www.guinand-uhren.de

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RAKETA BIG ZERO - Indicative price 1,200 euro

Preferable model the heritage 0283 built exclusively in St.Petersburg-Russia since 2022. Equipped with fully in-house automatic Cal.2615 operating at 2.5Hz, housed in 40mm steel cushion case featuring sapphire crystal, screwed open back cover, push-in crown, water resistance up to 100m, in need for 20mm replacement strap.



Photo credit www.europastar.com



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BALL ENGINEER II/III - Indicative price 1,500 euro

Preferable models Pioneer & Armor were first introduced in 2014. Equipped with Cal.RR1103C (COSC) based on a modified top grade Cal.ETA-2824, housed in 40mm steel (L904) case featuring water resistance up to 100m, top anti-magnetic protection, sapphire crystal with date magnifier, tritium gas luminous tubes with 25 y. life span.



Photo credit www.ballwatch.com



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ETERNA KONTIKI - Indicative price 1,600 euro

Preferable models ref.1220 & 1592 first introduced in 2004. Equipped with automatic Cal.ETA-2836 initially and later on with the respective Sellita movement (SW-200), housed in 42mm steel case featuring sapphire crystal, solid screwed engraved back, screw-down crown, water resistance up to 200m, for an iconic heritage timepiece.



Photo credit www.watchaficionados.net



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ANONIMO MILLEMETRI* - Indicative price 2,000 euro

Preferable model 2000 introduced in 1997 and built in Italy. Equipped with Cal.ETA-2824, housed in 42mm steel case featuring a thick 4mm sapphire crystal and water resistance up to 1000m. Two “Italian” negatives are the short lugs damaging replacing straps and the special tool need for removing the movement that is serviced inside.



Photo credit Filenios archive

*Plus Polluce (Mod.2003) and D-Date (Mod.2006) equipped with Cal.ETA-2824/34 since 2005



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SINN PILOT 856* - Indicative price 1,800 euro

Preferable models from the line 856 in all versions (3H/UTC) first introduced in 2004. Equipped with the Swiss automatic Cal.ETA-2893/SW-300, housed in 40mm hardened steel cases featuring drying capsule application, sapphire crystal, screwed solid back, anti-magnetic protection, protected screw-in crown, water resistance up to 200m.



Photo credit Sinn-Facebook

*Plus models 556(open back)/656 equipped with Cal.SW-200/ETA-2824

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SINN PILOT 756 CHRONOGRAPH - Indicative price 2,000 euro

Preferable model the DIAPAL UTC version from the one and only chronograph line here-in, introduced in 2003. Equipped with modified automatic Swiss Cal.ETA-7750 (with the patented lubricant-free anchor escapement for this particular, rare, more expensive version), housed in 40mm steel case featuring all the properties of 856 line.



Photo credit www.watchuseek.com



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SJOO SANDSTROM ROYAL CLASSIC - Indicative price 2,200 euro

Preferable models 8713/8935/9048/9154/9710 designed and assembled in Sweden, first introduced in 1993 and refined in 2003. Equipped with Swiss automatic Cal.SS-G15 derived from Soprod (ETA-2892 based), housed in 41mm steel case featuring sapphire crystal, screwed open back, water resistance up to 100m with push-in crown.



Photo credit www.sjoosandstrom.com



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LEBOIS & CO VENTURIST - Indicative price 2,500 euro

Preferable model the very first one with reference number 241.435 introduced in 2018 from a historical brand, resurrected 4 years before by Van Wylick family. Equipped with automatic chronometer certified Cal.LC-201 (based on top-grade SW-201 caliber), housed in 41mm steel 100m water resistance case, with sapphire crystal.



Photo credit www.fratellowatches.com



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JS SIF NART 1948 - Indicative price 2,800 euro

Preferable model the special edition “1948” introduced in 2015 and built in Iceland. Equipped with automatic Swiss top grade Cal.Soprod-M100 (based on ETA-2892), housed in brushed steel 40mm case featuring 4mm sapphire crystal, solid screwed back, water resistance up to 1000m, top quality dial in three different options.



Photo credit www.facebook.com/jswatches

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PINION (TT) TWO TIME ZONES - Indicative price 2,800 euro

Preferable model TT-Maroon assembled in UK-England and introduced in 2018. Equipped with GMT automatic Cal.ETA-2893-2, housed in 42mm brushed titanium case featuring sapphire crystal, screwed open back cover, push-in crown, water resistance up to 100m, Super-LumiNova coating on top quality painted dial/hands.



Photo credit www.fratellowatches.com

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BELL & ROSS BR05 AUTO* - Indicative price 3,600 euro

Preferable model the new one with three hands introduced in 2019. Equipped with Cal.321(SW-300) based on ETA-2892, housed in 40mm square steel case featuring sapphire crystal, open back cover, protected crown, water resistance up to 100m. Available with top quality dials on several colors like black, blue, copper, red (LE).



