

Discover Swiss-made Replicas

This **much-anticipated article** deals with the most common information you will ever need to know about **genuine, Swiss-made Rolex replicas**. It does not deal with lower-made Japan, Korean, or Asian-made replicas. This means that if the replica is inferior in quality, and is not crafted from genuine solid 18k gold or triple-wrapped 18k gold, this will not apply to that watch.

Because we currently do not have any articles dedicated to explaining Grade 1 Swiss-made replicas in fuller details, this article aims to fulfill that missing link.

What is a Grade 1 Swiss-made Replica?

The most common question people ask is this: **what is a ‘Swiss-made’ replica?** Does it mean the watch is ‘made’ in Switzerland?

The best answer to that question is this: the watches are both **made in and outside Switzerland**. Like **all genuine Swiss-made watches** (Patek Philippes, Breitlings, etc.), the parts are crafted in Switzerland, then assembled in China, and brought back to Switzerland for professional fine-tuning. Remember that the official specification to designate a watch to be “Swiss-made” states that **at least 80%** of the parts of the watch must be made in Switzerland – it does not deal with where the watch is assembled!

The **Grade 1 designation** defines the replica as the **highest quality replica available** on the market. Basically, a genuine, Grade 1 Swiss-made replica is **the closest thing to a real Rolex besides a genuine Rolex watch**. In simple terms, a Swiss-made replica is as similar to a genuine Rolex watch that a replica of any item can ever achieve. The quality can rival that of a genuine Rolex in many ways... except, of course, the price.

Comparison: a Jeweler’s Perspective

You might be wondering how a Swiss-made Rolex replica compares to a real Rolex watch. The answer is plain and simple – **it is frighteningly precise**. Many jewelers describe their initial reaction as a **‘huge shock’** when they discover that the Swiss-made Rolex replica shown to them is not a real Rolex watch. And they have good reason to be.

Note this conversation between a jeweler and the fortunate owner of a genuine, Swiss-made replica:

Jeweler: A genuine Rolex watch has solid 18-karat gold and solid, high-grade 440 stainless steel crafted from a single piece of stainless steel.

Jonathon: So are Swiss-made replicas.

Jeweler: You mean REAL gold and REAL high quality stainless steel? Many people out there claim to offer triple wrapped gold or high quality stainless steel for a \$200-\$500 watch. But I have been in the jewelry business for 30 years and the manufacturing cost of real gold and real high-quality stainless steel alone would cost almost that much. So, obviously, these people are lying.

Jonathon: Absolutely. You can even do an acid test on the links and do a compression test on the stainless steel.

Jeweler: How about the crystal? A real Rolex has the highest quality crystal available – a sapphire crystal.

Jonathon: You bet. Swiss-made replicas are installed with a genuine, sapphire crystal. In fact, you can try to bang it up lightly and see if the watch would scratch.

Jeweler: Are you really sure though? A lot of people offer a sapphire crystal on a \$200-\$400 watch. And that's on top of the fact that it supposedly has a genuine 25-jewel movement, with genuine gold and high quality stainless steel. I'm a jeweler and I know that that's impossible!

Jonathon: Well, like you said earlier, obviously a lot of these people are lying. Only Swiss-made replicas have a genuine sapphire crystal. All other replicas have glass, mineral, or plastic crystals.

Jeweler: Ok that makes a lot more sense. But I still have my doubts. Genuine Rolex watches have hidden serial numbers engraved between the lugs, and many hidden markings all over the watch. Most are also water-proof to at least 100m. Can a Swiss-made replica compare itself with features like those?

Jonathon: Of course. Like I mentioned before, they are virtually identical. They have hidden serial numbers engraved between the lugs, and all the tiny little markings and engravings, even the ones not clearly noticed by a regular person, can be found on a Swiss-made replica. And yes, they are water-proof to at least 100 meters.

