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Tips for Maintaining Your Marathon Military Watch

1. Rinse It Off After Field Use

Saltwater, mud, and grit are corrosive to metal components and can work into crown seals. A two-minute rinse under lukewarm fresh water with a soft brush, clearing around the crown, lugs, and case back, meaningfully extends the watch's exterior life after any real-world exposure.



2. Keep an Eye on the Crown and Gaskets

The crown is the watch's main vulnerability; the screw-down seal relies on a rubber gasket that wears over time. Fogging inside the crystal or condensation on the case back signals gasket failure, which requires prompt replacement from an experienced watch repair service.

3. Be Gentle with the Tritium Tubes

Marathon's GTLS tritium tubes are glass; direct impact can crack them, causing immediate dimming at that marker. Tritium naturally dims over roughly 12 years anyway; cracking a tube accelerates that timeline with no field fix available.



4. Respect the Pressure and Shock Ratings

Depth ratings reflect static pressure, not impact; a cannonball jump exceeds what ratings account for, and gaskets age over time. Repeated hard knocks add up too; if accuracy drops after a significant impact, get it inspected by someone with Marathon experience.

5. Wear It or Wind It

Automatic movements rely on wrist motion to stay wound, leaving one unworn for a week runs it completely down. Wind it fully before storage, or use a watch winder for longer periods to keep lubricants distributed and movement running consistently.



6. Keep It Away from Magnets and Temperature Extremes

Strong magnetic fields cause movements to run consistently fast. High heat thins lubricants; extended cold thickens them. Store the watch away from speakers, magnetic tool holders, and temperature extremes, a dry, room-temperature spot is the correct answer.

7. Get It Professionally Serviced

Mechanical watches need a full service every three to five years, cleaning, re-lubrication, gasket replacement, and pressure testing. Use a watchmaker with Marathon-specific experience and genuine parts; a generalist shop risks improper regulation of a military-grade movement.



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