
Subject: VT Lexington

Posted by [Timeticker](#) on Fri, 17 Feb 2017 16:40:38 GMT

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Model name :Lexington

Type :Veri-Thin

Period/date :1940's

Gender :Gents

Case Maker :

Case Material :

Case Serial :

Case Style no :

Caliber :411

Movement Maker :Gruen

Movement Serial:

Bracelet :

Other info :

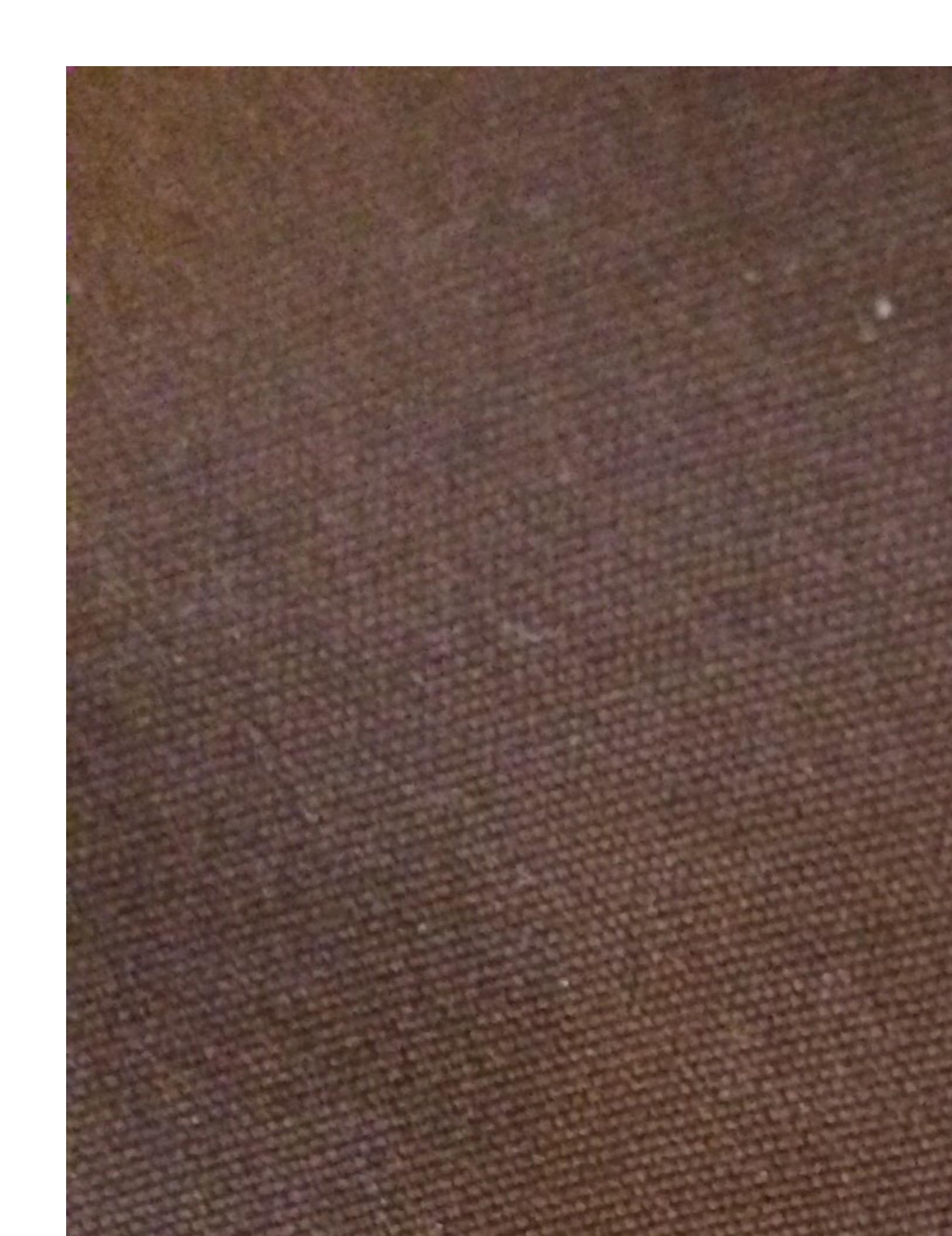
So, in need of another minute hand, but would really like to know what the name of this is. I bought this on the swamp a few years again, and decided to get this up and running. This really runs beautifully and very accurate. Any information would be great. Ah, will be more than happy to purchase a minute hand from you.

