LUXURY INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE How to Protect Designs – Current Developments and Tendencies



Stéphanie Di Palma, In-House IP Counsel at CHANEL

Arab Sub-Regional Meeting on Industrial Designs, Beirut, Lebanon, December 6 and 7, 2018

legal at CHANEL

Key challenges



- A. Registering collections;
- **B.** Novelty and confidentiality.





Key considerations:

- Multiple designs in one application:
- Time & costs management.





- How to convert a collection into an effective protection?
 - Identifying the elements to protect.
 - Anticipating on future developments.
 - By which means of protection?
- Requirements and mechanism of protection varies from country to country:
 - Can a general registration protect all the variations?
 - Possibility to file several versions/designs in one application?
 - advantage of the Hague and multiple design registration system;
 - → Result: real impact on our enforcement activities.





CODE COCO WATCH

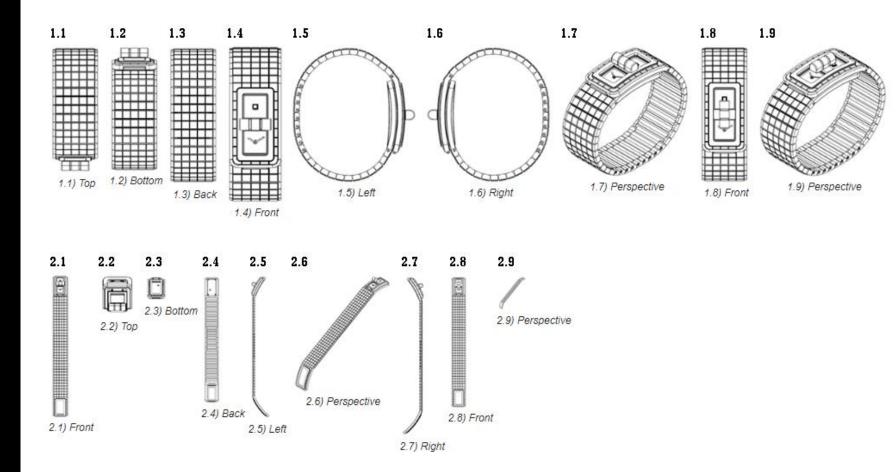




CODE COCO WATCH

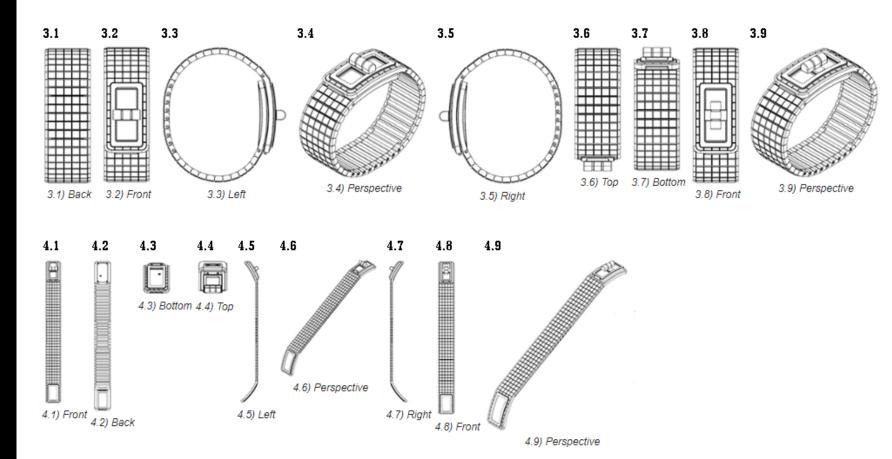


The Code Coco watch



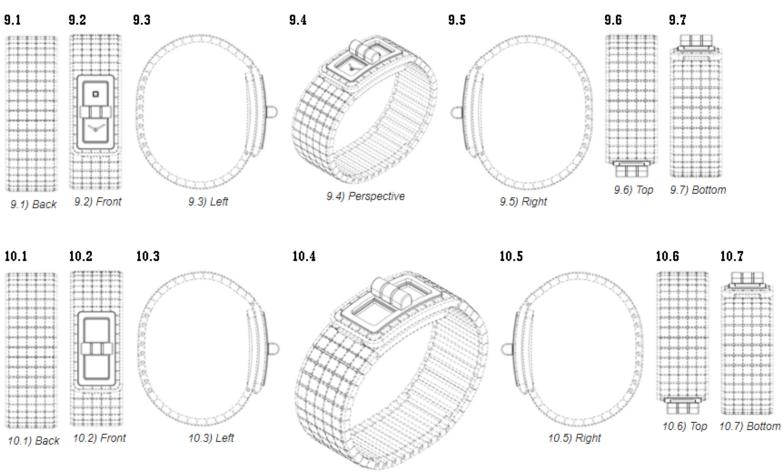


The Code Coco watch





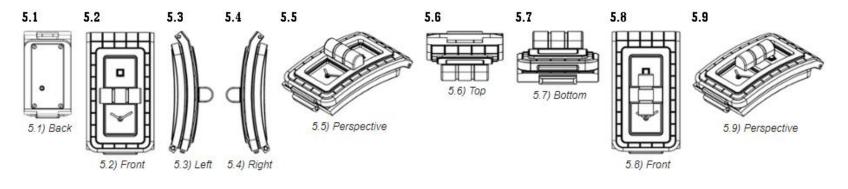
The Code Coco watch

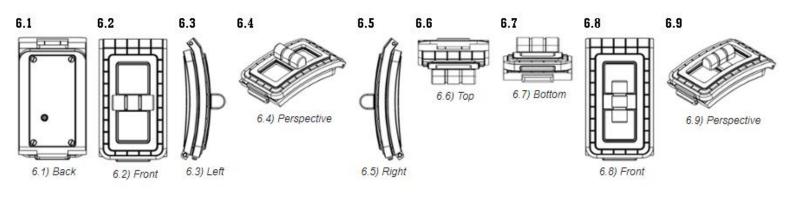


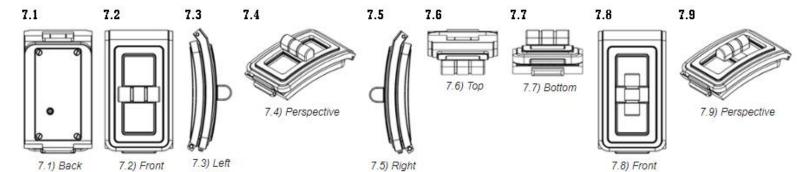
10.4) Perspective



The Code Coco watch



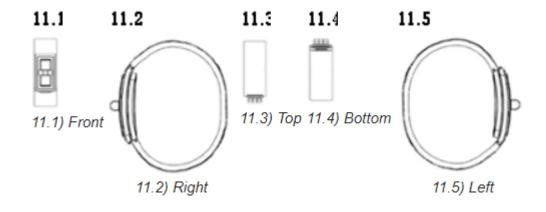




