
Subject: Re: Men's 550SS-022

Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Sun, 28 Feb 2021 17:53:42 GMT

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Hi Asilver,

welcome to the vintage Gruen forum!

Thanks for asking, this is a nice watch your grandfather passed to you. You have provided the relevant information to ID and dat the watch and you are right, the first service mark should be from 1961, five years after the purchase of this watch.

To help you decoding the numbers:

F58427 is the serial number. Unfortunately the company records are lost, but from other watches of that timeframe we can say that the watch will be from 1956.

550SS-022 is indicating the movement, it is a Gruen caliber 550SS, SS stand for sweep second. The 022 is already a bit more complicated, it is the "style number". This number indicates the crystal shape for crystal replacements. This is style number 1022, the 1022nd Gruen crystal shape since start of use of this system around 1920.

The F1560 marking at the movement shows that the Gruen 550SS caliber bases on the Felsa 1560 caliber which. so in reality the movement was produced by Felsa.

Guildite is Gruen's trademark name for stainless steel.

The watch itself is the Super Gruen Autowind Rocket model which was introduced in September 1956 and available for only about 1 year.

Here is an old advertisement from a newspaper of that time showing the watch:

Have fun with the watch!

Barney

File Attachments

1) [Autowind Rocket.jpg](#), downloaded 2308 times

Regardless of its age,

Super Gruen *Auto*

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