



Horological Machine No. 4 by  
Maximilian Büsler & Friends defies  
the conventional wristwatch form.

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Maximilian Büsler & Friends, takes the aviation watch idea to the extreme. Its Horological Machine No. 4 (HM4), though ostensibly inspired by aviation, could pass for a something out of *Star Wars*, even if the movement is more reminiscent of *Star Trek*.

Coming from an independent watchmaker already recognised for its avant-garde aesthetics, the HM4 is more radical than its predecessors. Resembling a pair of jet engines strapped to the wrist, with one engine pod telling the time and the other indicating the power reserve, the HM4 is housed in a titanium and sapphire case. Both the sapphire and titanium portions are each a single piece, with the sapphire portion taking over 100 hours to mill due to its immense complexity.

The HM4's manual-wind movement was developed from scratch and is shaped like Captain Kirk's Starship Enterprise. It contains double barrels with the escapement in the central portion, transmitting power via vertical gear trains to the each of the pods.

There is admittedly a tenuous argument for the HM4 being a real pilot's watch. Its design allows time to be read while the wearer's hands are gripping the control yoke since the pods face the wearer. And in a nod to the history of the pilot's watch, the dial of the HM4 recalls that of the vintage B-uhr. Scotty would have loved to tinker with one of those. 