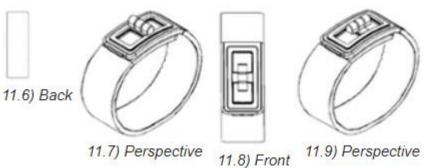
legal at CHANEL



The Code Coco watch







11.9



The Chanel's Gabrielle Bag



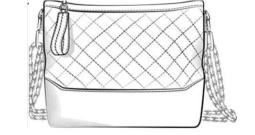


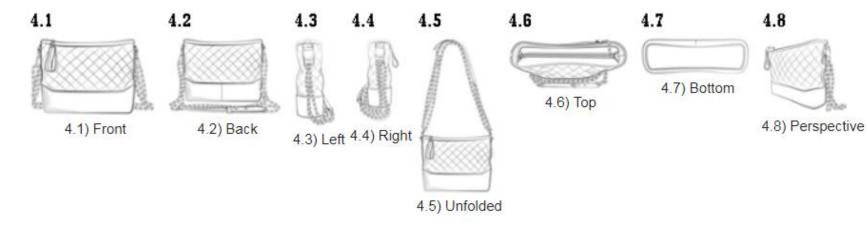












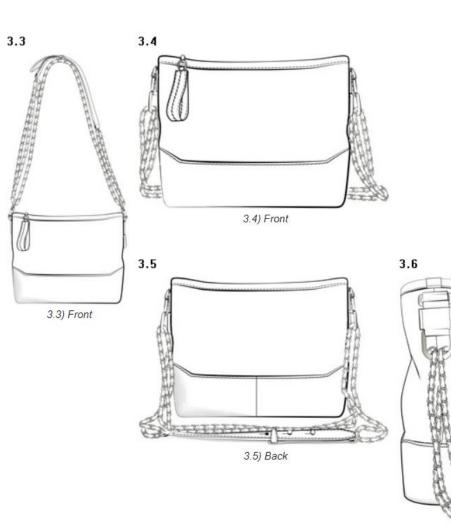


5.7) Unfolded





5.4

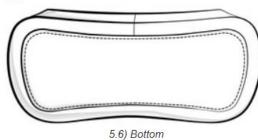




5.5



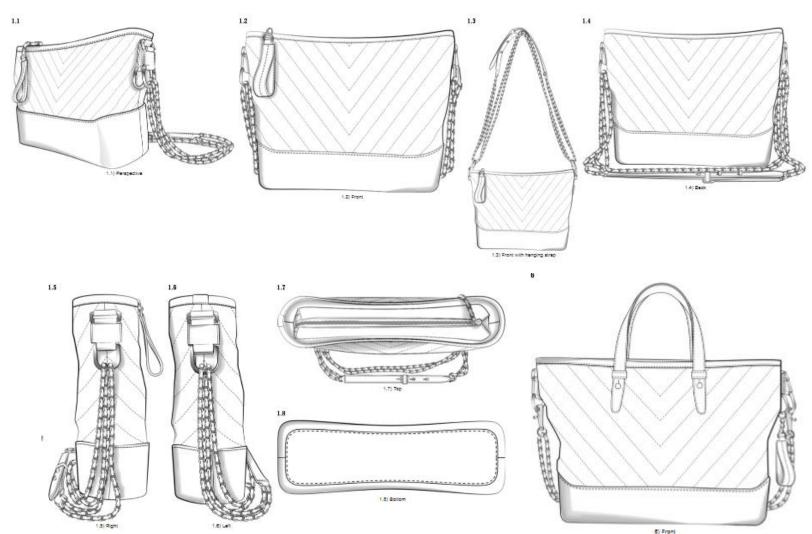
5.6







Chanel's Gabrielle bag





- This diversity of registrations for the design of one product is difficult to achieve in the context of a national registration and weights heavily on the budget of the company.
- Generally, we protect the key styles/products we cannot cover every variation of current and future fashion collections.
- It is also a significant advantage of the Hague system which allows to include variations within one registration.



B.Novelty and confidentiality

- The novelty requirement is essential to achieve a design registration in most countries.
- Thus, instruments « saving » the novelty requirement are of paramount importance.
 - The « grace period » (usually set from 6 to 12 months) allows the design holder to file for registration even following a disclosure, while considering the novelty requirement as fulfiled.





Novelty and confidentiality



• The possibility of « deferment of publication » allows to delay the publication of the design, which grants an additional period of confidentiality to the rightholder to develop his products, while being sure the design is protected and will not risk losing priority.

