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Subject: Carre B2

Posted by [Jenneke](#) on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 15:14:53 GMT

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Model name : Carré ?

Type : Pocket watch

Period/date : ca 1931

Gender : Men and Women

Case Maker : Wadsworth

Case Material : white metal

Case Serial : B2925

Case Style no : 107

Caliber : 315 or 885?

Movement Maker : ?

Movement Serial: 222747

Other info : checkerboard guilloche dial. U.S.A. pat. appl'd for. Inscription WEB. Movement is a Gruen Guild unadjusted.

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## File Attachments

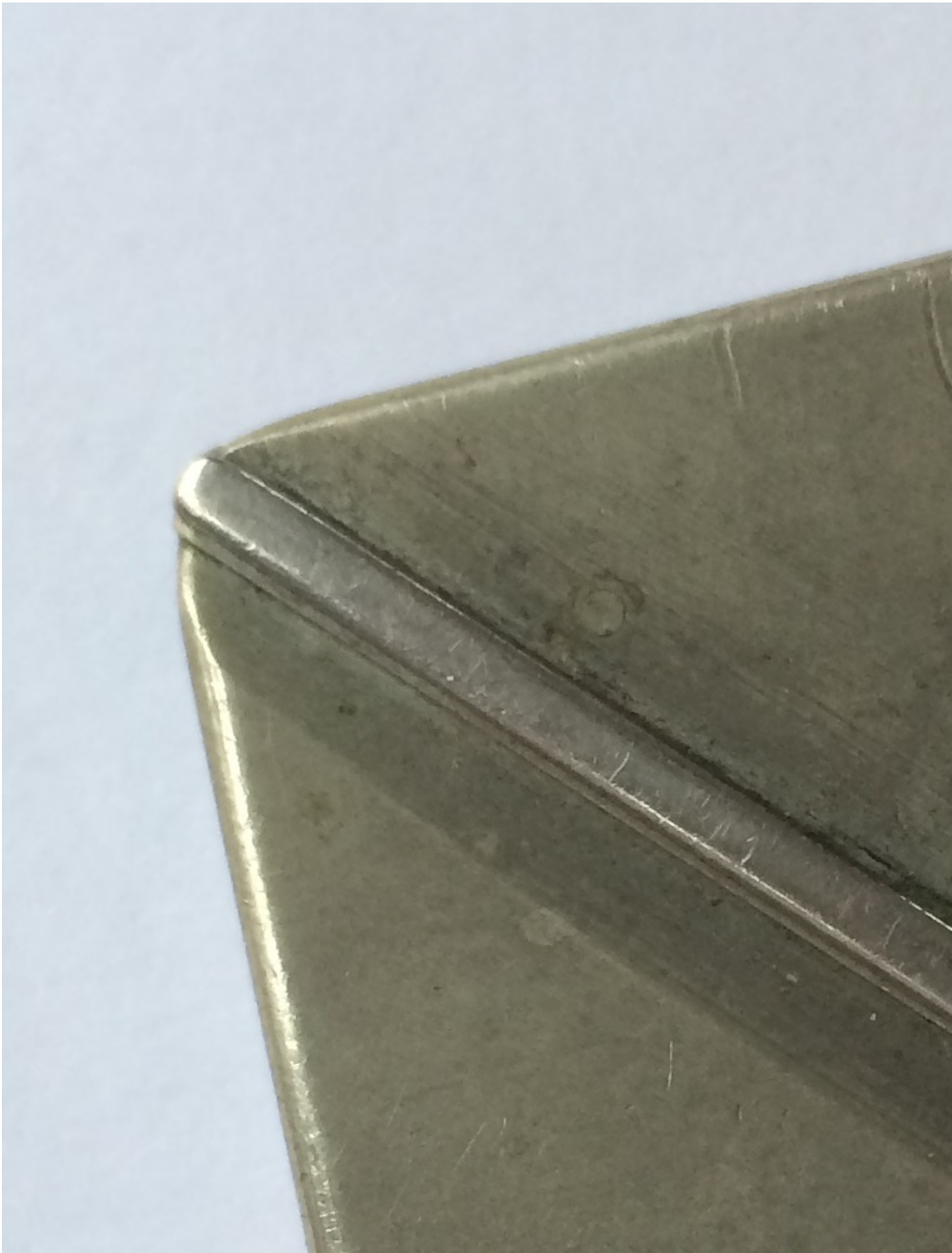
1) [Carre movement.jpg](#), downloaded 2407 times



2) [Carre style no.jpg](#), downloaded 2420 times



3) [Carre closed.jpg](#), downloaded 2444 times



4) [Carre front.jpg](#), downloaded 2464 times





5) [Carre back inscription.jpg](#), downloaded 2471 times





6) [Carre case back.jpg](#), downloaded 2419 times



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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [Jenneke](#) on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 15:18:43 GMT

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The case material is unknown. Could this one have a missing skin? A.k.a.does B2 in the serial have a meaning. In the guild book a Carre with lizard grain leather is shown with number 5b2.

