# AVRAssist - AVR Helpers

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# **Chapter 1. Introduction**

AVRAssist is a *first attempt* at making (my) life easier when it comes to trying to remember what bits in which registers need to be set to enable/initialise certain features on my Arduino boards' Atmega328P micro controller. After all, which of these is easier to remember, this:

or this:

```
TCCR0A = (1 << WGM00) | (1 << WGM01);

TCCR0B = (1 << CS01) | (1 << CS00);

TIMSK0 = (1 << OCIE0A) | (1 << OCIE0B);
```

And it gets worse when I decide to add in more features and have to look up the additional bits and set them correctly. Get the computer to do it for you is my motto - or one of them!

At the moment, each header file creates a namespace and you (or I) can use that namespace to initialise one feature - timer, comparator, watchdog, ADC etc - of the micro-controller. At the moment, everything lives in the AVRAssist::<feature> namespace, AVRAssist::Timer0 for example, but if, as I might, I decide to add my ATtiny85s into the mix, it is possible that some future update will break things and add another level - AVRAssist::<feature> namespace, AVRAssist::Atmega328::Timer0 and AVRAssist::Attiny85::Timer0 perhaps. Stay tuned.



It should be a simple edit to change one line, using namespace AVRAssist; to something like using AVRAssist::Atmega328; instead, to use the micro-controller specific later versions of the code. Hey, I have to change my code as well, so the easier the better.

At the moment, I'm working mostly with ATmega328P devices, so the whole thing is designed (for certain values of *designed*) exclusively for that micro controller.

It could be that I extend this code to make actual objects out of the current namespaces, so that I can do other things, without needing the bit names and registers all the time. Time will tell, that's its job after all.

It is intended that this code will work in the Arduino IDE as well as with other development systems, such as PlatformIO or even AVR Studio etc, however, the Arduino IDE does a lot of jiggery-pokery in the background, setting up timers and PWM and such like, that some things might not be fully compatibly with the Arduino. Hopefully, this will be pointed out in the documentation.

### Chapter 2. Timer 0

This AVR Assistant allows the simple setup and configuration of Timer/Counter 0 on your AVR (specifically, ATmega328) micro controller. This code works in the Arduino IDE or free standing for use with some other development system, such as PlatformIO. It has not been tested on other micro controllers. (Although he ATMega168 should work.)

To use the assistant, you must include the timer0.h header file:

```
#include "timer0.h"
```

Following this, you may, optionally, use the AVRAssist namespace:

```
using namespace AVRAssist;
```



The spelling of AVRAssist must be as shown above.

If you choose not to do this, you must prefix everything with AVRAssist:: or the code will not work.

#### 2.1. Timer Initialisation

Once the header file has been included, timer/counter 0 can be initialised as follows:

The above sets Timer/Counter 0 into fast PWM mode with TOP = to 255, with a clock prescaler of 64. When OCROA and OCROB match TCNTO nothing happens to pins OCOA or OCOB but an interrupt will be fired when the comparison happens to match.

#### 2.1.1. Initialisation Function

The header file exposes a single initialise function which is defined as follows:

#### 2.1.2. Timer Modes

Timer/counter 0 can be initialised to run in one of 6 modes, as follows.

Mode	Parameter	Description
0	MODE_NORMAL	Normal mode.
1	MODE_PC_PWM_255	Phase Correct PWM with TOP at 255.
2	MODE_CTC_OCR0A	Clear Timer on Compare (CTC) with TOP at OCROA.
3	MODE_FAST_PWM_255	Fast PWM with TOP at 255.
4	MODE_RESERVED_4	Reserved, do not use.
5	MODE_PC_PWM_OCR0A	Phase Correct PWM with TOP at OCROA.
6	MODE_RESERVED_6	Reserved, do not use.
7	MODE_FAST_PWM_OCR0A	Fast PWM with TOP at OCROA.

You use this parameter to define the mode that you wish the timer/counter to run in. It should be obvious, I hope, that only one of the above modes can be used, however, if you wish to or them together, be it on your own head!

```
Timer0::initialise(Timer0::MODE_FAST_PWM_255,

Timer0::CLK_PRESCALE_64,

Timer0::OCOX_DISCONNECTED,

Timer0::INT_COMPARE_MATCH_A |

Timer0::INT_COMPARE_MATCH_B,

Timer0::FORCE_COMPARE_NONE
);
```

① The timer mode parameter in action enabling the timer/counter in fast PWM mode with TOP defined by the value 255.

