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Timers

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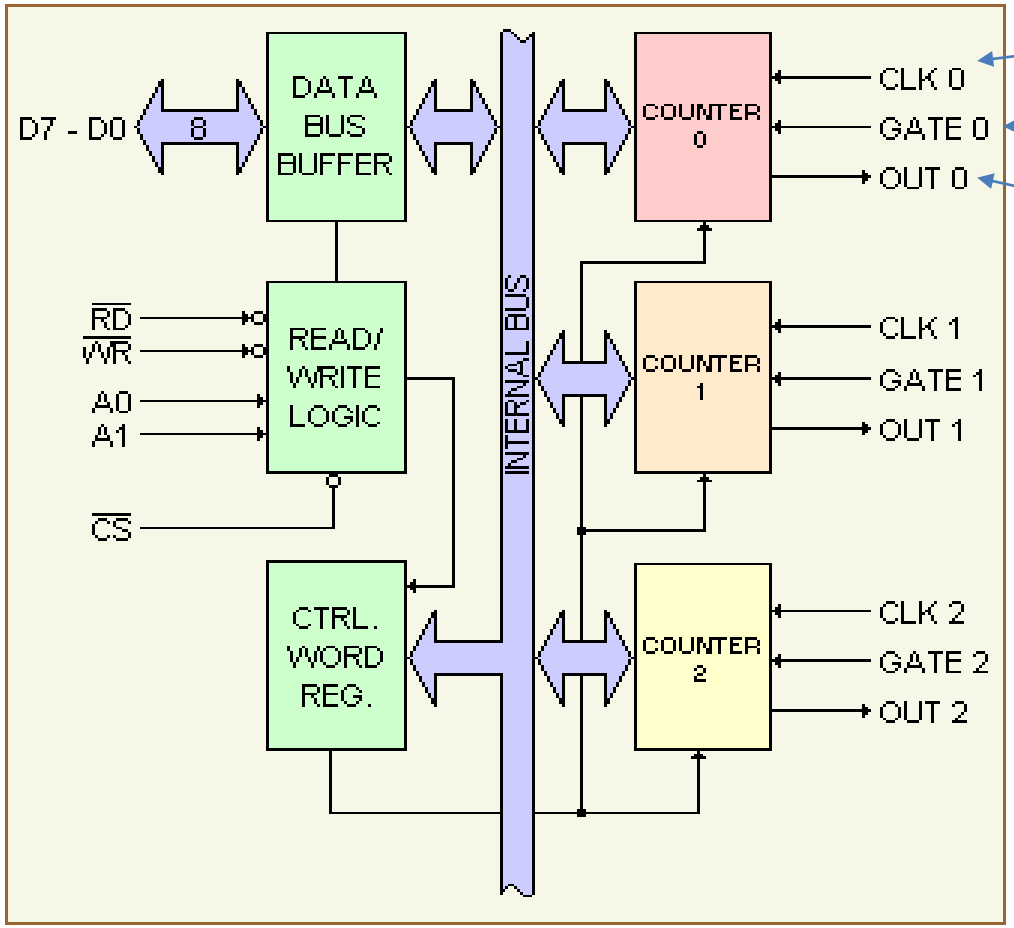
Introduction

- **Time** is represented by the count in a timer.

- There are many applications that cannot be implemented without a timer:

  1. Event arrival time recording and comparison
  2. Periodic interrupt generation
  3. Pulse width and period measurement
  4. Frequency and duty cycle measurement
  5. Generation of waveforms with certain frequency and duty cycle
  6. Time references
  7. Event counting
  8. Others

Generic Timers



Clock source (IN)

Pause (IN)

Rollover/Overflow (OUT)
Count limit reached

e.g. Configurable counter:

One count:

0, 1, 2, … , N-1, N, N, N, N

Cyclic count:

0, 1, 2, … , N-1, N, 0, 1, 2, … , N-1, N

The PIC18 Timer System

- A PIC18F45K22 microcontroller has up to 7 timers: Timer 0…Timer 6.

