

RM Replica Guide

Introduction

ALL RMs HAVE FLAWS. This is not a brand to get into if you're scrupulously into 1:1, flawless pieces. It IS a brand to get into if you like giant hilarious colourful watches that are stupidly comfortable and might get you stared at. That said, there are better RM reps and there are worse RM reps, and keeping track can be confusing at best and frustrating at worst. Here're the most popular RM reps you may encounter, their variants and factories, and my recommendations for the "best" of what's available for each model:

Popular Models

RM11: a super fun chronograph, absolutely gigantic even in gen. Reps usually come in -01 and -03 variants in lots of colours and materials

KVF – 7750 movement, best deco, case shape too thick (18mm), wrong proportions, available in ten million variations of colours, models, and materials

Older models – available m2m occasionally, trades worse deco for proper case size (16.5mm), proportions still iffy, levels of deco and materials vary (carbon fiber reinforced plastic, glossy ceramic, RG/SS/Ti)

Z Maker (!NOT ZF!) – one blue ceramic available from non-TD sources, looks to have 17mm thick case, average to meh deco, not really an improvement on ZF although more wearable in size, date font is trash, colour is really pretty

SUMMARY: Best right now is the KVF, which despite the flawed size and proportions has some stunningly accurate deco, and they're basically the only game in town right now. There's been a ZF model rumored for years but it's never materialized. Buy an older model m2m if you want a case size closer to gen

RM35: the first Nadal watch without a tourbillon. Lots of variants and two main factories to choose from

ZF – 1:1 case size (14mm thick), best proportions, real NTPT carbon case, Seiko NH5 movement w/ solid deco

v1 – incabloc jewel @ 5:00 is red (should be white), "woodgrain" NTPT pattern

v2 – revised carbon patterning

v3 – further revised carbon patterning, white incabloc jewel

KVF – Miyota movement, case shape wrong, deco is meh, ten million different variations of coloured straps, materials, etc

Z Maker – not to be confused with ZF, short-lived factory which provided the improved NTPT patterning on a larger case size with metal midcase, meh deco. Apparently also made a clear plastic “sapphire” fantasy version. Occasionally seen m2m

SUMMARY: Buy the ZF, it's fucking awesome.

RM27: the first Nadal watch, super lightweight in gen, only available in black

EURF – tourbillon movement, movement is loud, bit thicker and larger than gen, GORGEOUS deco, pricey (\$1200)

RM56: the sapphire monster that OBJ wore a few years ago and caused a stir. One of the newest RM reps

EURF – real sapphire front and back bezels, plastic midcase, tourb movement, same general case size/proportions, great deco, pricey (\$1300)

v2 – changes two internal gears to silver instead of the gold on v1

RM55: the Bubba Watson, known for being bright ridiculous white and having an insane skeletonized movement.

ZF – 1:1 case size (12.5mm thick), best proportions, real matte ATZ ceramic, Seiko NH5 movement (handwinding conversion) w/ solid deco

KVF – Miyota movement, bad case shape, trashy deco

SUMMARY: Just like the 35, buy the ZF if you can hands down. It's an absolutely stunning watch

Less Popular Models: these guys are out there from TDs or other members but they're rarer and/or not as popular as the above models, which are the ones that you generally see on social media, in searches, or on celebrity/athlete wrists. Not an exhaustive list but these are the ones I remember seeing in non-shitter form or are currently available from TDs

RM12

KVF – one of the only tourbillons from KVF, deco is meh (in contrast to their usual work), case shape is huge (just like their usual work)

RM63

Green Factory - "crazy hours" complication does not work, bit of a chonker, round RMs are kinda weird

RM32/RM33/other round ones

Unknown Factory – Older models available m2m only, 7750 movements, big fatbois, really rare to find, flaw vary, usually have normal big date font

Bonbon collection/RM07 (Ladies)

Floating around on non-TD sites and the Chinese internet, apparently made by VSF! I've seen the marshmallow (white one) in a few strap colours, and the RM07 is available in red and white. There may be the carbon/RG bonbon available as well, but this is unconfirmed

RM10/RM30

Unknown Factory – almost the same watch as KVF RM30, 15mm thick, deco is meh

KVF(?) – 17mm thick chonky boi, deco is not great for such a simple watch. Might be available in two versions, one with bad date font and one without

Unobtanium: These are unavailable from TDs and rarely pop up for sale. This particular factory was raided ca 2020 and has not yet resurfaced

JBF tourbillons

001 – smaller case shape (easier to wear), has different strap attachment than all other RM reps

53-01 – NTPT case, closer size to gen, watch the tension on the wires "holding" the movement because they can be loose and it looks weird

52 Skull – lots of materials and colours, closer to gen size, branded as ZF occasionally

52 Mask – as above, lots of materials and colours and closer to gen size, occasionally branded as ZF

Shitters

There are TONS of shitter-quality RMs available on DHGate. The most popular/common is the RM11 McLaren, but almost every model you can think of has been repped. They're ALL trash, all gigantic and huge, and most of them are ridiculously overpriced. If they're automatics, they're always 21j DG movements, and if they're quartz they're, well, quartz. Don't buy these unless it's a joke or you have money to burn and want to find out if an RM is for you.

Diamond Models

No, just no. They're the worst, both in quality and in taste level. Go save your money and buy a sapphire model instead. If you must have them, they're available from non-TD sources

Aftermarket Modders

DISCLAIMER: I have never used either of these folks, and there are very mixed reports of experiences. They're always expensive, and whether the mods are worth it is entirely up to the purchaser. I HIGHLY recommend reading a bunch of threads regarding any modders on RWI before making your decision

ABD – makes super expensive cases and other mods, doesn't have the best past history with some users, product looks really nice

Legend – an Insta seller (with all the caveats and warnings thereof) who sell similarly modded RMs to ABD. Prices can vary but are always very high, doesn't have much of a reputation either way

THE SHORT VERSION:

RM011

KVF - thick case but best deco, older models for thinner cases but worse deco. Glossy ceramic instead of matte, carbon fiber reinforced plastic instead of NTPT

RM035

ZF - real NTPT, closest to 1:1 size and proportions, v3 for absolute best, but all acceptable

RM055

ZF - real ATZ matte ceramic case, closest to 1:1 size and proportions

RM027

EURF - serviceable tourbillon movement

RM056

EURF - sapphire bezels, plastic midcase, serviceable tourbillon movement

RM052 Skull

JBF - sometimes branded as ZF, serviceable tourbillon movement, out of production.

EURF model may be available from some sources, may be same thing as JBF (unconfirmed)

RM012

KVF - thick case and weird deco, but real tourbillon. May not be serviceable

RM001

JBF - out of production, may not be serviceable, smaller size closer to gen

RM053-01

JBF - out of production, NTPT case, serviceable tourbillon movement