#### 2.1.3. Clock Sources

The timer/counter needs a clock source to actually start it running as a timer, or as a counter. The following options are available for Timer/counter 0:

Parameter	Description
CLK_DISABLED	The timer/counter will stopped.
CLK_PRESCALE_1	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/1
CLK_PRESCALE_8	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/8
CLK_PRESCALE_64	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/64
CLK_PRESCALE_256	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/256
CLK_PRESCALE_1024	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/1024
CLK_T0_FALLING	The timer/counter will be clocked from pin 6, aka T0, Arduino pin D4 on a falling edge.
CLK_T0_RISING	The timer/counter will be clocked from pin 6, aka T0, Arduino pin D4 on a rising edge.

You use this mode to define how fast the timer/counter will count, or, to disable the timer.

1 The clock source parameter in action showing that the timer/counter will be running at a speed defined by the system clock, F\_CPU, divided by 64.

#### 2.1.4. Compare Match Options

This parameter allows you to indicate what actions you want the AVR micro controller to perform on pins OCOA (pin 12, Arduino pin D6) and/or OCOB (pin 11, Arduino pin D5) when the value in TCNTO matches OCROA or OCROB. The allowed values are:

Parameter	Description
OCOX_DISCONNECTED	The two OCOx pins will not be affected when the timer count matches either OCROA or OCROB.
OCOA_TOGGLE	Pin OCOA will toggle when TCNTO matches OCROA.
OCOA_CLEAR	Pin OCOA will be reset LOW when TCNTO matches OCROA.
OCOA_SET	Pin OCOA will be set HIGH when TCNTO matches OCROA.
OCOB_TOGGLE	Pin OCOB will toggle when TCNTO matches OCROB. You cannot use OCOB_TOGGLE in anything but NORMAL and CTC modes.
OCOB_CLEAR	Pin OCOB will be reset LOW when TCNTO matches OCROB.
OCOB_SET	Pin OCOB will be set HIGH when TCNTO matches OCROB.

An example of initialising the timer/counter using this parameter is:

① The compare match parameter in action showing that when TCNT0 matches OCR0A or OCR0B, that no special effects take place. The pins OC0A (pin 12, Arduino D6) and OC0B (pin 11, Arduino D5) are not affected.

#### 2.1.5. Interrupts

Timer/counter 0 has three interrupts that can be enabled. Sadly though, if you are using the Arduino IDE to write your code, it will sneakily use the overflow interrupt on this timer/counter, to facilitate the millis() function, and from that delay() etc are defined. You cannot define the Timer/counter 0 overflow interrupt handler in your own code if you compile within the Arduino IDE.

The various interrupt options are:

Parameter	Description
INT_NONE	No interrupts are required on this timer/counter. This is the default.

INT_COMPARE_MATCH_A	The TIMERO COMPA interrupt is to be enabled. You are required to create an ISR function to handle it - ISR(TIMERO_COMPA_vect).
INT_COMPARE_MATCH_B	The TIMERO COMPB interrupt is to be enabled. You are required to create an ISR function to handle it - ISR(TIMERO_COMPB_vect).
INT_OVERFLOW	The TIMERO OVF interrupt is to be enabled. You are required to create an ISR function to handle it. This interrupt's handler cannot be defined in your own code in an Arduino IDE development system as the handler, ISR(TIMERO_OVF_vect) has been created internally and added to your code behind the scenes.

An example of initialising the timer/counter with interrupts enabled, would be:

① The interrupts parameter in action showing that the 'compare match A' and 'compare match B' interrupts are to be enabled, while the other interrupt, the timer/counter overflow interrupt, is not to be enabled here.

On Arduino systems, disabling the overflow interrupt for timer/counter 0 will stop millis() etc from working. The delay() function will also fail to work. In addition, attempting to define the timer/counter 0 overflow interrupt handler in your own (Arduino) code will fail to compile as the Arduino system already defines a handler for that interrupt. You need to write your code in something like *Atmel Studio* or *PlatformIO* to be able to use that interrupt as those development systems do not interfere with the code that you write!