- Timer 0, Timer 1, Timer 3 and Timer 5 are 16-bit timers whereas Timer 2, Timer 4 and Timer 6 are 8-bit.

- When a timer rolls over, an interrupt may be generated if it is enabled.

- Timer 2, Timer 4 and Timer 6 use instruction cycle clock as the clock source whereas the other timers may also use external clock input as the clock source.

- Timer 0 is designed to act as a time base (core interrupt) while the other timers are in the peripheral group (alternate time base and CCP operation).

The PIC18 Timer0

- Can be configured as 8-bit or 16-bit

- Is a timer/counter depending upon the clock source.

- An interrupt may be requested when Timer0 rolls over from 0xFFFF to 0x0000.

- Operation is controlled by the T0CON register.

The PIC18 Timer0

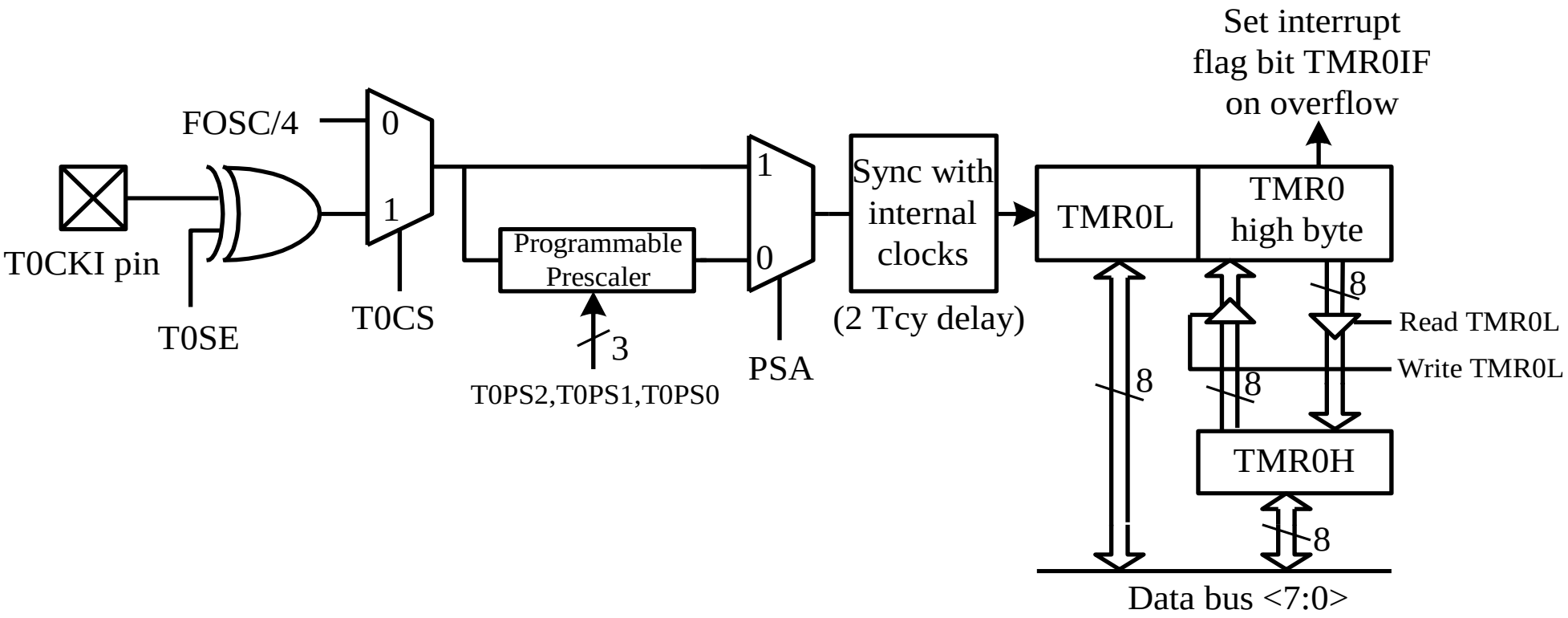


Figure 8.1b Timer0 block diagram in 16-bit mode (redraw with permission of Microchip)

