Subject: Strap 62
Posted by thesnark17 on Sun, 10 Jan 2021 22:43:34 GMT
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Model name : unknown
Type : wristwatch
Period/date : c. 1925
Gender : men's

Case Maker : Wadsworth
Case Material : 14k Gold Filled
Case Serial : 5189575
Case Style no : 1

Caliber : 707
Movement Maker : Gruen Guild
Movement Serial: 103306

I wonder who L. Gant was.

The only thing in common between this 707/1 and the women's 179/1 (besides the case maker) is that they're both Paris Squares. This one runs, and I like the hands a lot.

## File Attachments

1) 707:1 caseback.jpg, downloaded 4029 times



2) 707:1 movement.jpg, downloaded 4143 times



3) 707:1 back.jpg, downloaded 4110 times



4) 707:1 front.jpg, downloaded 4134 times



Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Jenneke on Sat, 29 Jan 2022 19:49:04 GMT
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Model name: strap 112
Type: wristwatch / wristlet
Period/date : 1927?
Gender: men's

Case Maker : Wadsworth
Case Material: Ultra quality 14k Gold Filled
Case Serial : 5284448
Case Style no: 1

Caliber: 707 (lavina - fifteen 15 jewels two 2 adj)
Movement Maker : Gruen Guild
Movement Serial: 83685

Other: old (original?) springbars. Not cleaned yet. Hard enamel print. Unknown history but found a mrs A.W.Moore… https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/16239174?searchTerm=A+W+Moore

