

## **The R01 – Ronda’s Watchmaking Milestone**

*The family-owned Swiss movement manufacturer begins a new season of technical and creative innovation with the landmark Ronda R01, a high-end automatic mechanical movement with a silicon escapement and four tiers of chronometric precision.*



Ronda is proud to introduce the Ronda R01, the most advanced mechanical movement in the family-owned company’s 80-year history. With its proprietary full-silicon escapement, flexible configuration and scope for bespoke decoration, the R01 sets new standards of performance, reliability and creative versatility in the OEM segment. For Ronda, the R01 is a milestone achievement.

### **Paradigm Shift: A New Chapter in Swiss Made Mechanical Watchmaking**

Ronda’s position at the vanguard of Swiss movement manufacturing is built on decades of mastery in precision quartz technology. The R01 moves the game on, positioning Ronda as the creator of class-leading mechanical movements that offer both industrial scalability and seamless OEM integration.

R01’s vital statistics speak for themselves. At its beating heart, a proprietary full-silicon escapement and hairspring with a free-sprung balance wheel. Behind these, an 80-hour “Friday-to-Monday” power reserve to accommodate growing consumer demand for watches that will run over a weekend. And options on chronometric performance, offering accuracy of up to -2 to +4 seconds a day, per the new COSC Excellence standard.

In all, the Ronda R01 is a highly sophisticated contemporary mechanical movement conceived to satisfy and exceed the requirements of Swiss watch brands and the expectations of their clients.

**The Silicon Advantage: Material Science in Service of Precision**

Silicon is the perfect watchmaking material. It offers extreme levels of performance and durability and can be formed to precise tolerances. For watchmakers, it provides a high-tech solution to the age-old challenges of resistance, reliability and wear, while it can also be manufactured at scale.

Ronda's choice of silicon as the foundational material for the R01's escapement assembly reflects both a rigorous scientific rationale and a long-term strategic vision. Many conventional mechanical movements are fitted with metallic components that over time can lose their shape or succumb to the adverse effects of magnetic interference and thermally induced stress. On their own, any one of these will compromise a mechanical watch's chronometric performance. Together, they can stop a watch in its tracks, leaving it in need of repair.

Silicon, by contrast, is lightweight, impervious to changes in temperature, resistant to magnetism, largely shock-proof and almost frictionless. By introducing silicon into the R01's core components, Ronda has significantly improved the watch owner's experience, and at the same time greatly reduced the burden on after sales teams.

Alongside its silicon escapement and hairspring, R01 incorporates a free-sprung balance wheel. This revered device enhances long-term rate stability and further elevates a movement's resistance to external impacts and environmental changes. As a rule, free-sprung balance wheels are associated with only the most prestigious mechanical watchmakers.

**Perfect Timing: Four Tiers of Certified Chronometric Precision**

The pressure on watch brands to deliver mechanical watches with elevated levels of precision, resistance and reliability has never been greater. Recognising this, the Contrôle Officiel Suisse des Chronomètres, the highly regarded independent Swiss testing authority known as COSC, recently introduced the COSC Excellence standard, tightening the thresholds of precision and magnetic resistance.

Following this new certification, Ronda's engineers developed the R01 to offer four tiers of chronometric performance to meet the specific positioning requirements of clients across the watchmaking spectrum.

These four tiers are:

- Élaboré Accuracy of  $\pm 7$  seconds per day
- Top Accuracy of  $\pm 4$  seconds per day
- COSC-Certified Accuracy of -4 to +6 seconds per day, per the standard COSC chronometer certificate
- COSC Excellence Accuracy of -2 to +4 seconds per day, per the newly introduced COSC Excellence certificate

Lausen, Switzerland, June 2026

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Across these tiers, the R01 also offers resistance to magnetic forces of a minimum of 200 gauss, in line with the certification requirements imposed by the COSC Excellence standard. No matter its chronometric performance, the R01 is resistant to everyday magnetic fields.

### **Open to Interpretation: A Platform for Individual Creativity**

Ronda has always operated in service of its clients and their individual needs. In this spirit, the R01 is the latest in a long line of adaptable calibers, conceived to enable creative expression.

At launch, two configurations are available. The R01-01 offers hours, minutes and central seconds, complemented by a date complication. The R01-02 displays the time via central hours and minutes, with a subsidiary small seconds and a date. In both, the date aperture is 22 per cent larger than in comparable movements, creating a template for greater typographic and artistic expression.

Thanks to their dimensions, both iterations can be seamlessly integrated into most case designs, delivering clear cost and time advantages. The platform has been engineered to enable additional complications without altering its dimensions, ensuring long-term versatility. The R01 measures 12½ lines (28.20 mm) in diameter and 4.20 mm in thickness, making it roughly 9 per cent slimmer than comparable OEM calibers. This thinness is hard won and testament to Ronda's engineering expertise and no-compromise approach to movement creation.

During the development process, Ronda's engineers also paid particular attention to R01's scope for decoration. Consequently, the caliber has a balanced, elegant aesthetic, with ample surface area for either traditional or bespoke finishes and decorations.



As standard, the R01's main plate, bridges and winding rotor will be offered with one of three decorations: matte, brushed or with Geneva Stripes. Alternatively, these surfaces can carry a custom decoration, per an individual brand's aesthetic codes. In this way, the R01 can become highly distinctive, telling brand stories and offering real standout in a competitive market.

### **Turning the Page: Ronda's Remarkable Story Continues**

For 80 years, Ronda has been rooted in Lausen, now under the stewardship of the third generation of the founding family. Building on this legacy, the Swiss company takes its next step with the R01. With its silicon escapement, four chronometric tiers, flexible configuration, decorative scope and forward-looking platform architecture, the R01 signals Ronda's return to mechanical watchmaking.

"We designed the R01 to earn its place twice — in a brand's lineup, and on someone's wrist. Its platform architecture gives brands a single case to build around, with real design freedom across both sides of the watch. And for the wearer: put it down Friday, pick it up Monday — still running, still accurate. Eighty years in, that's what we set out to build."

— Fabien Schirmer, Chief Executive Officer, RONDA AG

**TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS****Caliber References** R01-01 — R01-02**Winding System** Automatic**Complications** R01-01 Hours, minutes, central seconds, date / R01-02: Hours, minutes, subsidiary seconds, date**Escapement** Proprietary full-silicon assembly: hairspring, pallet fork and escape wheel**Beat Rate** 3.5 Hz / 25'200 A/h**Balance Wheel** Free-sprung screw balance wheel**Precision Tiers** Élaboré ( $\pm 7$  s/d) | Top ( $\pm 4$  s/d) | COSC ( $-4/+6$  s/d) | COSC Excellence ( $-2/+4$  s/d)**Anti-Magnetic Resistance** Minimum 200 gauss (all tiers)**Mainspring** Bio-Flex / Nivaflex Plus®**Power Reserve** 80 hours (nominal)**Diameter** 12½ lines — 28.20 mm**Thickness** 4.20 mm**Jewels** 25**Bridges** Nickel or rhodium-coated brass**Oscillating Weight** Tungsten or tungsten/brass composite**Shock Absorption** KIF / Incabloc**Regulatory Compliance** REACH and RoHS**ABOUT RONDA**

Founded in 1946 and headquartered in Lausen, Switzerland, RONDA AG is one of Switzerland's foremost family-owned movement manufacturers. With eight decades of expertise in the engineering and production of Swiss Made quartz and mechanical calibers, Ronda serves a global clientele of watch brands spanning the full spectrum of the industry. The introduction of the R01 heralds a new era of mechanical innovation for the movement manufacturer.