T0CON Register

values after Reset

R/W-1	R/W-1	R/W-1	R/W-1	R/W-1	R/W-1	R/W-1	R/W-1
TMR0ON	T08BIT	T0CS	T0SE	PSA	T0PS<2:0>		
bit 7							bit 0

bit 7 **TMR0ON:** Timer0 On/Off Control bit
1 = Enables Timer0
0 = Stops Timer0

bit 6 **T08BIT**: Timer0 8-bit/16-bit Control bit
1 = Timer0 is configured as an 8-bit timer/counter
0 = Timer0 is configured as a 16-bit timer/counter

bit 5 **T0CS**: Timer0 Clock Source Select bit
1 = Transition on T0CKI pin
0 = Internal instruction cycle clock (CLKOUT)

bit 4 **T0SE**: Timer0 Source Edge Select bit
1 = Increment on high-to-low transition on T0CKI pin
0 = Increment on low-to-high transition on T0CKI pin

bit 3 **PSA**: Timer0 Prescaler Assignment bit
1 = TImer0 prescaler is NOT assigned. Timer0 clock input bypasses prescaler.
0 = Timer0 prescaler is assigned. Timer0 clock input comes from prescaler output.

bit 2-0 **T0PS<2:0>**: Timer0 Prescaler Select bits
111 = 1:256 prescale value
110 = 1:128 prescale value
101 = 1:64 prescale value
100 = 1:32 prescale value
011 = 1:16 prescale value
010 = 1:8 prescale value
001 = 1:4 prescale value
000 = 1:2 prescale value

The PIC18 Timer1/3/5

- Is a 16-bit timer/counter depending upon the clock source.

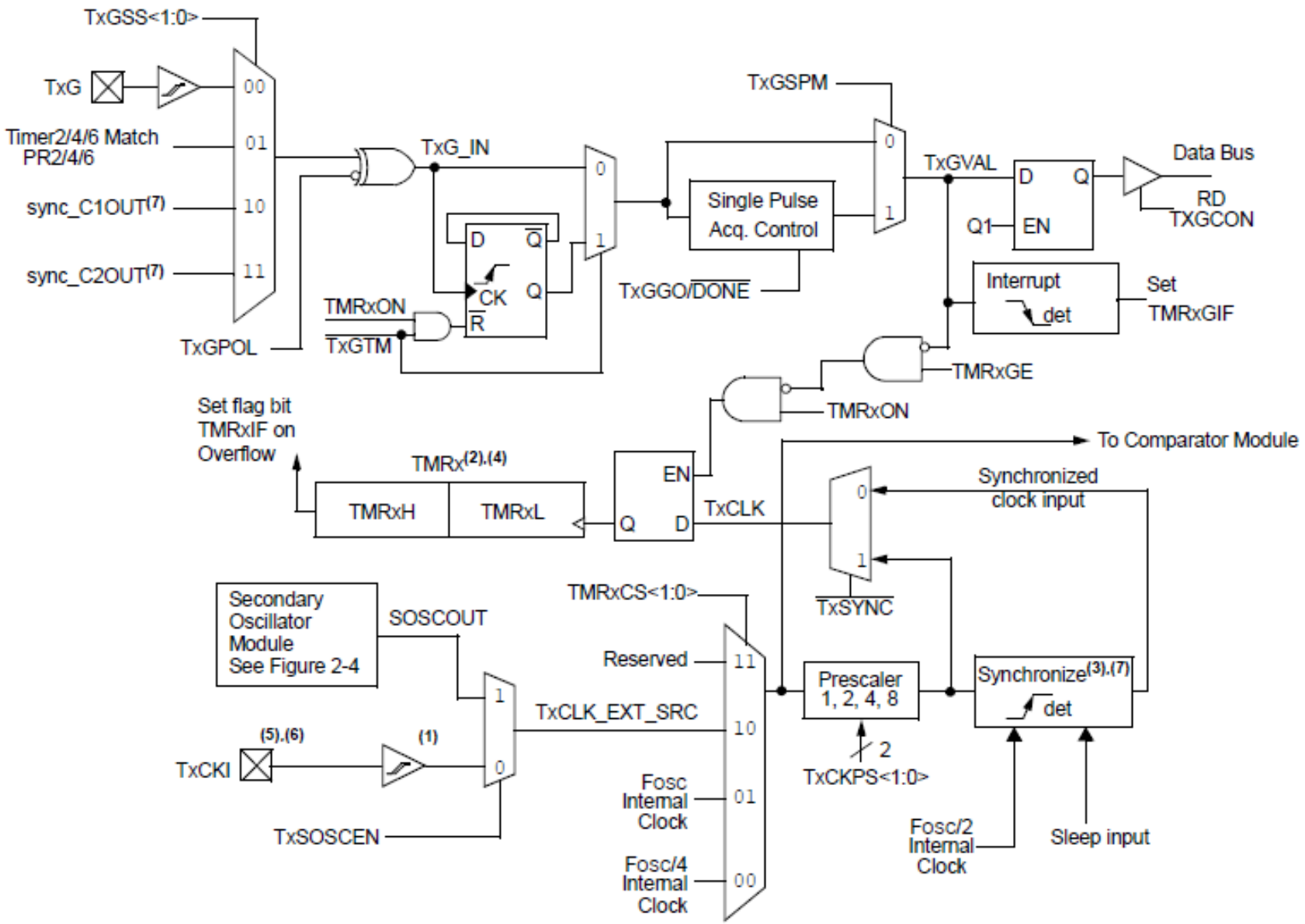
- An interrupt may be requested when TimerX rolls over from 0xFFFF to 0x0000.

