

Master of Days

Mechanical cufflinks that advance the day of the week when you fasten your cuffs

The calendar is one of watchmaking's most practical complications. It complements the time display and helps us navigate the rhythm of everyday life, even in the age of digital devices. In a conventional watch, the movement controls the change of indication: at a prescribed moment, energy from the gear train is transmitted to the mechanism that advances the date or day of the week.

In the Master of Days cufflinks, the wearer takes the place of the watch movement. Fastening a cufflink on a shirt cuff activates the mechanism, advancing the pointer to the next position. The kinematic chain extends beyond the case: wearer and accessory form a unique symbiotic system.

Konstantin Chaykin's experience as a watchmaker has enabled him to rethink both the design of the cufflink and its very purpose, giving this traditional accessory new meaning. When worn daily, a simple action repeated once a day becomes a personal ritual of engagement with Time.

The Mechanism Shapes the Design

A sapphire crystal with an antireflective coating reveals the calendar mechanism in full. At its center is a seven-pointed star wheel – both a working component that advances the bright blue pointer with its prominent tip to the next day of the week and the design's main visual focus.

The case is made of titanium, a light, strong, hypoallergenic material widely used in contemporary watchmaking. Yet titanium is particularly challenging to machine, demanding a high degree of precision and skill.

Measuring just 18 mm in diameter, each cufflink is a complex mechanical device comprising 40 parts. A pair therefore contains 80 components, each requiring carefully calculated geometry and tolerances. Every manufactured part must be finished, decorated, and inspected for dimensional accuracy and surface quality. After assembly, the components are checked to ensure that they interact precisely and that the display advances correctly.

In terms of component count and the engineering, manufacturing, and finishing operations involved, a pair of Master of Days cufflinks is comparable to a complete watch movement. Creating such a complex mechanism within a miniature accessory is an engineering achievement in its own right.

Impeccable Finishing

The cufflinks are crafted and finished according to the same principles as fine watchmaking: every component is worked by hand, the mainplate is given a sandblasted texture, and the surfaces of the parts are brushed and polished. The edges are finished with anglage, one of the most labor-intensive techniques in traditional watchmaking. The artisan forms an even bevel by hand, then polishes it to a mirror finish – work that demands the utmost care on such miniature components.

The inner surface of the case, which remains hidden from view after assembly, is decorated with traditional circular graining. Behind the distinctive appearance of Master of Days lie dozens of hours of painstaking work.

Inspired by Time

Throughout his life, Konstantin Chaykin has explored Time, a deeply personal and inexhaustible subject for him. His creative work has long extended beyond watches, and today this exploration takes different forms: in painting, through metaphors and Horological Archetypes, and in watchmaking, through inventions, advanced manufacturing methods, and unique technical developments.

In his signature accessories, the watchmaker brings his accumulated horological expertise to a new kind of object. In the Master of Days cufflinks, the calendar mechanism, usually concealed inside a watch, takes center stage as a functional part of the accessory.

This reflects Konstantin Chaykin’s creative approach: the artistic concept emerges from the internal logic of the mechanism, while the shapes of its components, their movement, and their arrangement become part of the watchmaker’s individual creative language.

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Cufflinks with a mechanical calendar display

Technical Specifications

Caliber	A.01-1, activated when the cufflink is fastened, diameter 13.9 mm, thickness 2.1 mm, 2 jewels
Number of components	Case – 13, display mechanism – 27
Functions	Day-of-the-week indication
Case	Polished and brushed titanium, diameter 18 mm, thickness 5.7 mm
Crystal	Sapphire crystal with antireflective coating, diameter 15 mm