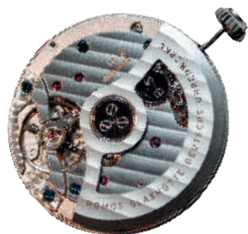


WATCH TECH

Nomos DUW 3001 movement



Watch brands make a big deal about 'in-house' movements – and frequently charge a premium for models that contain them. So German maker Nomos is to be applauded for its DUW 3001 automatic mechanism, which debuted last year in a new version of its popular Tangente Automatic.

Measuring just 3.2mm thick, the DUW 3001 falls into the 'ultra flat' category – yet it has been designed for series production and, in keeping with the Nomos ethos, is also well finished and affordable.

Using the brand's 'swing system' self-winding mechanism, it is claimed to be 94.2 per cent efficient, compared to the 80 per cent of a traditional automatic movement. Theodor Prenzel, the design engineer behind the movement, says the DUW 3001 took three years and €2.5million to create – but the Tangente sells for less than £2700.

The only downside (for some) is that the watch measures a conservative 35mm in diameter – although it's highly likely that the DUW 3001 will soon become available in larger Nomos models.



THIS MONTH

IWC Big Pilot's Heritage

Price: £10,500 (55mm version)
From: iwc.com

Although this page is usually reserved for drivers' watches, we've made an exception for IWC's latest release because the Big Pilot has traditionally been popular with car enthusiasts for its retro tool-watch look and easy readability. This new Heritage model is even more legible as it replicates the vast, 55mm diameter of IWC's original 'observer's watch', introduced in 1940 for the German Luftwaffe. Just 100 examples will be released, plus 1000 48mm versions with a similar 'vintage' dial. Both are made from titanium and contain hand-wound movements.



Christopher Ward C9 GT40

Price: £2950
From: christopherward.com

Regular readers will notice a remarkable similarity between Christopher Ward's latest limited edition and Bremont's Jaguar MkIII chronometer that we featured last month – but, we're assured, it's purely coincidental. As the name suggests, the C9 GT40 – which uses a Valgrange A07 automatic movement with power reserve display – pays homage to the MkI Ford GT40 (chassis P-1075) that won consecutive Le Mans titles in 1968 and 1969. The back of each watch in the 40-piece edition contains metal from one of the car's wheel spinners.



Hublot MP-05 'LaFerrari' Sapphire

Price: SFr 500,000 (c£350,000)
From: hublot.com

Released in 2013 to complement the LaFerrari, the original MP-05 broke new records with its tourbillon movement featuring 11 mainspring barrels to provide an unprecedented 50-day power reserve. This new version of the watch celebrates the 637-part mechanism to the full by placing it inside a transparent case made almost entirely from sapphire crystal. The time and power reserve are displayed on transparent cylinders and even the strap is see-through. Just 20 examples will be made – enough to net Hublot around £7million.

CHRONO



Read more from Simon de Burton in *Chrono*, the interactive watch magazine for iPad and iPhone, available now from the iTunes Store.



OMEGA SPEEDMASTER

As worn by Alain de Cadenet, racing driver



'I have worn the same watch for 48 years – it is an Omega Speedmaster that I bought en route to the Nürburgring in 1968. I was towing a trailer from Brescia carrying a Ferrari 206 SP and, feeling a bit tired, I stopped in Zurich. While looking around, I found two Omega

Speedmasters in a watch shop and bought them for £35 each. I put one on my wrist and gave the other to a racing driver called Edward Nelson in exchange for driving me around the Nürburgring so I could learn it. 'Apart from when it's sent for servicing, it's

on my wrist all the time – I always wear it while racing. 'I think when you find something in life that is as good as it gets, you hang on to it – which is why I've never found a watch I would rather wear than my Speedmaster'