- TimerX operation is controlled by the TxCON and TxGCON register.

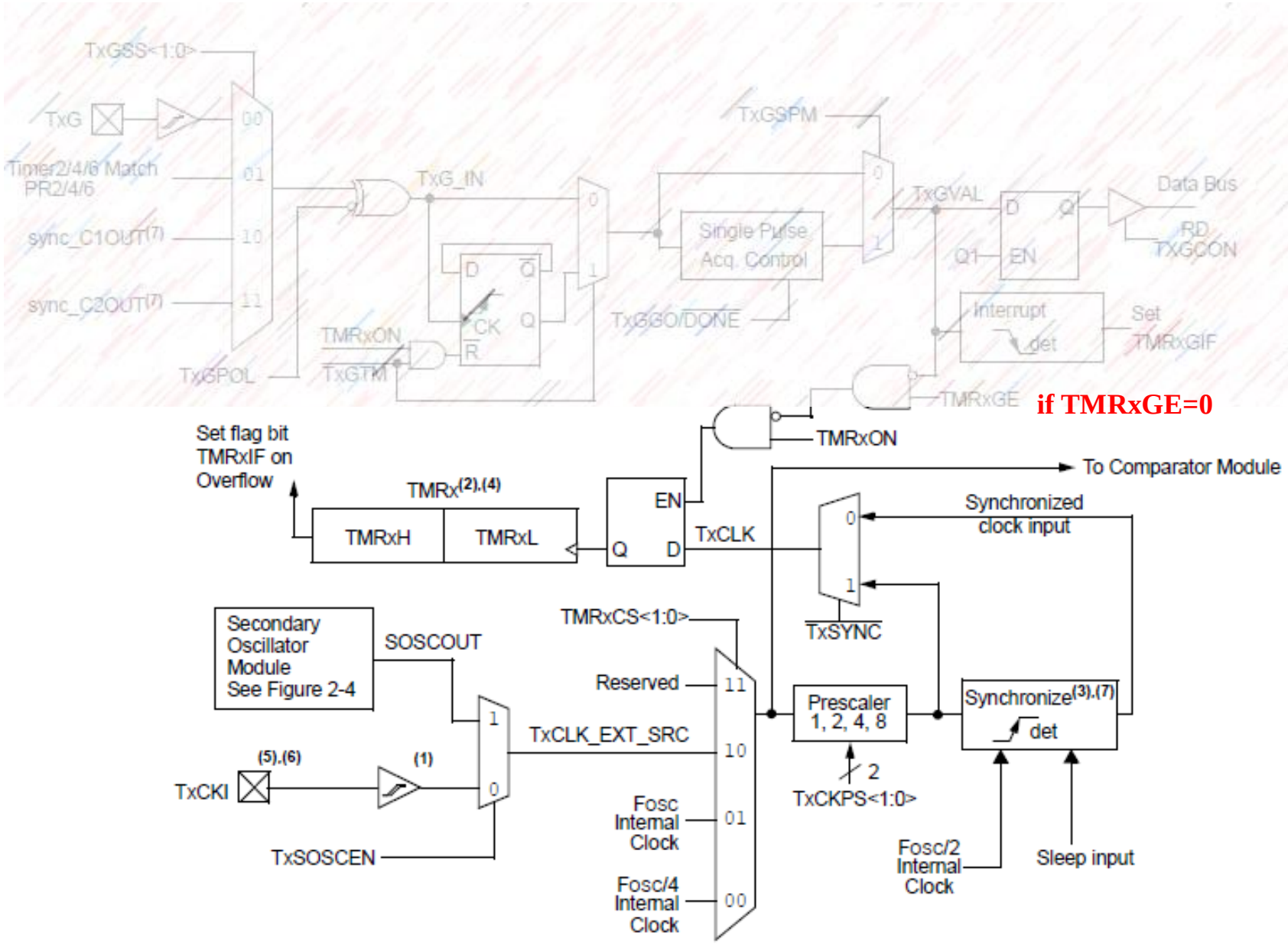
- These timers have a number of frequency input sources and a complex gate enable circuitry (if TMRxGE=1)