## File Attachments

1) 15A13BF4-1640-4A13-9B96-39CA6435118D.jpeg, downloaded 3510 times




2) 7EAB8C4D-4DEB-49B2-A5AC-135DCE16264F.jpeg, downloaded 3424 times



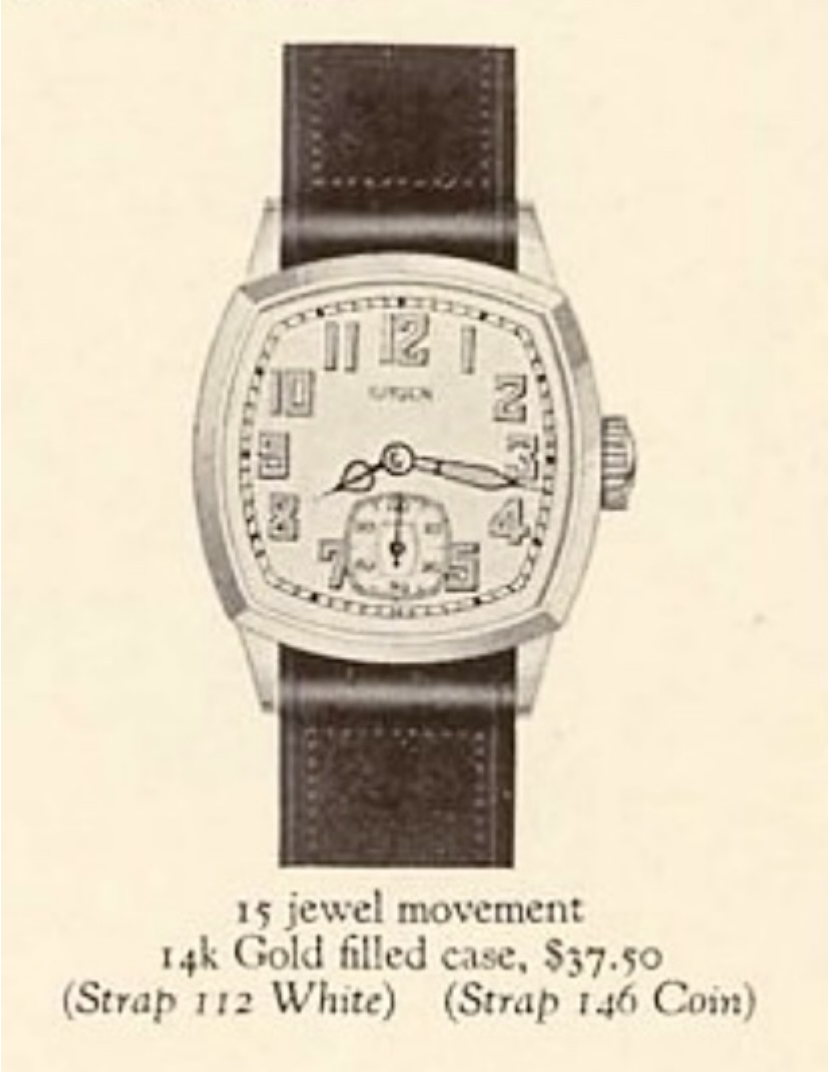

3) 9EEEB82A-43E9-4771-8755-F32739E2507F.jpeg, downloaded 3547 times



4) 07705F11-CA31-46FA-A8DD-6C6100118E4D.jpeg, downloaded 3518 times




5) 5235495D-5D8B-4B93-AAA0-1FAA739806CB.jpeg, downloaded 3538 times




6) A8858406-62AB-43E4-8A86-B17328826870.jpeg, downloaded 3479 times




Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by JackW on Sat, 29 Jan 2022 21:01:14 GMT
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You can try narrowing down the searches to the general geographic area that the seller is located. Might help.

There are about a dozen "L. Gant" possibilities and even fewer A. W. Moore matches in Ancestry. I narrowed the search some by restricting matches to those that would have been 20 to 30 years of age, at the time the watch was for sale in the late 1920s/early 1930s.

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Jenneke on Sat, 29 Jan 2022 21:11:24 GMT
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The seller was located in France… Was looking for someone who traveled in Europe.

Another thing I wondered. Is it possible to strip the dial at home? If you look here these type of dials also look nice without the radium.
https://empress.cc/pages/restoration-dial-refinish

In person the dial looks better than on my photographs, but nice to have an option.

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Ephemerald on Sat, 29 Jan 2022 23:57:57 GMT
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Could this be "Strap 62", instead of "Strap 112"?

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Jenneke on Sun, 30 Jan 2022 00:04:47 GMT
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Could well be. I didnt look in the master book. But now you mention it. My watch is a little different in the section with the seconds compared to strap 112. Have to check it.

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by thesnark17 on Sun, 30 Jan 2022 03:23:19 GMT
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Both examples in the thread are slightly different in the seconds from strap 112 and each other. I am interested to see where that goes.

Regarding removing radium, water will soften and/or dissolve it. It goes without saying that the water is radioactive after that... as is anything that touches the water (until thoroughly cleaned, though that will contaminate more water...). It can also be chipped off gently while dry. You do not want to breathe the dust - do it in a bag or better yet, outside and in a bag. It goes without saying that you should wear gloves.

Disposal of radioactive waste is generally regulated by the government. You are not supposed to throw it away, or wash it down the sink. I do not know the specific procedures for disposing of radium as a private individual in the US, though, much less the Netherlands.

A Geiger counter is a must to check for inadvertent contamination of your house/workspace after you have finished. Radium is fairly safe outside of the human body, but it is not at all safe inside it

- and having it around your house in unknown places is a good way to get it inside you eventually.

All things considered, I would leave it be. It looks good as it is.

---

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Jenneke on Sun, 06 Feb 2022 15:17:47 GMT
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And it is a Strap 62! The 112 has a cal 705, this a 707.

## File Attachments

1) 9A1FD412-F6C3-4BF1-9E23-67B3CD2565D1.jpeg, downloaded 3281 times




Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Ephemerald on Thu, 17 Feb 2022 01:48:20 GMT
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Here is my Strap 61 & Strap 62 data:

Strap 61 (green gold filled):

Both of my 61 examples carry : "Gruen, 14 karat, gold filled, Wadsworth, 707 1"

One of the 61 caseback serial number is 5094039. It has 707 movement sn: 86839.
Bezel: E4039.

Other 61 caseback serial is 5094071. It has 707 movement sn: 75151.
Bezel: E4071.

Strap 62 (white gold filled):

Both of my examples carry: "Gruen, 14 karat, gold filled, Wadsworth 707 1"

One of the 62 caseback serial numbers is 5096653. It has 707 movement sn: 74239.
Bezel: 6653. Note: *No E*

Other 62 caseback serial is 5171229. It has 707 movement sn: 90657.
Bezel: E1229.

Kind of interesting when compared to data on this thread.