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 15:45:14 GMT

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I have not seen other serial numbers for the carres, so it might be a coincidence, but the B2 prefix might as well be indicating the case style.

The B was used to indicate leather coating, whereas H was laquer. Other letters were indicating pure metal finishes. Would really be interesting to see other case serials.

I definitely believe that your watch is missing a leather skin.

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [kastner](#) on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 17:12:28 GMT

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I think that the Carre is a really fun watch, thanks for sharing yours Jenneke.

I have SNs E1734 and E1314. I've never thought they had coatings (and am on the lookout for ones that do)

The one with the replacement button also has a custom belt clasp. I like having original watches and wasn't thrilled when I first saw this at auction. But after thinking about it more I came to appreciate that someone really used this watch and fixed/modified it for his needs.

,

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#### File Attachments

1) [Carres.jpg](#), downloaded 2243 times

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2) [Carre Clasp.jpg](#), downloaded 2238 times





Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [Jenneke](#) on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 19:12:25 GMT

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Aha, E numbers! In the Gruin guild supplement there is a "Plain butler finished tarnish proof nickel case with 15 jewel movement." And the name is Carré 5 E.

Cary has some enameled ones. Curious to see what kind of style numbers are on those.

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 19:39:04 GMT

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If they would start with an H that would already be a kind of proof for the theory.

The brushing of Kastners E series shows that this was the intended surface. It is missing on the B, I am almost sure it originally was a leather coated one.

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [JackW](#) on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 20:01:52 GMT

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Very nice watches! I have plans for acquiring a Carre someday....

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [timeliz](#) on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 20:12:18 GMT

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Carre is on my want list too!

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [Thojil](#) on Thu, 04 Jan 2018 14:24:37 GMT

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Jenneke wrote on Mon, 01 January 2018 20:12Aha, E numbers! In the Gruin guild supplement there is a "Plain butler finished tarnish proof nickel case with 15 jewel movement." And the name is Carré 5 E. Cary has some enameled ones. Curious to see what kind of style numbers are on those.

I kept many pictures, but unfortunately only few of them show the case numbers.

E2351 - brushed steel case

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E3489 - brushed steel case

And B1121, which looks to be a steel case originally, but not sure? It doesn't seem to have this clear thinning on the edges as with Jenneke's Carre to allow for the leather.

## File Attachments

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1) [Gruen 4.1.jpg](#), downloaded 2106 times



2) [Gruen 4.3.jpg](#), downloaded 2098 times



3) [Gruen 4.2.jpg](#), downloaded 2103 times



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Subject: Re: Carre B2?  
Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Thu, 04 Jan 2018 15:39:18 GMT  
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May be that the B1-watch was recased in a brushed steel one?

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [Thojil](#) on Thu, 04 Jan 2018 16:38:56 GMT

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That would be an explanation

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [Jenneke](#) on Thu, 04 Jan 2018 19:32:34 GMT

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Found some enamel examples with google:

[https:// auctions.bidsquare.com/view-auctions/catalog/id/1928/lot/660](https://auctions.bidsquare.com/view-auctions/catalog/id/1928/lot/660) 190

[https:// www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/vintage-gruen-carre-purse-poc ket-117192751](https://www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/vintage-gruen-carre-purse-poc-ket-117192751)

Both don't have a letter before the number.

And from my serial excel one other example of brushed steel: E3187

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Thu, 04 Jan 2018 21:29:24 GMT

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Is it enamel or is it lacquer? The second watch is very much like my incoming Alpinova.

Here is a picture of it.

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### File Attachments

1) [Alpinova.jpg](#), downloaded 2061 times

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [C. Hurt](#) on Sun, 07 Jan 2018 22:35:56 GMT

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I believe Jenneke's Carré was originally covered with leather or reptile skin. The narrow groove on the edge of the cover without the opening button was used to secure the skin. Also, I have a leather covered one with case number B2669.

I also have a similar brushed nickel cased example with case number E1923. These are both Wadsworth cases with 315 movements.

I also have one enameled one at the moment that also has the 315 movement but it's in a larger Swiss case marked "Eclipso" which was some sort of joint venture with LIP. These cases do not have the Wadsworth style case numbers.

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [Jenneke](#) on Tue, 09 Jan 2018 18:22:09 GMT

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Well, I don't think the skill of covering a case with leather still exists. I will keep it undressed.