Jeweler: That sounds too good to be true. I've had many customers walk in here with very similar looking replicas that they purchased for \$300-400, but it ended up being an inferior quality replica. Of course, the looks are similar. But quality is a different thing. Quality cannot be 'seen'. The actual timepiece has to be touched. And all these replicas selling for even \$300-400 each, as an experienced jeweler, I can tell the difference just by touching them. As a matter of fact a lot claim to be water-proof and end up not being water-proof. Would you mind letting me put it in a tank of water overnight and see if water goes in?

Jonathon: Sure, why not. But you are comparing apples to oranges – how can you compare the quality of a \$300-\$400 replica with the quality of an \$800 replica? I would definitely encourage you to place it in a tank of water overnight just so you can prove to yourself that it's really water-proof to even 1 meter!

Jeweler: Ok you've convinced me on that one too. There are many more other comparisons I can make, but if it passes those ones, I'm convinced that it would be close enough that I can't tell the difference. But my biggest concern as a jeweler, of course, is what we'd call the 'engine' of the watch – the movement. That's what differentiates a \$100 watch from a \$10,000 watch. Well, besides the brand name of course. But anyways,

a genuine Rolex watch has the highest quality Swiss-made movements available, and Switzerland makes the absolute best movements in the world. It is impossible to even compare a Swiss-made movement with one of those Japan, China, or Korea movements. Rolex movements are manufactured by the most experienced watchmakers who do exhaustive tests to ensure the quality of the movements. The sweeping second hand is very, very smooth, the watch loses minimal time per month, and the movement is expected to last for decades. So what 'engine' runs these Swiss-made replicas?

Jonathon: I knew you'd ask me that, and this is where the story gets exciting. The manufacturer of the parts for these Swiss-made replicas does not make the movements themselves. Of course not, because no one would trust some unknown manufacturer with the movement, even if the manufacturer is in Switzerland. So instead, the Swiss-made replicas are mounted with an amazing movement: a genuine ETA movement!! As you probably know, ETA is a 300 year old company that is almost 3 times as experienced as Rolex in making automatic movements. So of course the movements are just as good, if not better. As a matter of fact, the 25-jewel 2834-2 movements found in the Swiss-made replicas are called the 'Presidential' models, because it is the only ETA movement that fits right inside a Rolex watch. Which means it was meant for a replacement for Rolex owners who don't want to pay an arm and a leg for a replacement from Rolex! Like I mentioned before, ETA specializes in manufacturing movements, and creates much higher quality movements than Rolex... which, of course, you probably already know. Over 90% of the world's top automatic movements are made by ETA, including many found in genuine brand-name Swiss-made watches, such as Patek Philippe and Longines. The sweeping second hand is very, very smooth just like a real Rolex, and like any quality ETA movement, it is designed to last for decades... again, just like a real Rolex.

Jeweler: Now that sounds too good to be true! A customer walked in once and said he purchased a so-called Swiss-made replica for \$400 on the Internet that is supposed to be an ETA movement, and when I opened it up, it turned out not to be. Instead, it was some Japan-made movement which was obvious in its inferior quality to a Swiss-made movement.

Jonathon: So don't blame it on the Swiss-made replicas! But for real, lets be reasonable here – it is like someone offering you a Mercedes for \$5000. If you later discover that a Honda or Toyota engine was inside instead of the quality of a Mercedes engine, can you blame Mercedes? Of course not! So how can you expect to get a genuine, Swiss-made ETA movement in a \$400 watch... along with a sapphire crystal, high-grade stainless steel, and all the other crap that these dealers claim? The answer is simple: you can't. So the lesson is, buyers beware.

And many other conversations between jewelers and customers run roughly the same. **Many jewelers are doubtful** of these replicas because **they haven't seen one** – in the past, before Replica Center, many, many scrupulous dealers were offering so-called 'Swiss-made' replicas for **ridiculous prices – like \$300-\$500**. That caused many jewelers to have doubts on these Swiss-made replicas. But after Replica Center revealed the scam dealers, many went out of business.