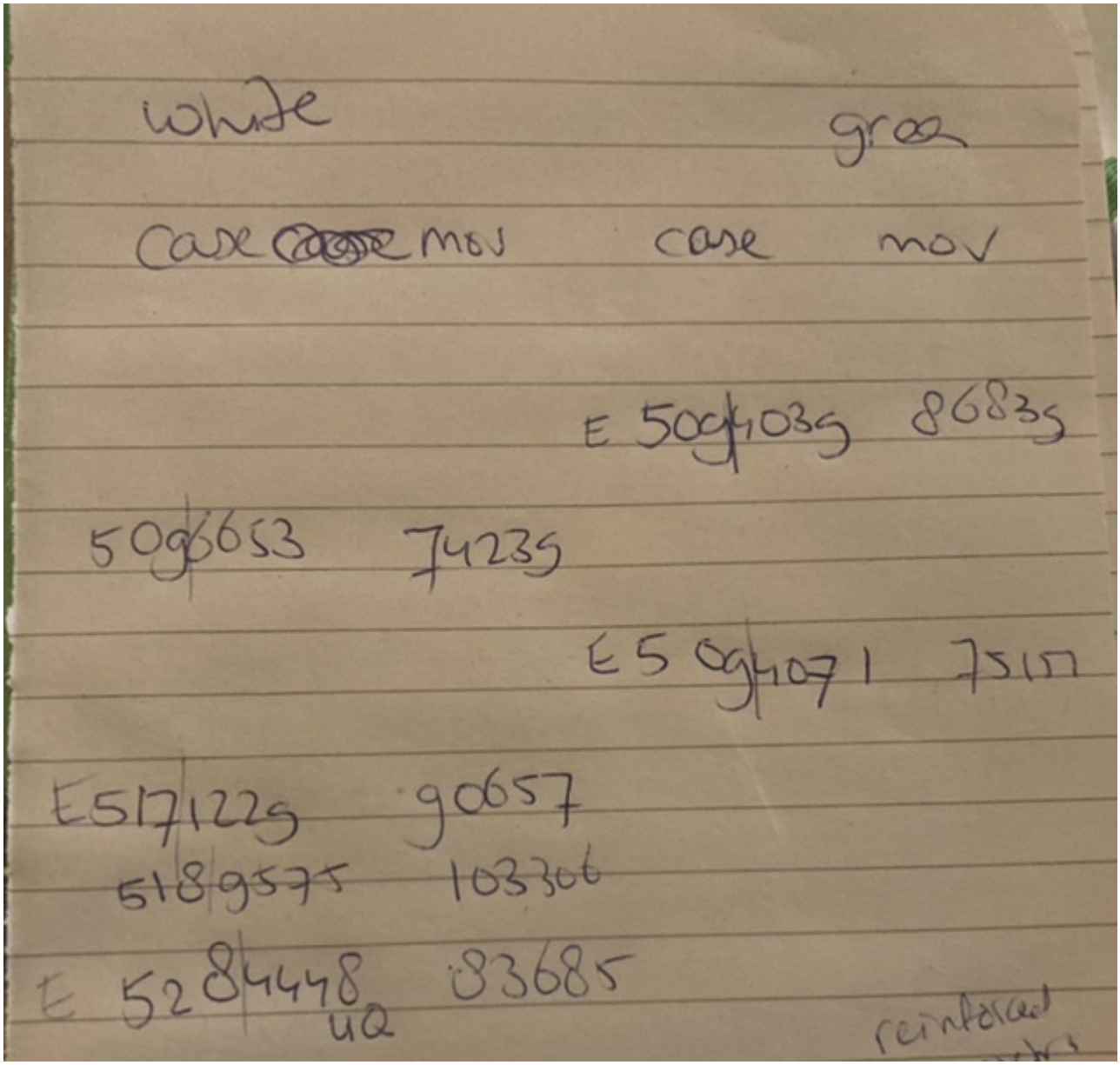
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Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Jenneke on Thu, 17 Feb 2022 18:48:42 GMT
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Ok. I put them in a kind of table. Case and movement serials not really chronologically paired when the movement starts with an eight.

My watch is an outlier and the only one with Ultra Quality.

File Attachments
1) 98BA694E-31F5-4306-A00F-174A12C60EEE.jpeg, downloaded 3289 times




Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Ephemerald on Thu, 17 Feb 2022 19:04:48 GMT
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Jenneke wrote on Thu, 17 February 2022 11:48My watch is an outlier and the only one with Ultra Quality.

Thanks. I am also interested in why some do not have the E on bezel, and what the E really means. I can't be sure but it looks like Snarks does not have an E, one of my 62's definitely does not have it.

