

# Apple Watch Series 9 Purchase Decision

John Connor

GAMUG

January 9, 2024

My wife and I each had Apple watches, mine a 45 mm Series 8 and hers a 41 mm Series 7. Both are GPS only (no cellular). We had not considered buying Series 9 watches because ours were recent models in good working order and supported Watch OS 10.

As many of you doubtless know, Apple was recently barred from importing Series 9 and Ultra 2 Apple Watches from December 21 through December 25, 2023. This originated in a ruling from the International Trade Commission. They ruled that the blood Oxygen sensors in the watches going back to Series 6 violated the patent rights of the US company Masimo, who claims that Apple had failed to license it from them.

The ITC ruling was stayed in federal court, resulting in the watches again being available from Apple stores until approximately January 10, 2024.

We have always purchased our new iPhones and watches by trading in our previous models at the West County Apple Store in St. Louis, MO. The ITC ruling posed questions about the future of the Apple Watch, such as:

— how long Apple might be enjoined from selling new watches in the US.

— whether Apple would offer to take our watches as a trade-in, since they have the blood Oxygen sensors under dispute.

— how to deal with the major changes rumored for the Apple Watch Series 10 (or maybe Series X?). I make it a rule not to buy the first generation of new technology, so we might have been faced with keeping our Series 8 and Series 7 watches until the release of the Series 11 and hoping they would last.

Apple was allowed to resume sales of the Series 9 and the Apple Watch Ultra 2 when a federal appeals court stayed the ITC ruling. I quickly checked Apple's website to see if they were still offering the trade-in and found they were. So on December 30 we went to the Apple Store and traded in our watches for Series 9s.

While at the store I asked our knowledgeable sales person Hailey about MagSafe combined chargers for the iPhone, AirPods, and Watch.

— I had become interested in the iPhone's StandBy feature for use as an alarm clock.

— The cabins in northern Wisconsin where we vacation have a limited number of electrical outlets, so we wanted something that would charge 3 devices on a single outlet.

The West County stocks models from several vendors. With Hailey's help, we ended up getting 2 of the Anker 3-in-1 Cube with MagSafe models.

<https://www.anker.com/products/y1811?variant=42206465327254>



Since buying these I have switched from my old clock radio alarm to my iPhone using StandBy with the Anker charger. The old alarm clock's alarm was difficult to reset and the device would fail if we experienced even a power interruption of no more than 1 or 2 seconds.

Here are a few photos showing my new alarm system. The phone you are seeing is actually my wife's, since I had to use my phone to take the photos.

Note that I tipped the Anker charger off its base, resting the edge of the phone on the relatively tall chest of drawers so that I can see it from the bed.