- These timers can be used to create time delays and measure the frequency of an unknown signal (using the CCP modules).

The PIC18 Timer1/3/5



The PIC18 Timer1/3/5



TxCON Register (x=1/3/5)

R/W-0/u	R/W-0/u	R/W-0/u	R/W-0/u	R/W-0/u	R/W-0/u	R/W-0/0	R/W-0/u
TMRxCS<1:0>		TxCKPS<1:0>		TxSOSCEN	$\overline{\text{TxSYNC}}$	TxRD16	TMRxON
bit 7							bit 0

bit 7-6 **TMRxCS<1:0>:** Timer1/3/5 Clock Source Select bits
11 = Reserved. Do not use.
10 = Timer1/3/5 clock source is pin or oscillator:
If TxSOSCEN = 0:
External clock from TxCKI pin (on the rising edge)
If TxSOSCEN = 1:
Crystal oscillator on SOSCI/SOSCO pins
01 = Timer1/3/5 clock source is system clock (FOSC)
00 = Timer1/3/5 clock source is instruction clock (FOSC/4)

bit 5-4 **TxCKPS<1:0>:** Timer1/3/5 Input Clock Prescale Select bits
11 = 1:8 Prescale value
10 = 1:4 Prescale value
01 = 1:2 Prescale value
00 = 1:1 Prescale value

bit 3 **TxSOSCEN:** Secondary Oscillator Enable Control bit
1 = Dedicated Secondary oscillator circuit enabled
0 = Dedicated Secondary oscillator circuit disabled

bit 2 **$\overline{\text{TxSYNC}}$:** Timer1/3/5 External Clock Input Synchronization Control bit
TMRxCS<1:0> = 1X
1 = Do not synchronize external clock input
0 = Synchronize external clock input with system clock (FOSC)

TMRxCS<1:0> = 0X
This bit is ignored. Timer1/3/5 uses the internal clock when TMRxCS<1:0> = 1X.

bit 1 **TxRD16:** 16-Bit Read/Write Mode Enable bit
1 = Enables register read/write of Timer1/3/5 in one 16-bit operation
0 = Enables register read/write of Timer1/3/5 in two 8-bit operation

bit 0 **TMRxON:** Timer1/3/5 On bit
1 = Enables Timer1/3/5
0 = Stops Timer1/3/5
Clears Timer1/3/5 Gate flip-flop

