

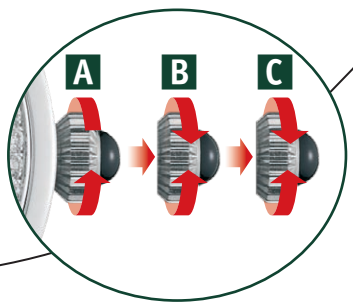


Instructions for use
Mode d'emploi

CALENDAR,
MOON PHASE
WITH POWER RESERVE

Calibre 3123/3908
Selfwinding

AP
AUDEMARS PIGUET
Le maître de l'horlogerie depuis 1875



ENGLISH

Quick-link contents page (see opposite).

Simply click on the relevant title or subheading to following the link to your chosen section.

Click on the white "English" to return to the main contents page.

1. Introduction **p 31**

The Manufacture Audemars Piguet

2. About the watch **p 34**

The automatic calibre 3123/3908

Technical specifications of the movement

3. Description of watch **p 40**

Views of the movement

Technical data of the movement

Specificities

Watch indications and functions

4. Basic functions **p 44**

Setting the time

Balance stop when adjusting hands

Winding the watch

Rapid date setting

The moon phase

Rapid moon phase setting

How to read the power reserve indicator?

5. Additional comments **p 49**



The Manufacture Audemars Piguet

The Vallée de Joux : cradle of the watchmaker's art

In the heart of the Swiss Jura, around 50 kilometres north of Geneva, nestles a landscape which has retained its natural charm to this day: the Vallée de Joux. Around the mid-18th century, the harsh climate of this mountainous region and soil depletion drove the farming community settled there to seek other sources of income. With their high degree of manual dexterity, inexhaustible creativity and enormous determination, the inhabitants of the valley, known as Combiens, were naturally drawn to watchmaking.

Due to their high quality, the movements they produced acquired great popularity with the Geneva firms which used them to create complete watches.

From 1740 onwards, watchmaking developed into the principal industry of the Vallée de Joux. This region was thus transformed, as an 1881 chronicle put it, "into a land of milk and honey, in which poverty has rapidly disappeared".

Two names for a great adventure

In 1875, two young men passionate about Haute Horlogerie — Jules-Louis Audemars and Edward-August Piguet — decided to pool their skills to design and produce watches with complications in the Vallée de Joux, the cradle of Haute Horlogerie. Determination, imagination and discipline led them to instant success. A branch in Geneva was their next move in about 1885 and new commercial links were forged at the 1889 Paris World Exposition, where they exhibited complication pocket watches. The Audemars Piguet factory continued to expand as the years went by. Its creations represented major milestones in the history of Haute Horlogerie, like the first minute repeater wristwatch in 1892 and the smallest five-minute repeater movement ever made in 1915.

From 1918 onwards, the founders passed the reins of the business onto their sons, who in turn perfected their expertise in manufacturing men's and ladies' wristwatches as well as designing new sophisticated, ultra-thin movements. Perseverance and initiative were the watchwords: while the Wall Street crash in 1929 was a bitter blow, the company directors were soon designing so-called skeleton watches before embarking on chronograph production.



But this new momentum was abruptly interrupted by the Second World War. Re-organisation was necessary in the aftermath of the conflict. The factory focused on creating top-of-the-range items in keeping with its tradition of innovation. A strategy that would prove its worth, especially since it was backed by outstanding creative daring.

Audemars Piguet continued to build on its now international reputation with creative designs. 1972 saw the launch of the *Royal Oak*, the first, immediately successful high-quality sports watch in steel, followed in 1986 by the first ultra-thin tourbillon wristwatch with automatic winding. The creative spirit of the Manufacture has not faltered since, offering aesthetically original timekeepers with outstanding movements. Thus it brought watches with complications back into fashion at the end of the 1980s, launching its extraordinary *Tradition d'Excellence* collection in 1999. All the signs of a bold spirit rooted firmly in tradition and auguring well for the future.

The automatic calibre 3123/3908

Audemars Piguet presents the calibre 3123/3908: an automatic winding movement with central second hand, date and moon phase display. It combines functionality with aesthetics and the highest level of refinement in the watchmaker's art.

Tradition and innovation

Audemars Piguet has always striven to safeguard and uphold its independence. This is why the company developed its own method of crafting mechanisms, particularly with the design of Audemars Piguet calibres. They carry the unique AP signature, unmistakable among all others (bridges arranged harmoniously side by side and component décor), and offer an elegant, balanced design, boosted by a transverse balance bridge. The 22 carat gold oscillating weight, inscribed with the emblems of the Audemars and Piguet families, ensures efficient winding.