Timeticker out!

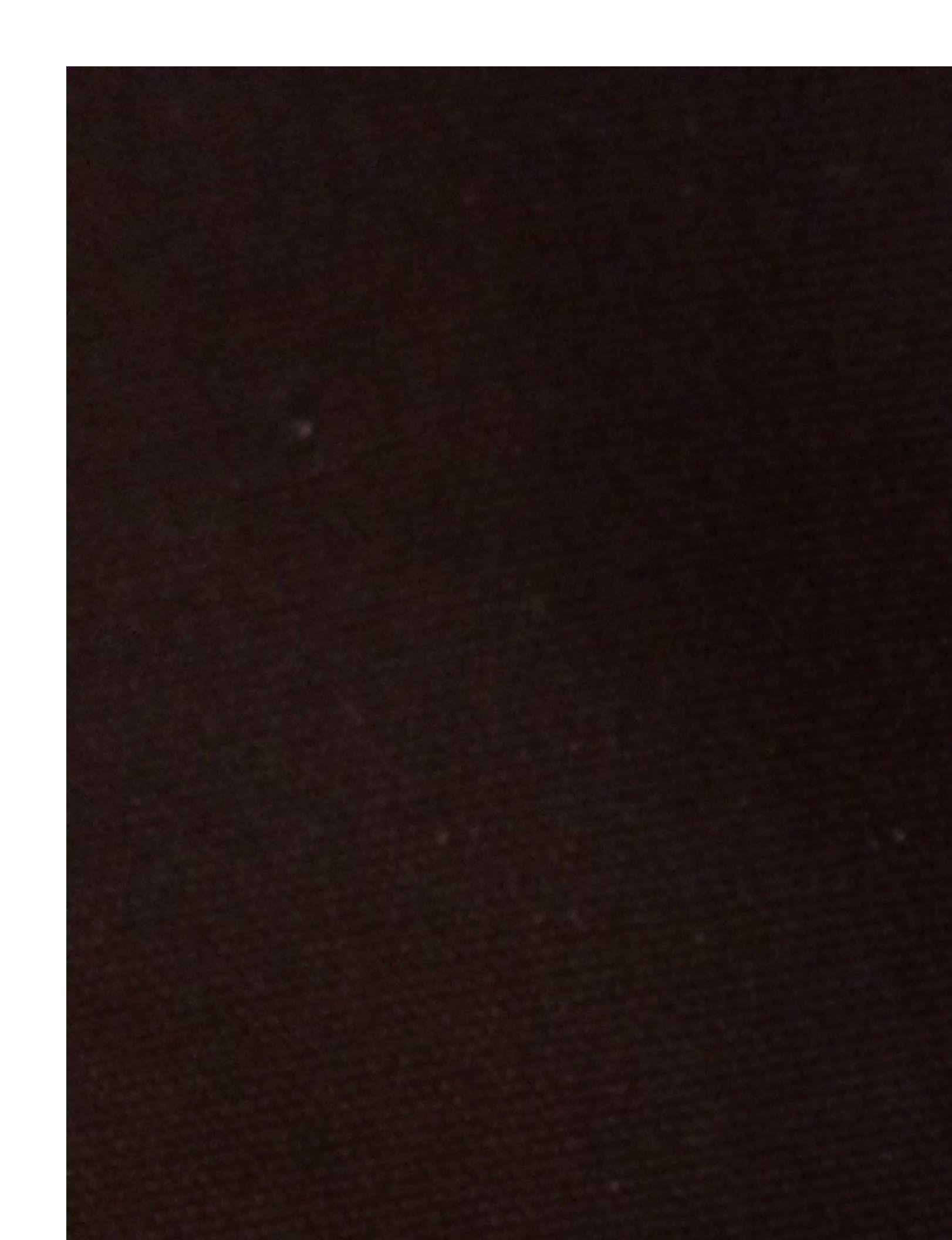
File Attachments

1) [image.jpg](#), downloaded 1630 times

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3) [image.jpg](#), downloaded 2302 times



Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [JackW](#) on Sat, 18 Feb 2017 06:24:54 GMT

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That is the VT Lexington (off the top of my head). Featured in the "8 great military" ad that ran in 1941. second one down

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Sat, 18 Feb 2017 07:49:10 GMT

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I was thinking similar like Jack but I believed to see a C1 serial number at the movement. This would point towards 1949 which was "the Autowind year" I did not find a round crystallized watch with subsecond dial without autowind in that year...

