

Galaxy Watch Special

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Samsung Galaxy Watch hands-on impressions

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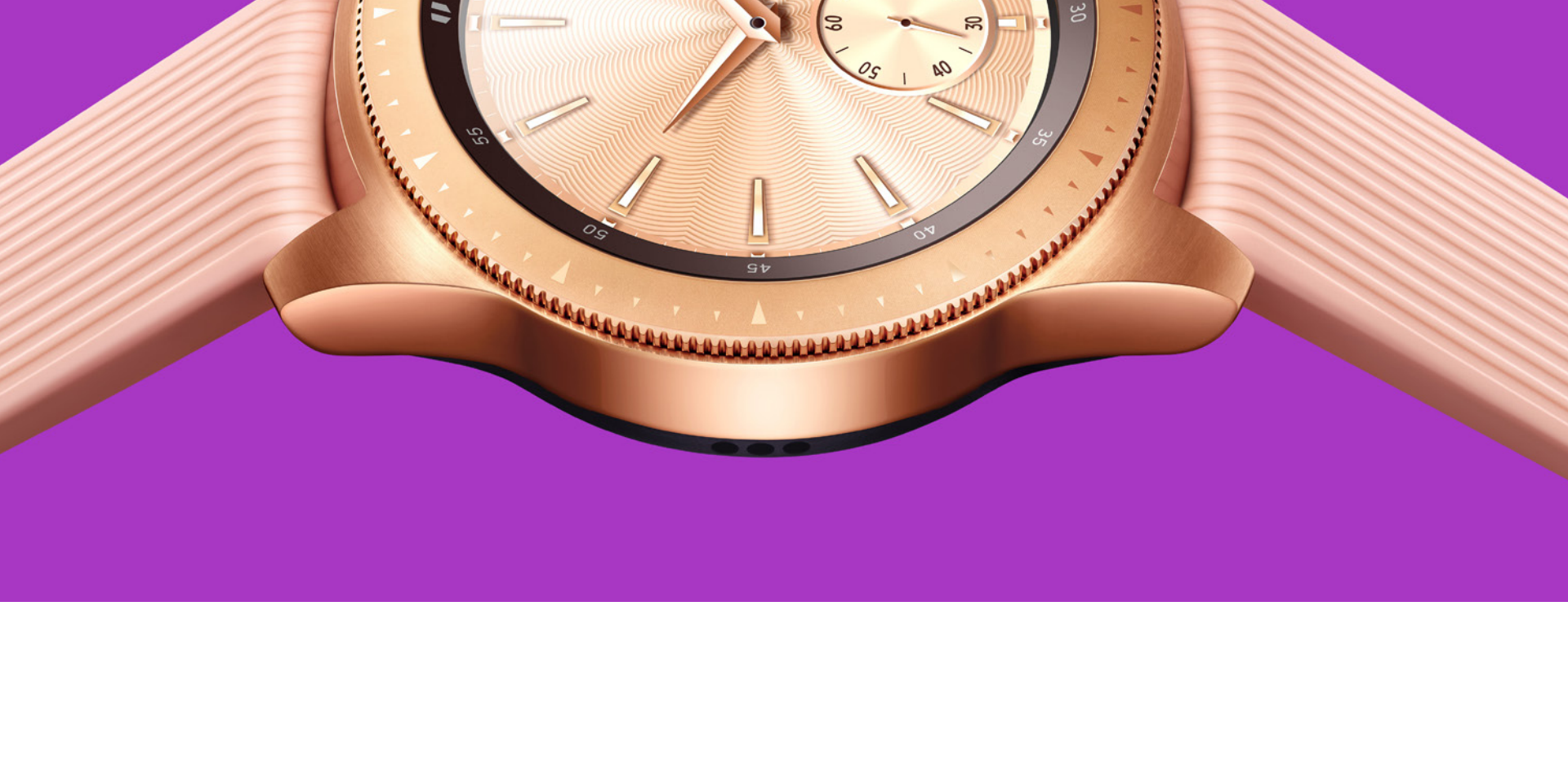
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Samsung Galaxy Watch vs Gear S2 classic in pictures