You *can* obviously still enable the interrupts with <code>INT\_OVERLOW</code> enabled, you just cannot control what happens in the interrupt handler for it. The Arduino IDE has full control, you have none, but if your code relies on the Arduino <code>millis()</code> or calls <code>delay()</code> then you should always enable that interrupt.

Of course, if you change this timer/counter's initialisation away from that of the Arduino, you will affect those functions anyway.

② You can or various values together to create the full set of required interrupts, as in this example.



On an Arduino board, global interrupts are enabled as part of the Arduino initialisation code. Under other development systems, PlatformIO for example, this is not the case. Therefore, if you are developing on a system other than the Arduino IDE, and you wish to use interrupts with this timer/counter, then your code must enable global interrupts by calling the <code>sei()</code> function. <code>Timer0.h</code> will not automatically enable interrupts for you, as it is possible that this could interfere with other code in your application.

#### 2.1.6. Force Compare Options

Timer/counter 0 can be forced to run a compare of TCNT0 against OCR0A and/or OCR0B at any time. However, it is unlikely that this will be useful (Famous last words?) - the output pins OCOA (pin 12, Arduino D6) and OCOB (pin 11, Arduino D5) will be toggled or set according to the compare match options as long as that parameter is not set to OCOX\_DISCONNECTED and the pin(s) in question are set to toggle, clear or set.

When the forced comparison is carried out, no interrupts will fire, if configured, and TCNT0 will not be cleared in CTC mode with OCROA as TOP. (Timer mode MODE\_CTC\_OCROA.)

Setting these bits at timer initialisation is perhaps not so useful, but at least the option is there. These bits are cleared after the forced compare has taken place.

The options are:

Parameter	Description
FORCE_COMPARE_NONE	No forced comparisons will take place. This is the default.
FORCE_COMPARE_MATCH_A	A forced compare of TCNTO against OCROA will be carried out. You cannot use any force compare modes in anything but NORMAL and CTC modes.
FORCE_COMPARE_MATCH_B	A forced compare of TCNT0 against OCR0B will be carried out. You cannot use any force compare modes in anything but NORMAL and CTC modes.

While the default for this parameter is to have no force compares enabled, FORCE\_COMPARE\_NONE, you can be explicit if you wish, and call the initialise() function as follows:

① The force compare parameter in action showing that we are not requiring a force compare as soon as the timer is initialised.

You can, of course, initialise the timer as above, and then, in your code at any time, simply set one or other of the FOCOA and FOCOB bits in register TCCROB to force a compare to affect the output pins at that point, but remember, no interrupts will fire for the compare match in that case.

### Chapter 3. Timer 1

This AVR Assistant allows the simple setup and configuration of the 16 bit Timer/counter 1 on your AVR (specifically, ATmega328) micro controller. This code works in the Arduino IDE or free standing for use with some other development system, such as PlatformIO. It has not been tested on other micro controllers. (Although the ATMega168 should work.)

To use the assistant, you must include the timer1.h header file:

```
#include "timer1.h"
```

Following this, you may, optionally, use the AVRAssist namespace:

```
using namespace AVRAssist;
```



The spelling of AVRAssist must be as shown above.

If you choose not to do this, you must prefix everything with AVRAssist:: or the code will not work.

#### 3.1. Timer Initialisation

Once the header file has been included, Timer/counter 1 can be initialised as follows:

The above sets Timer/counter 1 into Clear Timer on Compare match mode with TOP at OCR1A, with a clock prescaler of 1,024. When OCR1A matches TCNT1 pin OC1A will toggle but when OCR1B matches TCNT1 nothing happens to pin OC1B. No interrupts will be fired for this timer.

#### 3.1.1. Initialisation Function

The header file exposes a single initialise function which is defined as follows:

#### 3.1.2. Timer Modes

Timer/counter 1 can be initialised to run in one of 15 modes, as follows.