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Jenneke on Thu, 17 Feb 2022 19:24:08 GMT
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My wristlet Paris Square 5 has no E.

Browsed a bit, but it looks your Wristlet 103 has a P or R before the number?

Interesting. No clue what that means. E for Extra. Or does it say what kind of base metal it is?

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Case on Thu, 17 Feb 2022 22:14:02 GMT
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It's Wadsworth nomenclature, a reference to their internal grades. These names changed over time, and I suspect the lacking ones are transitional. I also think it is a clue to which case number line they are in, before all switched into the 5MM. At some point in the late 20's these letters may have disappeared.

I've seen...
A = the old "Amer" / "American Made" line
R = reinforced
E = extra gold (replaces R, I think)
P = permanent (I think phased out in the early 1920s)

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Ephemerald on Fri, 18 Feb 2022 02:19:23 GMT
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When you say "reinforced" do you mean "Reinforced With Metal" or "Reinforced With Extra Gold"? Or both?
Seems logical to me, doubt those letters match those exact definitions, but yeah I hear you. Yes, I got several later Ultra Quality with P's on them, I'll have to look deeper for patterns, over time. Thanks for the feedback.

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Ephemerald on Fri, 18 Feb 2022 03:24:53 GMT
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Ah, figured out what I think you mean, long day at work.

A = "American".

R = "Reinforced With Metal"

E = "Reinforced with Extra Gold"

P = Permanent, perhaps you mean P=Ultra Quality?  Not clear there but....

I dunno, none of my E models say "Reinforced with Extra Gold" on them at all.

& like I said, I have Ultra Quality's w P's on the bezel, but Jennekes Ultra Quality above has an E on it. Further research required I guess.

---

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by thesnark17 on Fri, 18 Feb 2022 04:40:44 GMT
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Permanent is a relatively rare marking on earlier Wadsworth cases. Sometimes it's stated as "Warranted Permanently", which gives the intent - a Permanent GF case is a case that will never wear through to brass in the lifetime of the owner. Obviously the marking is a bit deceptive, and a court case resulted in the retirement of the marking, along with all year guarantees (25 year etc.). "Ultra Quality" is sometimes supposed to be a replacement mark for Permanent, but I think that Ultra Quality cases are actually equivalent to 25 year cases, and that the Permanent cases represent an extra level of quality that Gruen quietly dropped.

---

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Case on Fri, 18 Feb 2022 15:38:29 GMT
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I think you both understand as much as I do about the letters now--perhaps a vintage wadsworth ad will turn up with a list of their gold filled line names. Remember Charlie Cleves proved to us that Gruen's gold thicknesses were higher than Wadsworth's standards in general.  But we regularly look at watches spanning the teens to the 30s & beyond.  So lots changing.

Maybe it will help to list key dates for gold filled markings.  The proof can wait for a longer thread with more time.
-1915-09-01: first mention I've found of Ultra Quality case: Most Beautiful Watch in America ad, verithin model 284, $40.  It is described as "ultra solid" and "better than 25 years." It equates to Permanent--which is why the cases are marked "Ultra Quality, per."[manenent]
-1922-08-22: first mention of "ultra quality reinforced gold filled" in an ad for a ladies wristlet
-1922-11-01: first claimed use of "reinforced gold" (see early 3MM pocket watch cases and 2MM wristie cases)
-1923: Wadsworth began adding some purity stamps in case ("14k gold filled")

-1924-01-01: All cases made and stamped for Wadsworth have a purity mark (see "14k Gold reinforced with metal", "14k Gold filled"). Gruen used a technicality to continue to have Wadsworth make a special Ultra Quality line of cases without a purity stamp, but Wadsworth took their name off of it--those are the special Gruen cursive font Ultra Quality cases. Like John Hancock's signature on the Declaration of Independence, if the FTC came after Gruen, they made it clear they stood behind the product.
-1926: Wadsworth gets fed up with deceiving the public with reinforced, signs a pact with other casemakers that all cases will be marked gold filled. Gruen comes on board (willingly or no), and the Ultra Quality gets a purity mark. See "14k gold filled reinforced with extra gold" and "Ultra Quality 14K Gold Filled" (as on Matthias' post above)

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Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Ephemerald on Fri, 18 Feb 2022 16:36:48 GMT
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Looks like Wadsworth used 3 P's....Permanent.....Pilot.....and Platold.