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [JackW](#) on Sat, 18 Feb 2017 17:32:25 GMT

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In response to Barney's alternative hypothesis... ratchet wheel is plain; consistent with the 1941 date of the watch. Movement is clearly a cal 411 15 jewel 10-1/2L size. These were gone from the list of movements per Mikes tables by 1943.

Also, the German site "Gruen Watch" shows one since we don't have one in our online data base. Although Kirby posted one of these with a degraded lume/dial issue.

One additional thing of note is that the style of the dial, with the number font and subsecond chapter was by 1944 using a cal 421 (in the ad it is top row, right side). There is also an auto-wind Lexington but these were later (ca. 1950) and did not reuse the style of dial.

I'll go find my VT Lexington and post an image.

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Sat, 18 Feb 2017 18:08:08 GMT

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Jack, you are absolutely right. As I said I just thought to see the C1 date so I looked in 1949 but could not find anything. I agree with you that this should be the VT Lexington!

I personally don't have a 411 watch, but a couple of 411C ones. They are all dated between 1940 and 1942...

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [Timeticker](#) on Sun, 19 Feb 2017 23:45:41 GMT

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Hey Barney.....I have a 411. Wanna buy it? Lol! Kidding! You two fine gentlemen are incredible with all this information. Really good stuff! However, if you would like a 411 for restoration (will need case and such, no wait.....I may have a derelict for restoration, please let me know, and I'll be very happy to gift it to you and send to Germany. Your call!

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [Timeticker](#) on Sun, 19 Feb 2017 23:55:28 GMT

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Ok, so back to my question. Look very close at that minute hand. The style is different than that of the one JackW referred to. This minute hand was an after market add on, as I believe, the original was lost. The point on this minute hand is much more different than what I have on my other Gruens. JackW sent me a correct minute hand a few months back, and methinks that is what is supposed to be on here. (Although Kirby posted one of these with a degraded lume/dial issue.) Compare the two.....I'm not going nuts, am I? Also, was this supposed to be a 411c movement, or a plain 411?

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Mon, 20 Feb 2017 08:05:42 GMT

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That should be a plain 411, the 411C is marked as such and is obviously curved on the dial side. Thank you very much for your offer, but I do own at least one 411 movement already. Sorry that I can't help with the minute hand.

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [Timeticker](#) on Mon, 20 Feb 2017 14:36:59 GMT

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No, I get the part about the 411 and 411C as that is stamped in the lower plate and quite visible. What I'm asking is if this is an Import, was it supposed to be a 411 or 411c?

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Mon, 20 Feb 2017 14:58:13 GMT

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That should not have anything to do with the watch being an import or assembled in the US. The

Catalog does not tell which movement was used.

Here: <http://gruen.watch/?product=gruen-veri-thin-411-988-lexington> you can see the watch with the regular 411. I do not believe that the 988 stamping is a style number.

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [Timeticker](#) on Mon, 20 Feb 2017 15:16:38 GMT

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Ahh, excellent! I sincerely appreciate that! Very kind of you, Sir!

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [Timeticker](#) on Mon, 20 Feb 2017 15:20:18 GMT

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I went to the Gruen website. That is one beautiful Lexington! Pretty sure that dial was redone, but that is just beautiful! I'll probably have mine done back to a factory finish. However, I am now on the hunt for the correct minute hand!

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [Thojil](#) on Mon, 20 Feb 2017 15:26:25 GMT

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Barney Green wrote on Mon, 20 February 2017 15:58I do not believe that the 988 stamping is a style number.

Agree, Gruen did not have style numbers for these Swiss produced steel cases. Or let me rephrase, I have yet to see one

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [JackW](#) on Mon, 20 Feb 2017 18:47:36 GMT

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Tomas... yes the minute hand is not a Gruen style. Finding one shouldn't be too hard.

The 411c vs the regular 411.... As Barney points out the top plate is more curved on the 411c than the other. Small enough difference that the pinion on the main wheel is a bit different between the two. I have found that the 'c' versions of the movement are in more dress-style watches.

Subject: Re: Import to be or not to be

Posted by [Timeticker](#) on Tue, 21 Feb 2017 02:01:58 GMT

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What is interesting is that Monkee pointed out that Gruen used all types of hand combinations on their watches, and then proceeds to show me a Gruen Import with radium "Cathedral" hands on it. I think it was an Import 233.