Samsung Galaxy Watch vs Gear S3 in pictures

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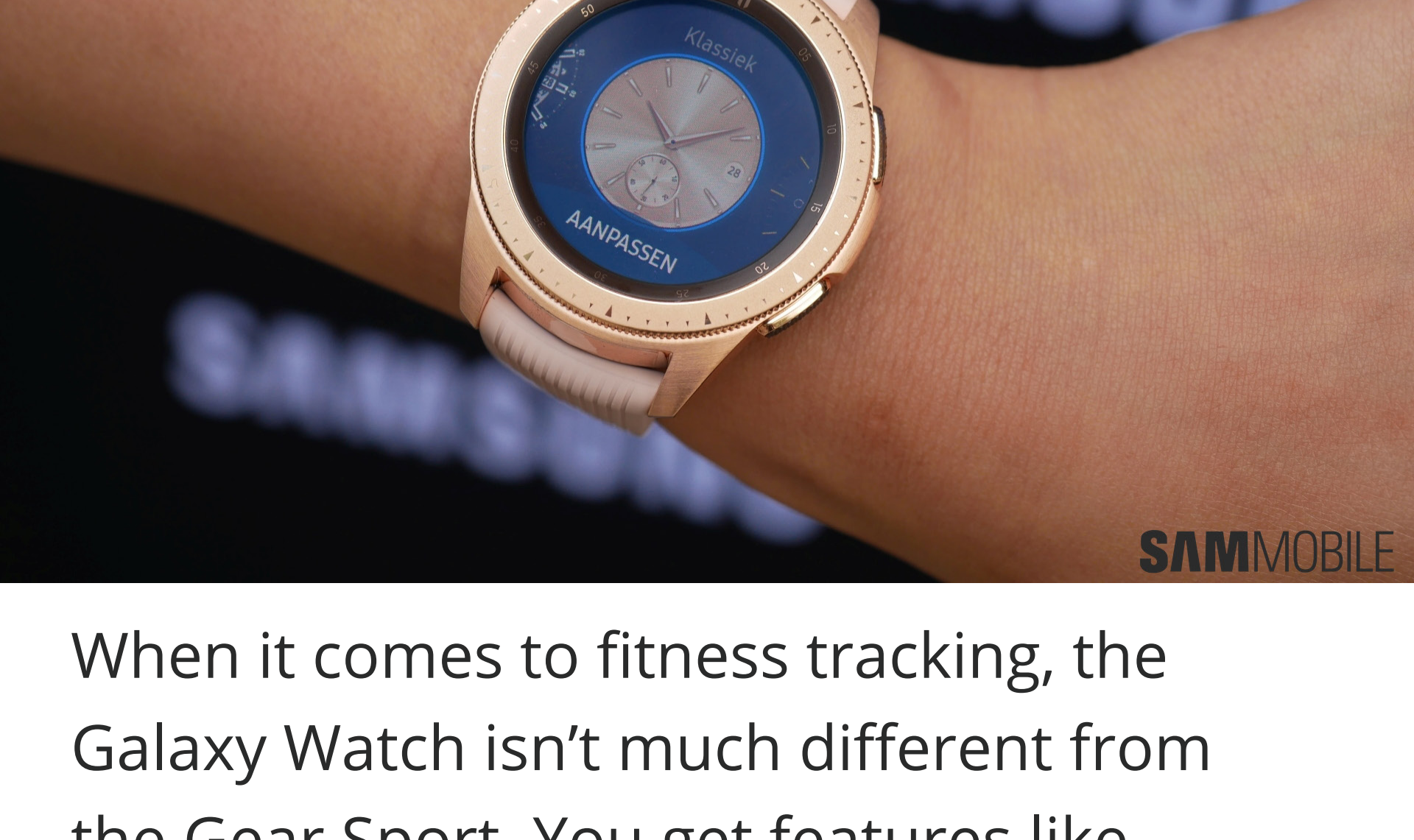
The Galaxy Watch is finally here as the true successor to the Gear S3 following Samsung's detour into a fitness-focused smartwatch last year with the Gear Sport. With the Galaxy Watch, Samsung has realized that one size doesn't fit all, so the watch comes in both 42 mm and 46 mm varieties. But the sizes are not the only thing the Galaxy Watch has going for it, as we discovered in our hands-on experience.



