



Article published on August 8th 2012 | [Book Marketing](#)

Evolution of Watches:

Time is considered one of our most valuable assets. The keeping of time goes all the way back to the beginning of civilization. Both historians and archeologists believe that stationary and portable sun-dials were probably developed in Egypt or Mesopotamia.

The oldest extant sun-dial can be found in Egypt and dates back to 1500 BCE. We know that the early Egyptians used the pyramids as well as the obelisks as a forerunner to the sundial.

It is said that one of the first watches was created in Italy around 1524 CE. The main problem for portable time keeping before the 1600s was the lack of driving power. Timepieces of that era were typically driven by weights making it very difficult for portable use. The inaccuracy of timepieces in this era was very common and most watches only had one hand that had to be wound at least twice a day. Henlein was a well-known craftsman of, and is often erroneously credited as the inventor of the watch, mostly because of a passage by Johann Cochläus in 1511.

First commercial watch was actually produced back in 1868. Made by Patek Philippe (a company based in Switzerland), that first watch was made for women and was really meant to be a small piece of jewellery. In effect, they had created a wonderful, exciting new type of bracelet.

But the first men's watch looked at things from the opposite point of view. One of the early aviators wanted something that could allow him to tell the time when he was up in the air, flying his airplane. There was nothing around that would.

In 1900, Guillaume produced an alloy such that when used with brass in a cut, compensated balance virtually eliminated middle temperature error. He further experimented and in 1919 it was possible to make a mono-metallic balance of Invar controlled by an Elinvar balance spring.

The other main change in this period was the form factor change that allowed the move from pocket watches to wristwatches. Winding was by button and hand adjustment by rocking bar or shifting sleeve. In early designs or pocket watch conversions, the strap lugs were simple wire loops added to what appeared to be very small pocket watch cases. Hinged or snap bezels and backs were used. Dials were white enamel or metal without decoration but the numbers were sometimes made luminous. Watch glasses started to be made from transparent plastic material which was less fragile.

The British Museum's collection of watches is unsurpassed anywhere in the world. With examples ranging from sixteenth-century early stack freed watches (the first with built-in mechanisms to prevent them from running faster as their mainsprings wound down) to decorative watches of the seventeenth century, from precision made chronometers of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries to mass-produced watches of the modern era, the collection follows the complete history of the watch through an incredible 500 years.

In the First World War, the wristwatch gained popularity. They were much easier to use in battle than other devices. They must have got used to wearing a wristwatch everyday, because soon after the war ended, it became common to see civilian men wearing wristwatches in public. Some might argue that World War 1 was the one single event that spurred the entire wristwatch industry, and I

guess the rest, is what we call history.

Article Source:

<http://www.articleside.com/book-marketing-articles/evolution-of-watches.htm> - [Article Side](#)

[JENAE Saunders](#) - About Author:

a [watch engraving](#) | a [manhattan watch repair](#) | a [midtown watch repair](#)

Article Keywords:

Evolution of Watches, Watches

You can find more [free articles](#) on [Article Side](#). Sign up today and share your knowledge to the community! It is completely FREE!