TxGCON Register (x=1/3/5)

REGISTER 12-2: TXGCON: TIMER1/3/5 GATE CONTROL REGISTER

R/W-0/u	R/W-0/u	R/W-0/u	R/W-0/u	R/W/HC-0/u	R-x/x	R/W-0/u	R/W-0/u
TMRxGE	TxGPOL	TxGTM	TxGSPM	TxGGO/$\overline{\text{DONE}}$	TxGVAL	TxGSS<1:0>	
bit 7							bit 0

Legend:		
R = Readable bit	W = Writable bit	U = Unimplemented bit, read as '0'
u = Bit is unchanged	x = Bit is unknown	-n/n = Value at POR and BOR/Value at all other Resets
'1' = Bit is set	'0' = Bit is cleared	HC = Bit is cleared by hardware

bit 7 **TMRxGE:** Timer1/3/5 Gate Enable bit

If TMRxON = 0:
This bit is ignored
If TMRxON = 1:
1 = Timer1/3/5 counting is controlled by the Timer1/3/5 gate function
0 = Timer1/3/5 counts regardless of Timer1/3/5 gate function

bit 6 **TxGPOL:** Timer1/3/5 Gate Polarity bit
1 = Timer1/3/5 gate is active-high (Timer1/3/5 counts when gate is high)
0 = Timer1/3/5 gate is active-low (Timer1/3/5 counts when gate is low)

bit 5 **TxGTM:** Timer1/3/5 Gate Toggle Mode bit
1 = Timer1/3/5 Gate Toggle mode is enabled
0 = Timer1/3/5 Gate Toggle mode is disabled and toggle flip-flop is cleared
Timer1/3/5 gate flip-flop toggles on every rising edge.

bit 4 **TxGSPM:** Timer1/3/5 Gate Single-Pulse Mode bit
1 = Timer1/3/5 gate Single-Pulse mode is enabled and is controlling Timer1/3/5 gate
0 = Timer1/3/5 gate Single-Pulse mode is disabled

bit 3 **TxGGO/$\overline{\text{DONE}}$:** Timer1/3/5 Gate Single-Pulse Acquisition Status bit
1 = Timer1/3/5 gate single-pulse acquisition is ready, waiting for an edge
0 = Timer1/3/5 gate single-pulse acquisition has completed or has not been started
This bit is automatically cleared when TxGSPM is cleared.