Nowadays, the dealers we recommend all offer **genuine, Swiss-made Rolex replicas**. There are, of course, the few scam dealers who remain. They sell so-called 'Swiss-made replicas' with ETA movements and wrapped gold. And of course, **you will never receive that**. Most customers are tempted and scammed simply because of the **low prices**.

Comparison: Real Comparison of Facts

The biggest question in most people's minds about Swiss-made replicas is usually, "**What's the difference?**" That is actually the most common question for just about anyone purchasing a replica.

You can find **a lot of differences** between a fake Rolex and a real Rolex, **depending on the quality of the fake**. If you compare any replica under \$500 with a real Rolex, **you can definitely tell the difference in many different ways** (but it's still a good deal considering a real Rolex costs thousands more). We will not go into detail with the cheaper fakes because we have other articles at <http://www.replicacenter.com> which deals with inferior replicas. You can look into those if you are interested in them.

In general, if you need a fake that **no one can tell the difference**, look to spend **at least \$700**. Otherwise, you are just kidding yourself and you are setting yourself up for some **major embarrassment** at some point (assuming the watch does not break down first).

A Swiss-made replica really **does not have any difference** compared to a real Rolex, except that **none of the parts are manufactured by Rolex**. The movement is also a different brand (ETA). But keep in mind that the **ETA movement** in a Swiss-replica comes from a company with **far more tradition in manufacturing movements** than Rolex does. ETA has been manufacturing movements for **over 300 years** and their movements are used in **many real Swiss-made watches** such as **Patek Philippe and Longines**.

Most watch enthusiasts will tell you that **Rolex is not nearly the best quality watch on the market**. So it is not necessarily correct to say that a genuine Rolex movement is 'better' than the ETA movement in a Swiss-made replica.

Because there really isn't much difference, lets compare the most common features:

Feature: Automatic Movements

Genuine Rolex: 25- to 36-jewel Rolex Automatic Movement

Swiss-made Replica: 25-jewel or 27-jewel ETA 2834-2 Automatic Movement

We have already talked about this above. Swiss-made replicas carry a movement manufactured by the ETA group, the most well-known automatic movement manufacturer in the world. As noted earlier, it is not correct to say that a Rolex movement is better than an ETA movement. ETA has a far longer tradition in manufacturing watch movements than Rolex does. Also, most watch retailers will tell you a Rolex watch is not the best quality watch available on the market, even if its price is the highest.

Both movements have very smooth sweeping second hands and will last you very, very long. The inferior automatic movements found in non-Swiss-made replicas can only be expected to last you a few years at most. Some won't even last you more than 6 months (be careful of the warranty they offer! Make sure it's at least 6 months). As a general guideline, if a company offers you a warranty of 6 months, then the movement should last at least a year. If they offer you a warranty less than 6 months, don't expect the movement to last very long. After all, what can you expect from a \$200 replica??

Feature: Date Fonts and Date Magnification

Genuine Rolex: Rolex-style with 2.5x magnification

Swiss-made Replica: Identical to the Rolex-style with 2.5x magnification

The date font is the font that appears in the date window. Swiss-made replicas have an exact date font as a real Rolex watch. This is because Swiss-made replicas use the 2834-2 ETA automatic movement, which jewelers use to replace Rolex movements on worn-out Rolex watches. It is the only ETA movement that fits in Rolex watches, and it was designed to make the watch look exactly like a real Rolex watch.

The date magnifier rests on the crystal (ie. the glass face) of the watch. It magnifies the date for easier reading. Only a genuine, Swiss-made Rolex replica has a 2.5x date magnifier. There are some higher quality Japan-made replicas that have 2x magnification, and those retailers usually falsely claim they have 2.5x magnification. Don't believe it.

