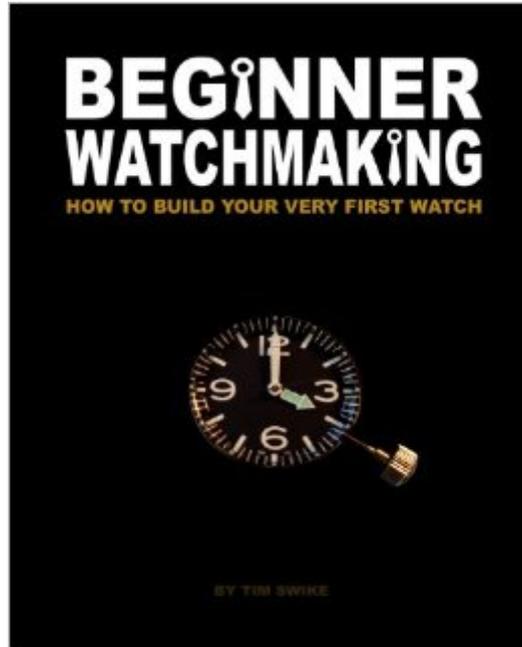


The book was found

# Beginner Watchmaking: How To Build Your Very First Watch



## Synopsis

This book will introduce you to the fascinating world of watch making. It is designed for the average person with zero knowledge of watch mechanics, building, or repair. This book will teach you some of the basics on how a watch works. It will also show you where to buy the right watch parts, how to assemble them, and how to regulate the time. Don't buy another \$1000 watch when you can build one for \$100. This book also comes with a full color PDF file ebook for your computer or smart phone.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (126 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Loved this book. I don't understand the negative reviews...kinda arrogant. Also, I was turned off by the other "beginning books". They turned out to be not so beginning (and incredibly boring). This book, on the other hand, will get you up and running. Here's the gist of what it includes: 1)

Explanations of how watches work. Kinda not helpful since so many other places (on youtube, and animates on the web) explain how watches work so much better. Books are hard to learn from on this matter. But I think this book does as good as any other on the basic mechanics. 2) Websites to browse and buy materials from. This is actually pretty important. To those in the field, all this may seem really obvious...But to beginners, such as myself, it was a godsend. I spent hours on the sites looking at things, planning, etc. 3) A step by step tear down and reconstruction of a typical watch. As a negative reviewer pointed out "all this book does is tell you how to replace movements", etc. But yea, so what??? That is precisely where I want to start as a beginner. I'm not looking to rebuild a movement as a first project. This book starts at the logical first point. Because of this book I

successful took apart an old Diesel quartz watch I had sitting around...and put it back together. It was fun. Buy this book if you want a good place to start and ignore the arrogant old men saying this book is bad. Also, the kindle version is damn good. Full color pics still....so it reads well, and you can get it instantly. Good luck.

This is the perfect sort of book for CreateSpace or the like. It's one person's hobby/interest which a regular publisher would have a hard time justifying turning into a book, but which is a great resource for other people. I just got it, and am very impressed with the book. Good close-up photos (do note that the images on the listing make the pages look to be in color, they are in black & white, don't be disappointed!), websites to check out, and useful text explanations. The step by step instructions look easy to follow. Very nice!

This book is definitely a good place to start in the hobby of watchmaking. It is apparent, though, that when it was published budget was a huge part. You can tell that the book was also written by a watchmaker and not an author, so it is in plain, uncomplicated language. Even though this book is not the highest quality book, it does contain a lot of useful information and is a great place to start. The author gives you planting of websites to buy parts off of and to look at for even more info.

"Beginner" being the key word. Might have considered replacing "watchmaking" with "watch assembling?" Also might have considered having somebody with a wee-bit of a literary skill edit and organize the text; if a publisher was involved - they need help. This book is basic. It's about getting your movement in your case and "looking good." There is a very brief "overall" info on basic movement operation at the beginning, and some good website references for pieces, parts and tools; mostly low-end. A little info on movements cost and quality that was interesting. If you are looking for detailed theory or digging into movements to disassemble, clean, lube, repair, restore etc...it's not here. Art of Watchmaking, design, manufacture, process...etc? Not here. For \$10 and an easy read: not horrible, and not useless (if you've never taken a watch apart before.)

I started being interested in watchmaking about a year ago and so I decided to do some research on it. I found this book and to my joy, it was very clear and easy to understand. It has many good pictures and even provides web address's where one can purchase parts for building your own watch. It gives a short history on the the art/ science of time keeping/ horology and provides a good insight into the watchmaking industry for the beginner. I plan to dive deeper into this subject and this

book only encouraged me to go further.

Beginning Watchmaking might be a little confusing for a title. Watchmaking generally refers to building the movement itself. Swike's approach is geared more toward using off the shelf components and ASSEMBLING a unique watch you have imagined. Not a bad approach and certainly much more attainable for the average person. A more accurate title might be: "Beginner Watch Modifications and Custom Builds". I am not familiar with any other book that takes this approach, so if this idea appeals to you, this is probably the book you want to start with. I am taking one star off because I felt it didn't cover parts sources as well as it could have and sourcing parts (especially good cases) seems to be a big stumbling block for many people. The book covers a lot of ground and is an easy read. Be aware that tracking down parts and identifying what will fit together is still not quite as straightforward as one might think given the internet, eBay, , etc. Also, if your intent is to just build one or two watches, it's probably more cost effective and efficient to pay someone else to put them together for you. I chipped a watch crystal recently. Using Swike's book, I was able to identify the parts and tools I would need to replace it. Once I acquired all the tools, crystal, and gaskets, I was able to safely remove the back, stem, movement, bezel, and crystal. I then cleaned the case, installed new gaskets as Swike instructs, and reassembled the watch successfully. It was a lot of fun and easier than I had imagined. And the watch still works, an added bonus! Having been inspired by successfully not destroying my watch, I am rereading Beginner Watchmaking and starting to plan a full build based on Swike's instructions.

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