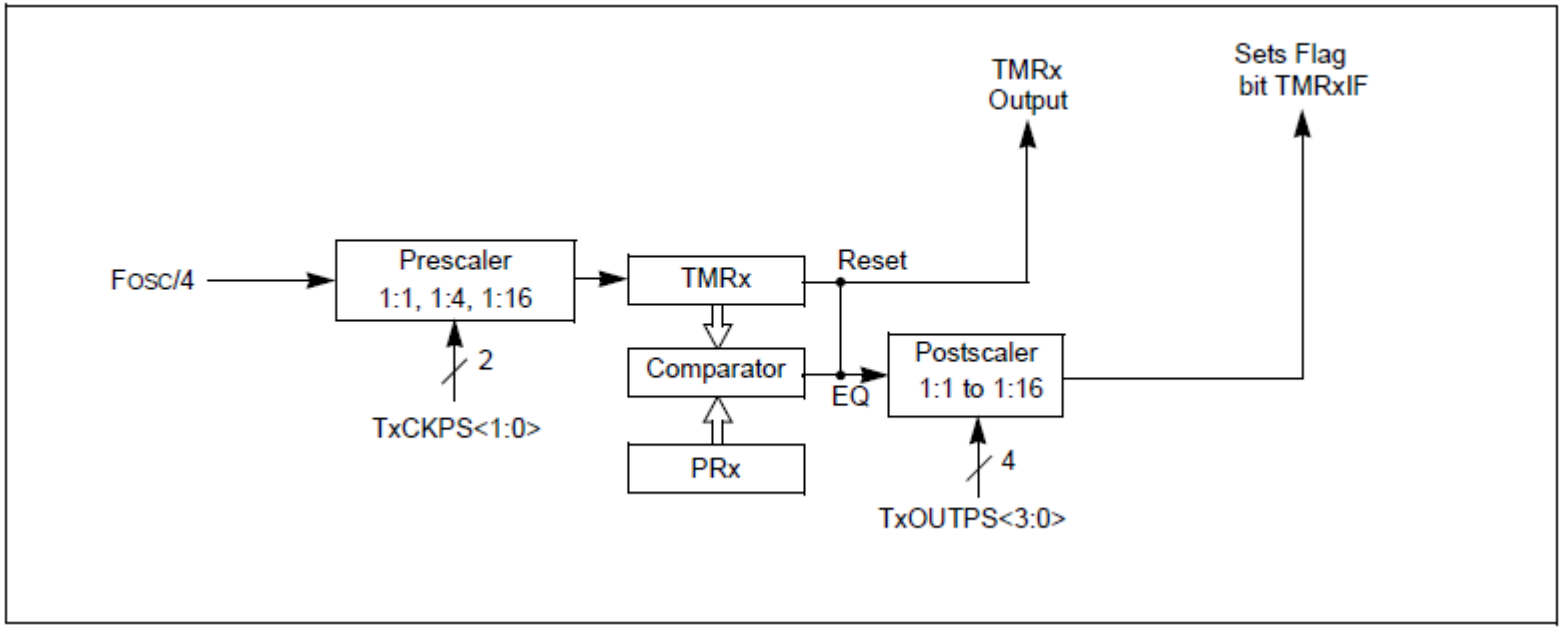
bit 2 **TxGVAL:** Timer1/3/5 Gate Current State bit
Indicates the current state of the Timer1/3/5 gate that could be provided to TMRxH:TMRxL.
Unaffected by Timer1/3/5 Gate Enable (TMRxGE).

bit 1-0 **TxGSS<1:0>:** Timer1/3/5 Gate Source Select bits
00 = Timer1/3/5 Gate pin
01 = Timer2/4/6 Match PR2/4/6 output (See Table 12-5 for proper timer match selection)
10 = Comparator 1 optionally synchronized output (sync_C1OUT)
11 = Comparator 2 optionally synchronized output (sync_C2OUT)

The PIC18 Timer2/4/6

- There are three 8-bit timers with instruction clock source Fcy (Fosc/4) and prescaler and postscaler block logic.
- Controlled by TxCON and related to PRx registers.
- An interrupt may be requested when Timer value matches PRx
- They can be a source for PWM signals (CCP modules).

FIGURE 13-1: TIMER2/4/6 BLOCK DIAGRAM



TxCON Register (x=2/4/6)

REGISTER 13-1: TxCON: TIMER2/TIMER4/TIMER6 CONTROL REGISTER

U-0	R/W-0	R/W-0	R/W-0	R/W-0	R/W-0	R/W-0	R/W-0
—	TxOUTPS<3:0>				TMRxON	TxCKPS<1:0>	
bit 7							bit 0

bit 7 **Unimplemented:** Read as '0'

bit 6-3 **TxOUTPS<3:0>:** TimerX Output Postscaler Select bits

0000 = 1:1 Postscaler
0001 = 1:2 Postscaler
0010 = 1:3 Postscaler
0011 = 1:4 Postscaler
0100 = 1:5 Postscaler
0101 = 1:6 Postscaler
0110 = 1:7 Postscaler
0111 = 1:8 Postscaler
1000 = 1:9 Postscaler
1001 = 1:10 Postscaler
1010 = 1:11 Postscaler
1011 = 1:12 Postscaler
1100 = 1:13 Postscaler
1101 = 1:14 Postscaler
1110 = 1:15 Postscaler
1111 = 1:16 Postscaler

bit 2 **TMRxON:** TimerX On bit

1 = TimerX is on
0 = TimerX is off

bit 1-0 **TxCKPS<1:0>:** Timer2-type Clock Prescale Select bits

00 = Prescaler is 1
01 = Prescaler is 4
1x = Prescaler is 16