

New Life For a Broken Watch, Version 1.0

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I admit it, I'm hard on my watches. While working in a confined space, the band snags and one of the ears of the watch often breaks off. These are low cost, fragile watches that keep amazingly good time. Here you see the last watch I broke before finally switching to a G-Shock.

The left lower ear is gone but notice above the display that the battery is supposed to last 10 years. Sure, I could toss it in the garbage or, even worse, put it in a drawer where it will be both garbage and take up space. Repair is not practical but repurposing is an option.

10 YEAR BATTERY



I keep a selection of neodymium magnets for just such "emergencies". A little dab of glue and this 1/16 x 3/16 x 3/16 magnet is now part of the watch back.



The final step is to get the human factors correct. I placed the modified watch in a few places around my shop and then returned to my latest project. Eventually I found a place that felt right. Now, when I take off my watch as I prepare to run my lathe or mill, I can still keep an eye on the time.

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