Photo credit www.ablogtowatch.com

*Plus BRS automatic or quartz models housed in square (39x39mm) steel or ceramic cases



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VACHERON CONSTANTIN OVERSEAS - Indicative price 20,000 euro

Preferable model the version 47040 introduced in 2004 and kept in production for 12 years. Equipped with the top quality automatic Cal.1126SC (JLC-889 requiring 3-year service intervals), housed in 42mm brushed-polished steel case featuring sapphire crystal, solid and engraved back, screw-down crown, water resistance up to 150m.



Photo credit www.watchuseek.com



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OMEGA RAILMASTER - Indicative price 3,000 euro

Preferable model references 2502(2802)/03/04 introduced in 2003 on three different dimensions. Equipped with Co-Axial COSC Cal.2403, based on ETA-2892 in need for a very particular oiling process, housed in 36/39/42mm steel cases featuring sapphire crystal, screwed open back cover, screw-down crown, water resistance up to 150m.



Photo credit www.fratellowatches.com



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OMEGA RAILMASTER NEW - Indicative price 4,000 euro

Preferable model the non-limited edition 220.10(12).40 introduced in 2017. Equipped with the in-house Co-Axial COSC Cal.8806 with silicon free sprung balance, housed in 40mm matte steel case featuring sapphire crystal, screwed solid case back (anti magnetic up to 15,000 gauss), screw-down crown with water resistance up to 150m.



Photo credit www.hodinkee.com



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TUDOR RANGER - Indicative price 2,500 euro

Preferable models both the heritage version 79910 and the smaller successive 79950 introduced in 2014/2022. Equipped with the automatic (probably top grade) Cal.ETA-2824/SW-200 and Cal.MT5402(Kenissi), housed in brushed steel 41/39mm solid back cases featuring sapphire crystal, screw-in crown, water resistance up to 150/100m.



Photo credit www.12and60.com



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ROLEX EXPLORER* - Indicative price 8,000 euro

Preferable models 114270 and 214270 introduced in 2001 and 2011 respectively. Equipped with chronometer grade Cal.3130/3132(Parachrom/Paraflex), housed in 36/39mm brushed steel (L904) cases featuring sapphire crystal, screwed solid back cover, screw-in crown, water resistance up to 100m, micro-adjusted bracelet.



Photo credit www.monochrome-watches.com

*Plus 2021 model 124270 equipped with the new Cal.3230



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MAGRETTE SPECIAL TRIBUTE - Indicative prices 500 - 5000 euro

This microbrand was founded in 2007, in Auckland - New Zealand by Dion Wynyard McAsey, and the next year started presenting artistic watches with hand engraved cases, in collaboration with the engraver Andrew Biggs. In 2013, it presented the robust model Regattare Tiki in a limited series of 3 versions produced in a volume of 200pcs each, equipped with automatic Cal.Miyota-9015, housed in 44mm steel cases featuring sapphire crystal and water resistance up to 500m. It was succeeded by two limited editions with hand engraved back cover (Manaia 25pcs & Tika 15pcs) and one carbon, plus the bronze model Vantage in a limited series of 1000 pcs in 2014. The same year Leoncino collection was launched with several limited edition models till today, most of them hand engraved produced in series of 10/20pcs, equipped with automatic movements Miyota-9015 or Swiss clones of ETA-2824, housed in steel cases of 42/40mm, designed in the spirit of the 1960s featuring sapphire crystal and water resistance up to 200m. Needless to say, these artistic timepieces (circa 140 pcs till today) are rare and collectible, with very characteristic names like Tamanuitera, Taniwha, Rangi & Papa, Waka, Kaha, Taiaha, Tiki, all referring to historical or mythical figures and elements from the New Zealander and Maori culture. Finally, the regular models mentioned above are not neglected either being affordable watches, ideal for custom case engraving, potentially assigned to several talented artists worldwide.



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MAGRETTE LEONCINO SPECIAL TRIBUTE





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NOSTALGIC EPILOGUE

Getting back to the origins, I select three versions of the archetype Panerai Radiomir, addressed to those who appreciate history, and could afford a daily timepiece up to 10,000 euro. (1) PAM00062 produced in 2000-2003 equipped with automatic Cal.ZENITH/ELITE-680 and housed in 40mm white gold case. (2) PAM00190 produced in 2004-2006 equipped with 8-Day hand wound JLC-877 mechanism and housed in 45mm steel case. (3) PAM00620 introduced in 2015 equipped with in-house automatic micro-rotor Cal.P4000 and housed in 42mm steel case used for the Radiomir 1940 model line (photo below). Three differentiated and iconic timepieces.



Photo credit www.uhrforum.de

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NOSTALGIC EPILOGUE

PANERAI RADIOMIR AUTOMATIC PAM00062



Photo credit www.watchuseek.com

PANERAI RADIOMIR 8 DAYS PAM00190



Photo credit www.watchuseek.com

George Serafimides