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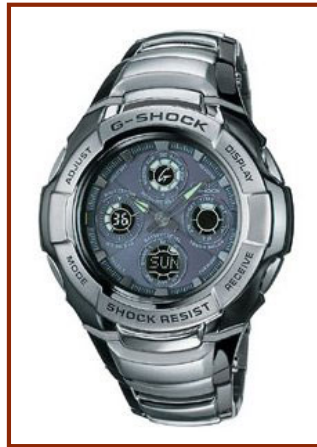
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Time to Get a Watch!

by Michael C. Sherrin
EDGE Style Contributor
Tuesday Oct 4, 2005

Watches don't just tell time anymore. They aren't about counting the seconds, setting alarms or timing your mile-run. With our cell phones always on and set to the exact time, our timepieces have taken on a new life; they're all style.

This fall, that style continues forward with an assortment of classic favorites and eclectic tastes. Think practicality and think adventurously. Here are a few highlights of the most fashionable fall watches to adorn your glamorous wrist.



Monji

Sported by celebrities from Madonna to the Duchess of York, Monji watches fabulous-ize any outfit.

The flagship design features a circular face set on a metal, square base. Japanese glass beads adorn the handmade bands appearing in a candy store variety of colors, ready to compliment everything from your bright red hair to your multi-colored Manolo Blahniks.

These unique and flashy watches crave attention and deserve the rare treatment of inspiring an outfit (few watches earn this responsibility). While color can be scary in the fall, fear not. For while browns and creams may match the foliage, us city folk can get away with a larger array of colors during the cooling months (even some white can be permitted after Labor Day, but only some).

Starting around \$50, you can find them at Fred Segal in LA, Henri Bendel in New York and Shopgirl in Chicago. Find them online at www.monjiusa.com



Hidalgo

Forget the limitations of a single band. Hidalgo has an assortment of interchangeable straps for its high class watches. Styles range from \$50 for stainless steel to \$1,200 for one covered in diamonds. Choose colors including black, pink, yellow and white, or patterns including 'starry night' and 'hearts in enamel.'

Your wide choices of faces include simple analogs perfectly matching the strap or multi-colored maps of the world. Bling Bling!!!

Hidalgo Jewelry is available nationwide at Bloomingdales, Bailey Banks & Biddle and



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O.D.M.

Creativity and tradition never melded so well! O.D. M. pairs the simple appeal of a classic watch with sleek, modern styles ranging from classic silver bands to message-bearing watches, to a watch approved by the Dark Knight himself.

An enormous collection, watches appear for every event your wrist can attend. There's cool formal, colorful sport and zany casual. Check out the Vivid II line with their thick, colored-plastic-bands or the Mysterious 'V' Batman watch, complete with calendar, message and EL backlight. You can even change from time to calendar with a shake of your wrist.

O.D.M watches start around \$100 and can be found at Nordstrom, Neiman Marcus, the MOMA store and Urban Outfitters. For more info, www.troikausa.com



Vacheron Constantin

Eager to break the piggy bank? The oldest continuous watchmakers in the world, Vacheron Constantin maintains 250 years of setting standards and styles for wrists of every gender. With a line dedicated to their timeless timepieces, Constantins always transcends the fades.

Their detailed, hand-craftsmanship includes not only the best features, but the finest materials: jewel encrusted white gold, pink gold and platinum.

At one side, steel makes up the 'Sporty' line while the 'Jewellery' line features the 1972 Large Model with 1,219 diamonds weighing 16.30 carats set on white gold. That's a lot of best friends.

For more information on Vacheron Constantin watches, including 'where to buy,' go to www.vacheron-constantin.com



LAKS

With more freedom in pairing the perfect face with the perfect band, LAKS lets you create your own design from scratch, with their 'YOU' series of watches.

Does your significant other control your schedule? Stick their face on the face of your watch so you always remember that angry mug when you're late. Or, put the painting of 'The Last Supper' around your watch band. You can even stick some random

patterns on them- from roses to polar bears.

LAKS watches start around \$50 For more info and to design your own, go to www.laks.com

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AmberWatch

When choosing fashion, style can matter as much as practicality. The Vertex Group produces the AmberWatch, a one-of-a-kind-watch with a 105-decibel alarm ideal to attract instant attention to yourself when help is needed.

Producing a sound loud enough to be heard a football field's distance away, this watch was designed for women to use to save themselves from an attack, while children can avoid abduction.

Even if the abductor tries to take the watch away, it will automatically go off when broken. Available in a variety of colors for women, girls and boys.

The AmberWatch is available for \$50 at www.amberwatch.com



G-Shock still has it

When Casio introduced the original G Shock, it 'blew up' in the hip-hop world overnight, to become the must-have watch among the fashionista crowd within days. Whether slung on the arm of gangster rappers or crusted with pink diamonds on Paris' slender wrist, this was (and still is) the watch of choice for the fashion conscious crowd.

I know that the G-Shock makes a hot statement because EDGE's (uber glamorous) Style Editor is never without his. Actually, it's more accurate to say he's never without *one* of his; he's got a dozen if he has two.

With options in every color, size and now super-modern metallics, the G and Baby G are available in styles from fun to funky-out. Our editor's newest

favorite is the Atomic Tough Solar model. With a duo-tone metal band, it goes from daytime meetings to nighttime parties with ease, and because it's a 'G,' you know it's tough.

Baby G's, made for the ladies, are getting some extra use on their brothers, boyfriends and buds; I caught Jason wearing the silver-on-white model last weekend, squeezing some last white-party style out of the summer.

G-Shock and Baby-G watches run from about \$50-\$400 depending on the model, material, functions and style. They can be found at major department stores nationwide as well as watch boutiques everywhere. For more info and to buy them online, go to www.gshock.com



Wenger

With a history like Wenger's, you don't need much else. Luckily for us, they didn't just rely on their strong bloodline; they've also introduced some new styles into the mix.

As the maker of the Genuine Swiss Army knife, you may recognize some of the styling, but what you may not have known is that they have a line of men's and women's watches all their own. From technical divers to cool-as-ice formal, Wenger makes a watch for every wrist, and every day (and night) of the week.

Our favorite is the Aquagraph Chrono with the black rubber band. Simple, stylish, elegant, and water resistant to 200m. What else is could you need?

Wenger watches are available at boutiques and department stores nationwide. For more information and 'where to buy,' go to www.wengerna.com

So what's your hold up? The clock's ticking and you've got a watch to buy! With fall nipping at our heels and winter right around the corner, there's no time like now for the perfect, necessary accessory! It's time to get a watch...

A freelance writer and editor, Michael can be contacted at MikeCS83@yahoo.com or through his

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