If you are fortunate enough, you will find inferior quality replicas with very similar looking Rolex-style fonts instead of the blocky fonts found on cheap replicas (under \$150), and 2x magnification instead of the 1.5x magnification on cheap replicas. But it is never exactly the same, even if the dealers try to claim. Take note of that before a genuine Rolex owner notices it – it can save you a lot of embarrassment. Many Rolex owners can recognize a fake Rolex simply by the date font and the date magnifier, and these are the easiest indicators because you don't even have to take off the watch and they can see.

Feature: Gold Finish

Genuine Rolex: Solid 18k gold on all models

Swiss-made Replica: Solid 18k Gold on 2-tone models, Triple-Wrap 18k Gold on all-gold models

This is by far the biggest concern of most consumers: "Will the gold wear off?" Only on genuine Grade 1 Swiss-made replicas can you be sure that the gold will not wear off. Although you might be worried about triple-wrapped 18k gold on all-gold models, take a look at the price difference: a genuine, all-gold Rolex Presidential will cost you \$20,000 and up, whereas a genuine, Grade 1 Swiss-made replica will cost you \$1000. Of course, it doesn't mean there's 20 times more gold in the all-gold Rolex Presidential, but it does give you an idea of the big price difference simply because the watch is solid gold.

The weight is slightly lighter on the replica (of course, since gold is heavier than stainless steel), but the difference is very negligible and a regular person really cannot feel the difference. You will have to weigh it on a scale.

And for those new to replicas, triple-wrapped basically refers to 3 different layers of gold wrapped around a core metal (usually stainless steel). This is hundreds of times thicker than regular 18k gold plating found on popular everyday watches.

Contrary to popular beliefs, triple-wrap gold does not wear off that quickly. If you received a triple-wrapped replica that wore off after 8 months, does that mean triple-wrapped replicas wear off quickly? No. It simply means you did not receive a genuine, triple-wrapped replica.

For the serious replica watch buyers who really, really cannot afford to tell the difference, Go Replicas offers some solid 18k, all-gold Presidential replicas for \$3300. The price is steep, but we have heard some good reviews on them after some consumers purchased the watches and conducted acid tests with jewelers.

Feature: Weight and Feel

Genuine Rolex: Exact (obviously)

Swiss-made Replica: 95-100%

The reason we do not say Swiss-made replicas do not always have 100% precise weight and feel is because on triple-wrapped replicas, since the core metal is stainless steel, it is slightly lighter than a real, solid all-gold Rolex replica.

However, for most parts, the rest of the Swiss-made replica looks, weighs, and feels exactly like the real thing. Because Swiss-made replicas use genuine 440 high-grade stainless steel, it feels exactly like a real Rolex should feel. And because 2-tone models also have solid 18k gold just like the real thing, it will also weigh exactly like the real thing.

Most dealers of replicas under \$500 claim their watches look and weigh just like the real thing. As we always say: use your head. If a \$1000 replica looks and weighs just like the real thing, a \$500 replica probably does not. And by the way, how can a \$500 replica without solid gold weigh exactly the same as a real Rolex with solid gold? Senseless...

Feature: Crystal

Genuine Rolex: Sapphire

Swiss-made Replica: Sapphire

The crystal refers to the glass protecting the dial (ie. Face) of the watch. Only genuine Grade 1 Swiss-made replicas have a sapphire crystal. Of course, as usual, many other dealers claim their Japan-made replicas have a sapphire crystal. Don't believe it.

Feature: Markings/Engravings

Genuine Rolex: Exact

Swiss-made Replica: Exact

Only manufacturers of Swiss-made Rolex replicas will go to the painstaking task of ensuring that each and every last marking/engraving on a real Rolex also appears on a Swiss-made replica. Lower quality replicas are ALWAYS missing a few markings/engravings, even if they cost \$500 each. And for replicas under \$300, don't even expect all the engravings to be exact – at best, 70% of them will be similar. Usually, the major missing markings are the serial and model numbers engraved between the lugs (the area where the band meets the case).