Impressions



With the Galaxy Watch, Samsung is using the same button design as the Gear S3 Frontier for all variants. The big 46 mm version is like a mix between the Gear S3 classic and Gear S3 frontier and is also unique because of its two-color approach. The color of the bezel ring and the power and volume buttons is different from the rest of the body, and we have to say it looks quite refreshing. For the 42 mm variants, the Rose Gold version looks quite premium and classy thanks to the matte finish. At the back, the sensors are placed circularly and the sensor assembly sticks out from the watch for better contact with the skin (similar to the Gear Sport).



When it comes to fitness tracking, the Galaxy Watch isn't much different from the Gear Sport. You get features like stress management, sleep monitoring, and automatic detection and tracking of movements such as walking, running, and rowing. Bixby, of course, is the key new software feature. We were unable to properly test Bixby, but you can wake the watch up with the 'Hi Bixby' command just like you can on the company's phones and ask it things such as the current weather conditions.

There are also some new power saving modes, which will come in handy on the 42 mm versions because of its rather small battery (270 mAh; the 46 mm version has a 472 mAh battery), especially with LTE connectivity in the mix. But the most nifty new addition to the list of functionality is the option to enable a ticking sound for when the time is being shown on the display. It's a neat little touch to make the Galaxy Watch feel more like a traditional watch and a natural extension of the 'Watch only' mode that was introduced on existing Gear smartwatches.



For Gear S3 or Gear Sport owners, the Galaxy Watch may not look like a big upgrade. But Gear S2 owners would do well to take a look if they're in the mood for an upgrade, especially since Samsung is offering a choice between two sizes and not alienating those with small hands. Our complete review will arrive in the coming weeks to tell you just how well everything works together on the Galaxy Watch, so be sure to stay tuned to SamMobile.



Samsung launches the Galaxy Watch with new fitness features and improved battery life

We had been hearing that Samsung is going to bring its smartwatches under the Galaxy branding and that is precisely what the company has done today. It has launched the successor to the Gear S3 but it's not called the Gear S4. Samsung has decided to call it the Galaxy Watch instead. Let's get one thing out of the way, contrary to rumors, it's not running Wear OS. The Galaxy Watch runs Tizen 4.0.



New Galaxy Watch features

The Galaxy Watch promises to offer the best of Samsung's Galaxy ecosystem with long-lasting battery life, LTE, new fitness and health features while retaining the timeless design. As expected, the Galaxy Watch will be offered in two different sizes and there will be a variety of new watch faces and watch band options for additional personalization. The best of Samsung's Galaxy ecosystem is supported by the Galaxy Watch. This includes Samsung Health, SmartThings, Samsung Flow and Knox, Samsung Pay and Bixby.

A powerful new processor

The Galaxy Watch is powered by a new Exynos 9110 Dual core 1.15GHz processor coupled with 768MB of RAM and 4GB of internal storage. The LTE variant of the watch features 1.5GB of RAM. It's compatible with Samsung and non-Samsung Android smartphones running version 5.0 or later as well as iPhone 5 and above running iOS 9.0 or later.

Offered in two different sizes

Samsung has made subtle improvements to the Galaxy Watch's design while retaining the legacy of its Gear smartwatches through the signature rotating bezel. It will be available in 46mm and 42mm sizes with an Always-On 1.3-inch and 1.2-inch Circular Super AMOLED display respectively. Its water resistant up to 50 meters and has IP68 certification. The Galaxy Watch has been manufactured to MIL-STD-810 durability standard.

Braloba, a high quality manufacturer of watch straps, will offer strap options for the Galaxy Watch as well. This is the first time that a Samsung smartwatch features analog watch ticks and hourly chimes to mimic a conventional watch. This is further enhanced by a depth effect that casts shadows to define details on the watch face.

Galaxy Watch won't require daily charging

Samsung has been able to fit bigger batteries inside the Galaxy Watch. The 46mm and 42mm models feature a 472mAh and 270mAh battery respectively. Samsung claims 80+ hours of typical usage for the former and 45+ hours of typical usage for the latter. The actual battery life that users experience will obviously depend on a variety of factors including but not limited to the network connection, signal strength and whether or not they have opted for the LTE variant.

