

"WRIST WATCH"

This invention relates to a wrist watch.

In known wrist watches, a watch body is composed of a barrel which constitutes a wrist watch case and which contains a movement having hands, a glass which is fixed to the front of the barrel through a frame, and a back cover which is mounted on the back of the barrel. The thus-arranged watch body and a watch band are then connected to each other by coupling the watch band by means of a push pin to the respective mounting portions of the barrel which are located opposite to each other.

In such a wrist watch, since the watch body and the watch band, which is composed of two parts, are made of different materials, it is difficult to match their colours. In addition, it is troublesome to couple the wrist watch and watch band at two positions by using push-pins. This also increases the number of parts which have to be used.

According to the present invention, there is provided a wrist watch comprising a watch body and a watch band which are adapted to be secured together by force fitting; said watch body comprising a movement casing which is adapted to contain a movement and from which movement casing extend hand shafts on which are mounted hands, and a cover mounted on the movement casing so as to cover the hands; said watch band having an integral fitting portion which is adapted to be force fitted onto the watch body; and coupling means for coupling the watch body to the

watch band with the fitting portion force fitted on to the watch body.

Preferably, the fitting portion is adapted to be readily removed from the watch body after having been fitted thereon.

Preferably one of the parts constituted by the watch body and watch band is provided with a protrusion and the other part is provided with a groove portion adapted to receive the protrusion.

The protrusion preferably protrudes from the watch body, the groove portion being provided on the inner periphery of the fitting portion of the watch band.

The protrusion may be integral with the said cover.

The invention also comprises the watch body and watch band being secured together with the fitting portion fitted onto the watch body and with the watch body coupled to the watch band by the coupling means.

Thus, in its preferred form, a wrist watch in accordance with the present invention requires a reduced number of parts, does not necessitate the matching of colours, and allows for easy replacement of its watch band so that the watch can be treated as an apparel accessory as well.

The watch body may be coupled to the watch band by simply force fitting the fitting portion of the watch band onto the watch body. The fitting portion of the band may surround a time display portion of the watch as does the barrel

of known wrist watches. The fitting portion of the watch band is formed integrally therewith, and this eliminates the necessity for colour matching.

5 The invention is illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings, in which:-

Figure 1 is an enlarged cross-section of a wrist watch according to the present invention taken along the line I-I of Figure 6:

10 Figure 2 is an enlarged cross-section taken along the line II-II of Figure 6;

Figure 3 is a front elevational view of a major portion of a wrist band which forms part of the said wrist watch, with portions broken away;

15 Figure 4 is an enlarged cross-section taken along the line IV-IV of Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a front elevational view of a cover which forms part of the said wrist watch, with portions broken away; and

Figure 6 is a front elevational view of the wrist watch.

20 Terms such as "upper" and "lower", as used in the description below, are to be understood to refer to directions as seen in the accompanying drawings.

As shown in Figures 1 and 2, a wrist watch according to the present invention comprises a watch body 1 and a watch
25 band 2. The watch body 1 has a movement casing 11 which

contains a movement (not shown), hands 13 mounted on hand shafts 12 protruding from the movement casing 11, and a transparent cover 14 which covers the hands 13. In this embodiment, the cover 14 is tightly fitted to the outer periphery of the movement casing 11 through a waterproof ring 15, so as to provide a highly waterproof watch body 1. The watch band 2, as shown in Figures 3 and 4, has a fitting portion 21 which fits around the outer periphery of the watch body 1, and band portions 22 and 23 which extend outward from the upper and lower portions of the fitting portion 21 and which are integrally formed therewith. The watch band 2 is made of a urethane resin which is strong and slightly resilient.

The watch body 1 and the watch band 2 are coupled to each other by force fitting the fitting portion 21 of the watch band 2 onto the outer periphery of the watch body 1. To make the coupling safer, the cover 14 has upper and lower protruding portions 14a, 14b, as shown in an enlarged manner and as seen from the front side of Figure 5. The protrusion 14b has a through-hole 14c which passes through the protrusion 14b in the crosswise direction. The watch band 2 has on the inner periphery of its fitting portion 21 a groove 21a into which the protrusion 14a can be fitted and a notch 21b into which the protrusion 14b is inserted. Through-holes 21c are provided which

extend to the notch 21b in such a manner as to be aligned with the through-hole 14c, so that a coupling pin 3 (shown in Figure 1) may pass through the through-holes 21c, 14c and 21c.

5 The protrusion 14a of this embodiment protrudes from the cover 14. However, the protrusion 14a is not limited to this form and may protrude from the movement casing 11. The coupling of the cover 14 and the movement casing 11, moreover, is not limited to the form shown in the Figures, and it may be accomplished through the intermediary of
10 a coupling member (not shown).

 When coupling the watch body 1 and the watch band 2, the protrusion 14b is first inserted into the notch 21b. The pin 3 is then passed through the through-holes 21c, 14c
15 and 21c. Then the protrusion 14a is fitted into the groove 21a while the fitting portion 21 is being fitted onto the outer periphery of the watch body 1. As a result, as shown in Figure 6, the fitting portion 21 of the band 2 surrounds the periphery of the time display portion of
20 the watch when the watch is viewed from the front, and the band portions 22 and 23 extend from the fitting portion 21. The movement casing 11 - which is made of a different material - is therefore invisible from the front, making the watch body 1 and the watch band 2 appear as one.

As will be understood from the foregoing description,
the watch body can be easily coupled to the watch band by
fitting the fitting portion of the watch band onto the
watch body. In addition, the watch body is surrounded
5 by the fitting portion of the watch band which is integrally
formed therewith, and this allows for adjustment of the
external colour of a wrist watch to be undertaken with
ease and eliminates the need for colour matching of the
components. The simple coupling of the watch band to
10 the watch body allows the user to wear the wrist watch
as an apparel accessory. Thus the user may have a number of
interchangeable watch bands of different colours and shapes
and thus can readily replace one watch band by another.



C L A I M S

1. A wrist watch comprising a watch body and a watch band which are adapted to be secured together by force fitting; said watch body comprising a movement casing which is adapted to contain a movement and from which movement casing extend hand shafts
5 on which are mounted hands, and a cover mounted on the movement casing so as to cover the hands; said watch band having an integral fitting portion which is adapted to be force fitted onto the watch body; and coupling means for coupling the watch body to the watch band with the fitting portion force fitted on to the
10 watch body.
2. A wrist watch as claimed in claim 1 in which the fitting portion is adapted to be readily removed from the watch body after having been fitted thereon.
3. A wrist watch as claimed in claim 1 or 2 in which
15 one of the parts constituted by the watch body and watch band is provided with a protrusion and the other part is provided with a groove portion adapted to receive the protrusion.
4. A wrist watch as claimed in claim 3 in which the protrusion protrudes from the watch body, the groove portion
20 being provided on the inner periphery of the fitting portion of the watch band.
5. A wrist watch as claimed in claim 4 in which the protrusion is integral with the said cover.



6. A wrist watch as claimed in any preceding claim in which the watch body and watch band are secured together with the fitting portion fitted onto the watch body and with the watch body coupled to the watch band by the coupling means.

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7. A wrist watch substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as shown in the accompanying drawings.