Some poorer quality dealers will manually engrave them if the manufacturer in Japan/China does not engrave them. But lack of experience usually results in markings which are a dead giveaway as a fake. Beware of inexperienced engravers who think they are experienced engravers.

So if you purchase a poorer quality replica that is not genuine Swiss-made, it is best that you expect someone to be able to tell the difference at some point in time.

Feature: Dial

Genuine Rolex: Laser-etched

Swiss-made Replica: Laser-etched

Grade 1 Swiss-made replicas are the only known replicas to have laser-etched dials, exactly like a real Rolex. Lower quality replicas never have laser-etched dials. The process is much too expensive to etch a \$300 or even a \$500 replica.

Laser-etched dials are much more precise and clean than a dial printed by ink. This is because the patterns are carefully programmed into a computer and then precisely imprinted onto the dial with high-precision tools. Only high-end Swiss watch manufacturers use this expensive process.

Experienced Rolex enthusiasts can easily tell the difference because ink markings are never exact. They always have tiny smudges in certain areas.

Feature: Water Resistance

Genuine Rolex: 100m (average)

Swiss-made Replica: 30m

There are many places that claim they have water-resistant watches. But real water-resistance is when your watch can be placed in deep water for extended periods of time. Although a Swiss-made replica cannot reach nearly as far as a real Rolex, it begs you to ask this question, "Who in their right minds would wear that kind of watch 300 feet under water, and who would ever get a chance to go that far underwater?"

Nevertheless, the water-resistance of the watch is proof of its compression capabilities. The deeper underwater the watch can go, the stronger the case of the watch is. This might be testament to the fact that a Rolex watch is more well-built than a Swiss-made Replica. A Rolex watch undergoes much more strenuous and lengthy tests than even a Swiss-made Replica.

Feature: Warranty Periods

Genuine Rolex: 1 year

Swiss-made Replica: 1 year

Perhaps the most stunning feature of a Swiss-made Replica is that its warranty period is exactly the same as a genuine Rolex watch. This displays the assurance that the manufacturers and retailers place on the quality of their timepieces.

Does that mean a replica that has a 6 month warranty will last 50% less than a replica with a 1 year warranty? No. Usually, a Swiss-made Replica with a 1-year warranty will last for decades, whereas a Japan-made Replica with a 6-month warranty would be expected to last 2-6 years (assuming the gold does not wear off first). The shorter the warranty, the more inferior the quality.

And the quality of replicas usually increases exponentially as their warranty periods are lengthened.

Other Notable Features

There are also many other notable features which are exclusive to Grade 1 Swiss-made Rolex replicas. For example, on newer Rolesium Swiss-made Rolex replicas, the bezels are solid platinum instead of triple-wrapped platinum.

Also on all-gold Presidential Swiss-made replicas, they have a rose-gold clasp instead of a yellow-gold clasp – exactly like the real thing.

Just be sure that if you are purchasing a Swiss-made replica, carefully examine our Website Reviews to ensure that the dealer has a good track record of delivering quality, Grade 1 Swiss-made Rolex replicas. Otherwise, you might not be receiving a genuine Grade 1 Swiss Replica!

Difference from Other Grades

Genuine, Grade 1 Swiss-made Rolex replicas have huge numbers of differences from lower quality replicas. As a matter of fact, there are too many to list here. To make a long story short, the Swiss-made Rolex replicas can really be compared as exact to the real thing, whereas lower end replicas are no-where near that status.

For complete details on other grades of quality, please view our other articles. You will find loads of useful information in your question to find the perfect replica for yourself!

Conclusion

We hope this article has contributed more to your understanding of Swiss-made replicas.

So no matter who your next purchase of a genuine, Swiss-made Rolex replica is from, whether it be Idealwatches, Go Replicas, Solid Replicas, or one of the many other sites selling Swiss-made replicas, you should recognize the fact that you are very fortunate to own such a stunningly precise replica.