



ROLEX REF. 6234
 SERIAL NUMBER 688'667
 STAINLESS STEEL
 MOVEMENT CALIBER 72 A
 YEAR 1961



This document certifies the registration of the watch in the Archivio Pucci Papaleo, an independent archive dedicated to the selection and photographic documentation of highly collectible vintage watches, preserved in excellent overall condition.

January 27, 2026

ARCHIVE REGISTRATION *No. 110*

The watch accepted into the Archive is photographed in each of its individual parts, thus establishing its reference identity within the Archive. Acceptance into the Archive does not, however, certify that the watch was originally produced in this configuration.

PUCCI'S OPINION

This example combines its rare historical interest with a remarkable state of preservation. These features led us to register it in our Archive.



ARCHIVIO PUCCI PAPALEO
 Recording *Excellent* Timepieces.



'OYSTER CHRONOGRAPH'
 Rolex, Ref. 6234, Serial 688'667



Dossier

In the history of Rolex chronographs, the 6234 marked a decisive step towards constructional modernisation.

The innovation was represented by the water-resistant Oyster case. Rolex abandoned the monoblock structure of the previous references and built the case in three separate parts: bezel, caseband and case back. This structural choice would successively become standard and would pave the way to serial production. And for this reason as well, the 6234 met a great commercial success. Our research indicates that 2250 examples were made in steel, issued between 1955 and 1961. This example is dated 1961 and belongs to the last phase of its production.

Compared to previous Rolex chronographs, the dial of the 6234 has a more modern appeal with its understated layout, heralding the economy of design of the dials that followed. This reference will offer a variety of dial variants.

The pictured example features small registers – a design choice, but also an intent not to overlap the two customary Rolex chronograph scales with other graphic elements. The black tachymeter for average speed rates and the blue telemeter for measuring the distance of an event. The ‘Anti-Magnetique’ designation refers to the movement’s antimagnetic protection.



*Conceived and patented
by Rolex in 1926, the
Oyster case ensures
protection against water
and dust through its
case back system and
winding crown screwed
onto the middle case.*

*Still used on
contemporary watches,
it equipped the
chronographs from the
late 1930s. The 6234 set
a significant change:
whilst previous Rolex
chronographs sported a
two-part case, the three-
part construction will
become standard in
modern chronographs
and basically simplify
serial production.*



Two round water-resistant pushers emerge on the right flank, activating the start-stop at two o'clock and reset at four. The lugs are sturdy and with their tips downwards, completing the tonneau form that distinguished the Rolex chronographs at that time, as well as in the coming years. Introduced and patented in 1953, the screw-down Twinlock crown inbetween the round pushers is used for winding and time-setting. The serial number is pantographed between the lugs at six o'clock.



In 1955, the Rolex 6034 was discontinued and succeeded by the reference 6234, which carried on its stylistic legacy in a more modern manner. Likewise, it embodies the spirit of the early 1950s, when speed, precision and engineering had become the new visual language. Its dial, almost reminiscent of an instrument panel, stands in contrast with the sober geometry of its steel case – a combination closely aligned with the functionalist aesthetics of the post-war age. The reference number is pantographed between the lugs at twelve o'clock.



The case back is screwed onto the case ensuring the water resistance of the Oyster system. Externally, it features a circular knurling, which provides the grip for the tool used to secure the back down onto the caseband. Internally, it displays the punched reference number, the case material, Rolex's institutional scripts and the patent indication.



This movement is a Valjoux, the ébauche adopted by the Rolex for its manually-wound chronographs, chosen for its precision, reliability and finished according to its usual standards. This example is the most updated version of its day, the calibre 72 A, an evolution of the earlier 72 mechanism. It features 17 jewels, an in-line lever escapement, a monometallic balance, a flat hairspring and a shock absorber.





Dossier 6234/688667.
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Archivio Pucci Papaleo is an independent initiative dedicated to the registration and documentation of vintage timepieces. Inspired by the logic of the most illustrious archives, it represents a selective and authoritative corpus, open only to watches of great collectible significance,

at the discretion of Pucci Papaleo and the appointed connoisseurs. Through a professional photographic survey, archiving captures the identity of the watch at the moment of its registration in the Archive, offering a stable, permanent and verifiable point of reference over time.

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

The *Certificate of Registration* states the date and the registration number in *Archivio Pucci Papaleo*. It will also be accompanied by the photographic survey. The Certificate of Registration, together with the Photographic Dossier realised, shall constitute a *Monograph* that will

be delivered to the commissioning party in printed form as a dedicated editorial work. A digital version will also be produced, in the form of an unmodifiable PDF file, access to which will be provided via a QR code; its use is reserved for the commissioning party only.

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