

How to Get Moisture Out of a Watch Face

by Pamela Fay

Your buddies pushed you into the pool with your favorite watch still strapped to your wrist. Now there are beads of water under the face. The drops may evaporate on their own, but you may want to help the process along just in case. If you don't want to incur a watch repair bill, try these methods first.

Let it Dry Naturally

Remove the back with a tiny jewelry screwdriver. Let the watch dry naturally. There may be a rubber seal on the back. Before you reassemble the watch, make sure the seal is dry and still tight. If the seal has been damaged, you will need to purchase a new seal from a watch repair shop.

Place it in the Sun

Lay the watch face down on an absorbent towel. Place in a sunny location like a window sill or the dashboard of your car. It may dry after a brief bask in the sun.

Try the Rice Method

Place the watch in a plastic bag filled with rice. Press out the excess air, seal the bag, and allow it to sit for 24 hours. If condensation remains, leave it another day or two. Instead of rice, you can use silica gel packets that come in vitamin bottles, leather goods like purses and shoes, and others products. Silica absorbs 40% of its weight in moisture so one packet in a sealed container should do the trick.

Use a Hair Dryer

Remove the back of the watch with a jewelry screwdriver. Take out the battery. Gently dry the watch with a hair dryer set on the low and held approximately 10 inches from the back. Avoid high heat as this will damage the gears.

Use Radiant Heat

Place the watch on top of the radiator or another source of low radiant heat like a light bulb.

Tips:

- Try to avoid getting your watch wet. It may survive one or two dips, but unless the watch is waterproof, it won't last under continued abuse.
- If there is a lot of water under the face, always remove the battery immediately. This will prevent the watch from shorting.

Warning:

- If you own a very expensive watch or your watch has sentimental value, take it to a jeweler. Trying to save a few bucks may not be worth the risk of permanent damaging the timepiece.
- Take care removing the back of the watch. You can easily damage the gears or springs.

References

[http://www.watchesair.com/News-](http://www.watchesair.com/News-what-can-you-do-to-remove-water-from-the-inside-of-a-watch-face-355.html)

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WatchesAir: What Can You Do to Remove Water from the Inside of a Watch Face