As already stated by Snark, Permanent is gold filled, guaranteed permanently.

Then Pilot. Gold filled, guaranteed for 15 years, up thro Feb 1898. 20 years from May 1898 to May 1903. 25 years after Dec 1905.

Platold would be nickel back and bezel w gold filled center ring.

There's a lot more but that's the P's..

---

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Case on Sat, 19 Feb 2022 02:51:43 GMT
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Had a look back to check, and I think P actually is Pilot equivalent (25 years equivalent).

Here’s a pilot case back, marked with year guarantee

And here’s the Last 4 with P.

## File Attachments

1) B32AF5A6-080C-4EEF-9CCA-79D857D5756E.jpeg, downloaded 3029 times



2) A9D264C8-039D-49A1-A6AC-5BF33AFD6225.jpeg, downloaded 3100 times




Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Jenneke on Sun, 17 Apr 2022 19:40:05 GMT
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And thanx to Matt, it now has an original crystal. Which fits it perfectly.

Also new handmade strap made by order from a Dutch watchforum member.

Dial without the bezel:

## File Attachments

1) CDD4E9C9-62BC-4DBE-BBFE-5999C2F5766C.jpeg, downloaded 3068 times


GRUEN
50
60
40
30
20

2) 28C52A95-D765-4ED7-93CB-A30A613D5018.jpeg, downloaded 3018 times




Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by Ephemerald on Sun, 17 Apr 2022 20:40:27 GMT
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My pleasure! It looks really good, looks like a tight fit too.

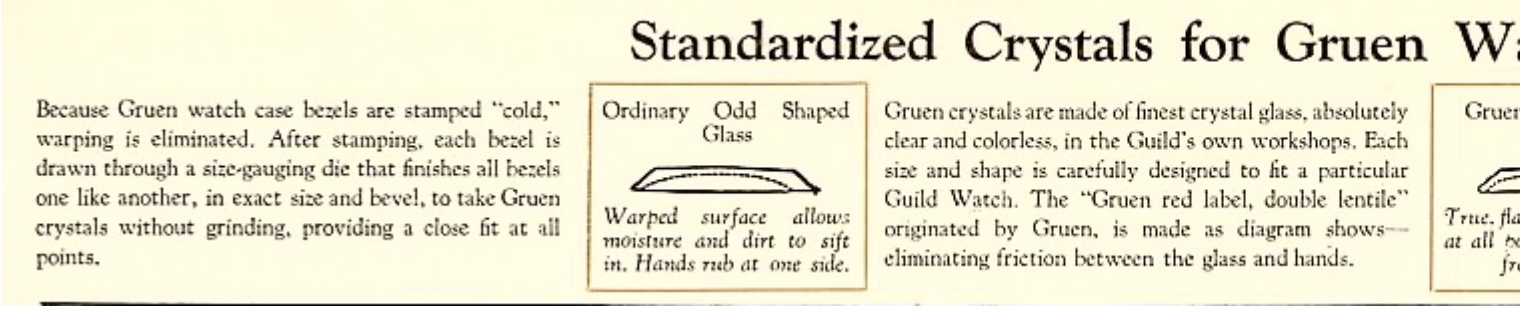
Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1

Posted by Jenneke on Sun, 17 Apr 2022 21:41:39 GMT
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Yes, the claim is true. Snap fit.

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1) 9975CF55-658D-4EF2-83A4-04CBFF721F1F.jpeg, downloaded 3057 times



Standardized Crystals for Gruen W

Because Gruen watch case bezels are stamped "cold," warping is eliminated. After stamping, each bezel is drawn through a size-gauging die that finishes all bezels one like another, in exact size and bevel, to take Gruen crystals without grinding, providing a close fit at all points.

Ordinary Odd Shaped Glass

*Warped surface allows moisture and dirt to sift in. Hands rub at one side.*

Gruen crystals are made of finest crystal glass, absolutely clear and colorless, in the Guild's own workshops. Each size and shape is carefully designed to fit a particular Guild Watch. The "Gruen red label, double lentile" originated by Gruen, is made as diagram shows—eliminating friction between the glass and hands.

Gruen

*True, fla at all fr*

Subject: Re: Men's wristwatch 707/1
Posted by JackW on Mon, 18 Apr 2022 16:08:08 GMT
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That was supremely nice of you, Matt.