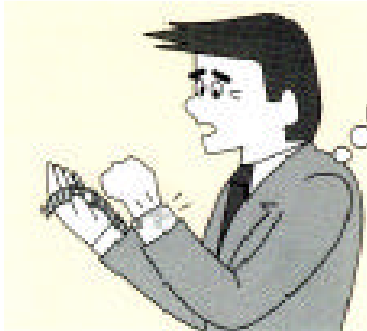


[about watch bands/bracelets]



## Have you ever had this experience?

I always wear a watch on my wrist, turning it red and itchy.

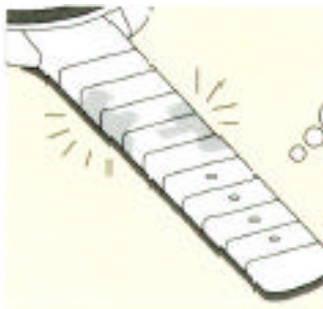


My shirt cuff turns yellow when my wrist gets sweaty.

The strap band of my watch tore off after putting it on for the first time in a while.



The colour of the band of my favorite watch, which is made of polyurethane, has been changing.



## Did you know?

### **Metal Band/Bracelet**

Even stainless steel bands/bracelets get rusty because of some corrosion/perspiration accumulating between the band/bracelet segments.

This kind of rust may turn your cuff colour yellowish when you perspire.

That is why we strongly recommend you keep your watch clean.

The above especially applies to expensive solid bracelets whose gaps between the segments are relatively narrow and may easily accumulate corrosion/perspiration. Such metal bands/bracelets need a periodic check.

### **Leather Strap Band**

Leather strap bands made of natural leather can be easily influenced by water/perspiration/stain, compared with metal bands/bracelets.

Sometimes leather straps themselves get torn off or strap colours fade.

Constant care is required, taking the way of usage into consideration.

### **Polyurethane Band**

Polyurethane bands, which are made of soft plastic, may turn hard after 23 year's use. Colour fading can also be seen.

If bands are kept wet and in highly humid locations or are exposed to sunlight for a long time, the deterioration of the bands may be accelerated in a relatively short period and some cracks may appear on the band surface.

(This is called 'hydrolytic cleavage of polyurethane')

Kindly pay attention to the condition of polyurethane bands, which are often worn in such occasions as marine sports/outdoor activities.

## How to care for bands/bracelets

### [Metal Band/Bracelet]

- Apply neutral detergent(mixed with some water)to metal bands/bracelets when stains on the surface are noticeable.
- In case it is severely stained, use tooth brush and remove the stain that has accumulated in the gaps of the band/bracelet segments.
- Apply plastic kitchen wrap to your watch head and wash the whole watch if the watch is non-water resistant.
- After washing, especially wipe the gaps of the band/bracelet segments with a towel carefully and dry the entire watch throughly.

### [Leather Strap Band]

- If you perspire or your watch gets wet while wearing, immediately dry the watch completely with dry cloth or towel.
- Place your watch somewhere well ventilated after taking the watch off your wrist.
- Loosen your leather strap when you perspire a lot.
- Do not expose your watch sunlight for a long time (eg. on a car dashboard) since this may lead to discoloration/transformation/breakage of your watch's leather strap.

### [Polyurethane Band]

- We recommend immediate exchange when your polyurethane band loses elasticity or develops cracks.
- Semi-transparent/white/fair coloured polyurethane band may turn a different colour due to light/stain(or sometimes may absorb colours from other materials). In addition, polyurethane bands have many small holes on the surface, which easily catch and hold stains/other different colour material. Thus it is rather tough to entirely clean polyurethane bands. Kindly replace current polyurethane band with a new one when you find extreme discolouration.
- There exist some sorts of stains(like oil/cosmetics), which cannot be removed off. Smoking cigarette/long time use may turn the colour yellowish.

## **CAUTION!**

**Do not use solvents/chemicals (benzine/thinner/breach) for band/bracelet cleaning!**

## **MEMO**

**Q** Do even stainless steel bands get rusty?

**A** The surface of stainless steel is covered with an oxidized coating, which is made under constant contact with oxygen. This protects the surface from getting rusty. Once the amount of oxygen supply runs short, however, the above oxidized coating breaks down and the surface can get rusty easily.

**Q** I sweat heavily and my watch strap band easily gets damaged. Do you have any 'sweat proof' band's?

**A** There are some straps whose back(or the entire strap) is made of synthetic leather. Compared with a genuine leather strap, such types are stronger against perspiration. In any case constant care for the strap bands is still essential.

## For long time use

Both the watch case and band are always in touch with human skin and at the same time are exposed to dust/perspiration. If you leave your watch stained, some rust or stain from your watch may rub off on your cuffs or you may get a skin reaction on your wrist.

- **Skin reaction caused by watch band/bracelet**

As with eye-glass frames or accessories, you may sometimes get a skin reaction. This is caused by metal ion extracted by perspiration from a metal part of your watch.

Some people may have an allergy to this and get such a reaction.

This kind of reaction is categorized as allergic skin dermatitis, which is caused by such metals as Nickel/Cobalt/Chrome. These metals are included not only in metal bands but also in leather straps(Chrome is used for tanning).

If you get skin reaction, stop wearing your watch right away and consult a dermatologist. Clarify with doctor's assistance which metal caused the skin reaction and try to avoid selecting products which contain the relevant metal.

Care for your watch bands/bracelets as well.

Keep the bands/bracelets clean since they are always in tight contact with your skin.