A work of the highest horological refinement, which can be admired through the sapphire glass back of the case. The calibre with automatic winding impresses by virtue of its fine mechanical qualities – robustness, reliability, precision – and loving attention to detail.



The automatic calibre

Calibre 3123/3908 is a selfwinding movement. Wrist movements produce the energy required for it to function.

This energy, harnessed by a 22 carat gold oscillating weight, is transmitted to the mainspring by a gear-train.

The spring winds progressively around an arbor and in this way stores this energy. The energy is subsequently distributed in a controlled manner to the watch movement.

The maximum power reserve is reached after a period of time varying from several hours to some days, depending on the owner and the amount of physical activity.

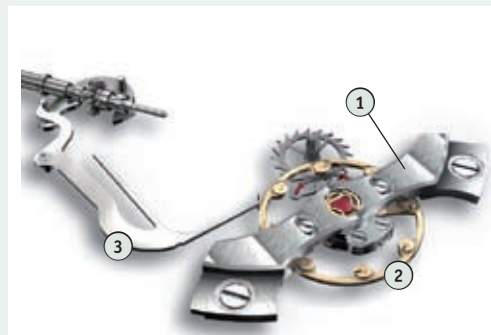
To prevent overtensioning of the mainspring, it is released at the appropriate moment by a sophisticated system which allows it to slip around the inside of the barrel drum.



Technical specifications of the movement

Regulating organ

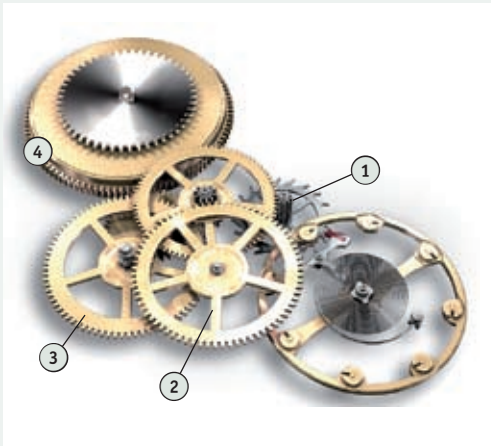
- Double balance bridge ①:
Guarantees high precision positioning of the balance and greater degree of shock resistance, thus ensuring greater timekeeping precision.
- Balance with eight Giromax regulating weights ②:
Variable inertia balance enabled by eight inertia blocks that regulate the movement of the watch without modifying the length of the balance-spring.
- Second stop lever for the time setting function ③:
Pull the crown to the position for setting the time. This activates the second stop lever. This allows you to stop the second counter hand immediately and set the precise time.



Gear train

A train produced according to AP quality standards fulfils the following criteria:

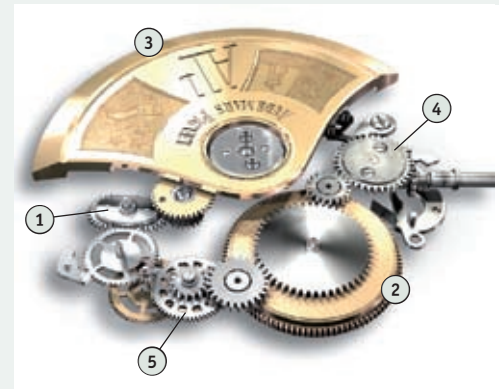
- Pinions are polished ①.
- All edges are de-burred and chamfered ②.
- The pivots and sweep of the pivots are burnished.
- The non-functional surfaces of the wheels are gold-plated and adorned with a circular pattern, the arms are bevelled and the edges and surfaces are diamond-tipped ③.
- After being gold-plated, the teeth of the wheel are milled to ensure a geometrically and functionally flawless surface ④.



Automatic winding

This calibre meets the following standards:

- Extremely low friction at the wheels and springs.
- Rapid winding in both directions ①.
- Barrel with large power reserve (approx. 55 hours) ②.
- 22-carat gold rotor mounted on ceramic ball-bearings ③.
- Large crown ④ and winding wheel with integrated disengagement system ⑤ for automatic winding, ensuring easy manual winding without wear and tear.