New stress and sleep trackers

Samsung has added new health and fitness features to the Galaxy Watch. It has a stress management tracker which can detect high levels of stress automatically and offer breathing exercises to keep users focused. There's also a new advanced sleep tracker which monitors all levels of sleep including REM cycles so that users can take that data and properly adjust their sleeping cycles. There are 21 new indoor exercises which means that the Galaxy Watch can track a total of 39 workouts. It supports calorie tracking and personalized alerts as well.

Availability

The company will release the Galaxy Watch on August 24 in the United States. It will be released in South Korea on August 31 and additional markets on September 14. The Galaxy Watch 46mm will be available in Silver while the 42mm will be offered in Midnight Black and Rose Gold. Countless strap options will be available for both models.

Samsung Galaxy Watch price and release date confirmed

The much-rumored Galaxy Watch was officially announced by Samsung today at an event in New York City. It's also where the company announced its new flagship smartphone, the Galaxy Note 9. The Galaxy Watch price and release date has been confirmed by Samsung today.



It was reported multiple times prior to the official launch that the Galaxy Watch will be offered in two different sizes. We now know that to be true after Samsung's official announcement today. The company will be selling the Galaxy Watch in 42mm and 46mm sizes.

This is a good decision on the company's part. Customers who don't like wearing chunky watches will prefer the 42mm model. That size is generally preferred by women as well even when they're shopping for conventional watches. The 46mm model is the perfect size for those who like larger watches that are in vogue these days.

The Galaxy Watch comes with a brand new processor and bigger batteries so that users don't have to charge their smartwatches daily. Subtle design improvements have also been made to the device. Contrary to popular rumors that the Galaxy Watch might be a Wear OS device, it runs Tizen 4.0 out of the box.



Samsung has confirmed the Galaxy Watch price and release date at its event today. The 46mm and 42mm models will cost €329 (~\$380) and €309 (~\$360) respectively. The former will only be available in Silver while the smaller model will be sold in Midnight Black and Rose Gold. Both models will get multiple band options. The Galaxy Watch price is slightly lower than that of its predecessor. Samsung priced the Gear S3 classic and frontier at €399 in Europe.

The company is going to release the Galaxy Watch on August 24 in the United States and August 31 in South Korea. It will subsequently be released in other markets across the globe on September 14. Samsung's regional divisions will confirm pricing and availability information for their respective regions in due course.

Samsung Galaxy Watch vs Gear S2 classic in pictures

The Galaxy Watch is the fourth-generation Gear smartwatch from Samsung, and it takes elements from both the Gear S2 and the Gear S3. Well, the one thing it takes from the Gear S2 is the size. To be more precise: Samsung is bringing the Galaxy Watch in a 42mm flavor with a 1.2-inch display like the Gear S2. The Gear S3 didn't offer a 42mm version and was, therefore, not too suitable for those with small wrists, so the 42mm Galaxy Watch should entice plenty of Gear S2 owners to finally upgrade.

While our review of the Galaxy Watch will go into detail about how it's better than its predecessors, some of you might be wondering what the differences are between the Galaxy Watch and the Gear S2 when it comes to design. You can get a fair idea in the pictures below of the two watches side by side. The smartwatch on the left is the new one and the one on the right is the Gear S2 classic.



Samsung Galaxy Watch vs Gear S3 in pictures

The Galaxy Watch is the successor to Samsung's Gear S3 even though the company has decided to change the branding this time around. It's still a Samsung smartwatch through and through, running Tizen 4.0 out of the box and retaining the signature rotating bezel of the Gear smartwatches.

There are quite a few similarities between the Galaxy Watch and the Gear S3 with the design being a major one. The former is also available in 46mm which is the only size that the Gear S3 was offered in. Samsung is providing another option to customers with smaller wrists by also offering the Galaxy Watch in 42mm. That's likely something which prevented some Gear S2 owners from upgrading to the Gear S3.

Our detailed Galaxy Watch review will have further information about the differences between these two smartwatches with respect to their specs and features. We can, however, get a sense of the design similarities of the Samsung Gear Watch vs Gear S3 by comparing them side-by-side in pictures.

We have posted several photos of the Galaxy Watch vs Gear S3 down below for precisely this reason. If you find it difficult telling the two apart, just keep in mind that the one on the right (or the one that's silver) is the Galaxy Watch.



**Thank you
for reading**



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