

What:

SKELETON WATCHES

Four exceptional timepieces that show and tell. ▼

For centuries, watch movements were hidden under dials, the industry's best-kept secrets. But in recent years manufacturers have been taking the wrappings off—with spectacular results.

Open-working, or "skeletonizing," a watch involves removing as much material as possible without affecting its performance. The structures that remain are finished to the highest standard possible using engraving, angling, polishing and other techniques. The best open-worked movement watches require hundreds of hours to build.

Here are some choice examples of the open-worked art.

1 Vacheron Constantin Métiers d'Art Mécaniques Ajourées

Price: \$75,200
Contact: Melanie Copeland, 877.701.1755, vacheron-constantin.com/en

2 Jaeger-LeCoultre Hybris Artistica Duomètre à Grande Sonnerie

Price: On request
Contact: Nicola Cagliata, Beverly Hills boutique director, 310.734.0525, jaeger-lecoultre.com

3 Blancpain Le Brassus Carrousel Répétition Minutes Chronographe Flyback

Price: \$449,600
Contact: 877.520.1735, blancpain.com

4 Franck Muller 7-Days Power Reserve Skeleton

Prices: \$55,300 in 18K gold (curvex) and \$43,200 in stainless steel (round)
Contact: Greg Salcioglu, 212.463.8898 ext. 317, franckmuller.com