For now I am pretty convinced the character on the case says something about the case model (ie material).

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [JackW](#) on Tue, 09 Jan 2018 18:40:03 GMT

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Jenneke wrote on Tue, 09 January 2018 18:22 Well, I don't think the skill of covering a case with leather still exists.

Reapplying leather or even snakeskin is one thing, but I think an even rarer skill is fired enamel work.

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [Jenneke](#) on Tue, 09 Jan 2018 19:26:25 GMT

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Youtube has a lot of jewelry enameling tutorials: f.e. link and even books can be found. Anyone ever tried it?

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [C. Hurt](#) on Wed, 10 Jan 2018 02:00:17 GMT

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I have used a modern epoxy-based product called Ceramit, which cures at low temp and makes a beautiful glossy surface. It works very well for small repairs, but I've never tried it on as large an area, or one with as many edges, as a Carré.

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Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [JackW](#) on Wed, 10 Jan 2018 06:37:29 GMT

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Is there a Gruen watch catalog that the Carre is featured in? Just the master book? I looked at my copy of the Guild Book, and unless I've missed it, no mention. This includes the 1930 update pages too. It must really be 1931 at the earliest for their introduction? What resources are people using for the letter designation for style?

Edit - Never mind, found it on page 3A of the 9-31 supplement.

A larger/higher resolution image is also attached below.

As to enamel work... I was given supplies for true fired enamel work (with the kiln), but have yet to do anything with it. Other than use the kiln for other jewelry aspects. Think I'd want to experiment on a lot of other things before trying my hand at restoring a watch case. In fact, restoring watch dials with fired enamel is not possible. I think that Cary's mention of Ceramit is the material used by the watch dial restoration service in the UK I once contacted. Sounds like what was described to me as part of their process.

#### File Attachments

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1) [Carre\\_cat\\_image\\_0931\\_p3A.jpg](#), downloaded 1520 times





Covered with genuine pigskin and  
brown calfskin  
15 jewel movement, \$60



THE GUILD BOOK SUPPLEMENT—9.31—Page 3 A

... for ...  
Men and Women  
*The* **Carre**  
Watch  
by GRUEN

The modern utility timepiece ... a Twentieth Century counterpart of the old, doubly protecting hunting-case watch. Trim and compact, the Carre travels handily in purse or change pocket. Then at the flick of a tiny button its outer case springs open ... disclosing a fine Gruen Watch ... and the correct time. The flair today in Paris, the Carre makes a fascinating, original gift. Offered in cheerful colors ... or plain metal finishes. Available with fastener for attaching to a neck ribbon or key chain.



Covered with genuine pigskin and brown calfskin  
15 jewel movement, \$60  
(Carre 5 B 10)



Covered with genuine reptile skin  
15 jewel movement, \$65  
(Carre 5 B 8)  
With lizard grain leather, \$55  
(Carre 5 B 2)



Covered with genuine reptile and brown crushed grain morocco leather  
15 jewel movement, \$60  
(Carre 5 B 6)



A loquacious combination of cream and green  
17 jewel movement, \$60  
(Carre 7 H 6)



Covered with pigskin leather  
15 jewel movement, \$50  
(Carre 5 B 1)



Covered with brown crushed kid leather  
15 jewel movement, \$40  
(Carre 5 B 5)



Black lacquered with tarnish-proof nickel trim  
17 jewel movement, \$60  
(Carre 7 H 1)



Beautifully engine turned  
Coin gold filled case  
17 jewel movement, \$75  
(Carre 7 A 2)  
In 14k Solid Coin gold, (Carre 2), \$125



Plain butler finished tarnish-proof nickel case with  
15 jewel movement, \$45  
(Carre 5 E)



Plain coin gold filled case  
17 jewel movement, \$65  
(Carre 7 A)



Plain 14k Solid coin gold case  
17 jewel movement, \$125  
(Carre 7 T)

Double usefulness! The Carre serves on desk, boudoir, or sickroom table as a smart miniature clock. Travelers find it particularly handy and practical.

Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by [Thojil](#) on Wed, 10 Jan 2018 08:08:40 GMT

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C. Hurt wrote on Sun, 07 January 2018 23:35I also have one enameled one at the moment that also has the 315 movement but it's in a larger Swiss case marked "Eclipso" which was some sort of joint venture with LIP. These cases do not have the Wadsworth style case numbers.

The patent was actually held by LIP as you can read in this announcement from Sep. 1931. I have shared some LIP adds of the ECLIPSO in an earlier post here

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### File Attachments

1) [Brevet Sep 1931.jpg](#), downloaded 1943 times

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