Views of the movement

Calibre 3123/3908

Bridge side



Dial side



Technical data of the movement

Total thickness: 5.68 mm

Total diameter: 26.00 mm

Frequency: 21,600 vibrations/hour (3 Hz)

Number of jewels: 45

Minimal power reserve: approx. 55 hours

Bidirectional automatic winding

Rotor mounted on ceramic ball bearing, with oscillating weight segment in 22 carat gold

Balance with variable inertia blocks

Flat balance-spring

Screwed mobile stud-holder

Number of parts: 316

Specificities

Stop balance when setting time
(second hand is stopped)

Bevels of the bridges are diamond graved

Inverted snailing on bridges

Watch indications and functions

(see figure on the inside cover)

- 1 Hour hand
- 2 Minute hand
- 3 Central seconds hand
- 4 Power reserve indicator hand
- 5 Date indicator hand
- 6 Moon phase indicator aperture

Your watch is fitted with a three-position crown :

- A** Crown in position for winding movement manually
- B** Crown in position for rapid date correction
- C** Crown in position for setting the time and rapid moon phase correction

Caution: Unfasten crown on Royal Oak models to obtain the position **A**. After use, it must be carefully screwed down again to ensure water resistance.



Setting the time

Pull the crown to **C** (on screw-in crown models, loosen this first); the time can then be corrected. It is advisable to move past the time sought (by about five minutes), then return to the correct time. It is advisable to move past the time sought (by about five minutes), then return to the correct time.

Warning: Be careful not to confuse noon and midnight, due to the change of date.

Balance stop when adjusting hands

The balance and second hand stop simultaneously when the winding crown is pulled out, allowing you to set the time to within the second.

Winding the watch

On models with a screw-down crown, unscrew the crown before use.

If the watch were to stop, 30 turns (clockwise) of the crown in position **A** suffice to wind the movement fully. The movements of the wearer's wrist will activate the automatic system and keep the watch running.

Warning: the watch must be worn to activate the automatic system. If not, the automatic system will not work and the watch will stop after about two days.

Rapid date setting

To avoid making any mistakes, it is recommended to perform date changes when the mechanism is not in operation, i.e. between 1 am in the morning and 8 pm in the evening at the latest. If the watch does not show the correct date, pull the crown out to position **B** (rapid date setting) and turn it forwards or back and forth, until the correct date is displayed.

Then return the crown to position **A** (with models featuring screw-down crown, this should then be screwed down).

The moon phase

A lunation lasts for 29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes, 2.8 seconds.

Note: The table included in the Appendix provides the dates of the different moon phase.

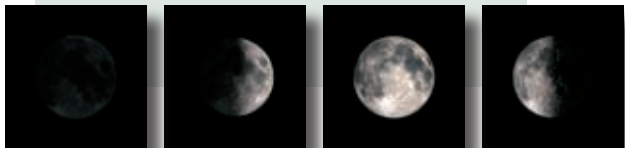
Rapid moon phase setting

If the watch does not display the correct moon phase, pull the crown out to position **C** (moon phase and time setting) and turn the hands clockwise and anticlockwise (back and forth) between 7.30 am and 2 pm until the correct moon phase appears.

Then return the crown to position **A** (with models featuring screw-down crown, this should then be screwed down).

One method for adjusting the moon phase:

- Position the moon indicator at the centre of the aperture in the full moon phase.
- Determine the date of the last full moon. Turn the crown (back and forth) between 7.30 am and 2 pm for every day separating the date of the last full moon and the current day.



How to read the power reserve indicator?

Observing the power reserve indicator allows you to rewind the watch at the time it guarantees the greatest operating precision.

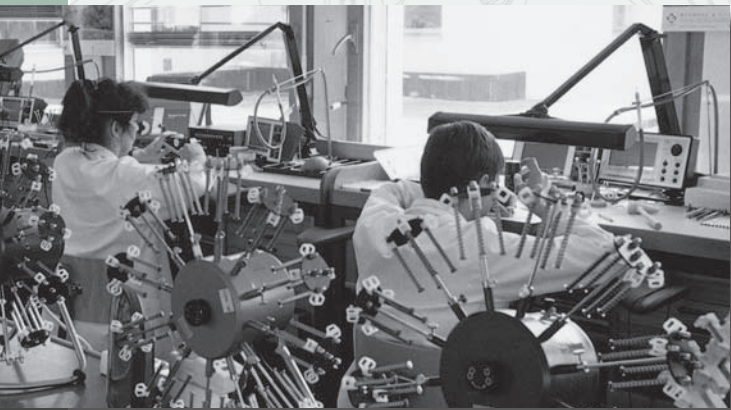
The optimum movement torque is given when the power reserve indicator is in the green area shown in Figure **N°1**. If the power reserve indicator is in the red area shown in Figure **N°2**, the barrel spring has no longer sufficient force to guarantee proper functioning of the movement. The watch will soon stop.



N°1



N°2



Guarantee and care

All details concerning the guarantee and care instructions of your watch are provided in the certificate of origin and guarantee attached.