How to best protect our designs?



- A. Designs;
- в. **3D TMs;**
- c. Copyright, unfair competition.



A.Designs

• What are we looking for:

- International or régional protection solutions (as Hague);
- Multiple designs;
- Grace Period;
- Deferment of publication;
- Costs and time management.

What issues we encounter:

- Novelty; anticipation;
- Limited timeframe of protection;
- Local Offices formalities(POA, Priority doc, Assignment document....)
- Costs of national filings often a deterrent fro Chanel to protect in a specific country;



B. 3D Trademarks

- What are we looking for:
 - Renewable / indefinite.
 - Easier to enforce in some jurisdictions.

- What issues we encounter:
 - Limited views; one variation of the product only.
 - Challenging to obtain registration in some countries; Distinctiveness.
 - Acquisition of distinctiveness through extensive use; fame.



C. Copyright, unfair competition parasitism.

- What are we looking for:
 - Efficient alternative tools where we do not have Designs or TMs rights;
- What issues we encounter:
 - Country per country specific laws;
 - Counterfeiters aren't competitors.



WHAT WE SEE- INFRINGEMENT TRENDS

GENUINE PRODUCT





INFRINGEMENT/COUNTERFEIT

















THANK YOU!

Stéphanie Di Palma - IP Counsel

stephanie.dipalma@chanelsarl.ch