Mode	Parameter	Description
0	MODE_NORMAL = 0	Normal mode.
1	MODE_PC_PWM_255	8 bit Phase Correct PWM with TOP at 255.
2	MODE_PC_PWM_511	9 bit Phase Correct PWM with TOP at 511.
3	MODE_PC_PWM_1023	10 bit Phase Correct PWM with TOP at 1023.
4	MODE_CTC_OCR1A	Clear Timer on Compare (CTC) with TOP at OCR1A.
5	MODE_FAST_PWM_255	8 bit Fast PWM with TOP at 255.
6	MODE_FAST_PWM_511	9 bit Fast PWM with TOP at 511.
7	MODE_FAST_PWM_1023	10 bit Fast PWM with TOP at 1023.
8	MODE_PC_FC_PWM_ICR1	Phase and Frequency Correct PWM with TOP at ICR1.
9	MODE_PC_FC_PWM_OCR1A	Phase and Frequency Correct PWM with TOP at OCR1A.
10	MODE_PC_PWM_ICR1	Phase Correct PWM with TOP at ICR1.
11	MODE_PC_PWM_OCR1A	Phase Correct PWM with TOP at OCR1A.
12	MODE_CTC_ICR1	Clear Timer on Compare (CTC) with TOP at ICR1.
13	MODE_RESERVED_13	Reserved, do not use.
14	MODE_FAST_PWM_1CR1	Fast PWM with TOP at ICR1.
15	MODE_FAST_PWM_OCR1A	Fast PWM with TOP at OCR1A.

You use this parameter to define the mode that you wish the timer/counter to run in. It should be obvious, I hope, that only one of the above modes can be used, however, if you wish to or them together, be it on your own head!

① The timer mode parameter in action enabling the timer/counter in CTC mode with TOP at OCR1A.

#### 3.1.3. Clock Sources

The timer/counter needs a clock source to actually start it running as a timer, or as a counter. The table below lists the available options for Timer/counter 1.

Parameter	Description
CLK_DISABLED	The timer/counter will stopped.
CLK_PRESCALE_1	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/1
CLK_PRESCALE_8	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/8
CLK_PRESCALE_64	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/64
CLK_PRESCALE_256,	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/256
CLK_PRESCALE_1024	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/1024

CLK_T1_FALLING	The timer/counter will be clocked from pin 11, aka T1, Arduino pin D5 on a falling edge.
CLK_T1_RISING	The timer/counter will be clocked from pin 11, aka T1, Arduino pin D5 on a rising edge.

You use this mode to define how fast the timer/counter will count, or, to disable the timer.

① The clock source parameter in action showing that the timer/counter will be running at a speed defined by the system clock, F\_CPU, divided by 1,024.

#### 3.1.4. Compare Match Options

This parameter allows you to indicate what actions you want the AVR micro controller to perform on pins OC1A (pin 15, Arduino pin D9) and/or OC1B (pin 16, Arduino pin D10) when the value in TCNT1 matches OCR1A or OCR1B. The allowed values are:

Parameter	Description
OC1X_DISCONNECTED	The two OC1x pins will not be affected when the timer count matches either OCR1A or OCR1B. This is the default.
OC1A_TOGGLE	Pin OC1A will toggle when TCNT1 matches OCR1A.
OC1A_CLEAR	Pin OC1A will be reset LOW when TCNT1 matches OCR1A.
OC1A_SET	Pin OC1A will be set HIGH when TCNT1 matches OCR1A.
OC1B_TOGGLE	Pin OC1B will toggle when TCNT1 matches OCR1B.
OC1B_CLEAR	Pin OC1B will be reset LOW when TCNT1 matches OCR1B.
OC1B_SET	Pin OC1B will be set HIGH when TCNT1 matches OCR1B.

An example of initialising the timer/counter using this parameter is:

① The compare match parameter in action showing that when TCNT1 matches OCR1A, pin OC1A (pin 15, Arduino D9) will toggle while OC1B (pin 16, Arduino D10) will not be affected when TCNT1 matches OCR1B.

#### 3.1.5. Interrupts

Timer/counter 1 has four interrupts that can be enabled and these are:

Parameter	Description	
-----------	-------------	--

INT_NONE	No interrupts are required on this timer/counter. This is the default.
INT_CAPTURE	The TIMER1 CAPT (input capture) interrupt is to be enabled. You are required to create an ISR function to handle it - ISR(TIMER1_CAPT_vect).
INT_COMPARE_MATCH_A	The TIMER1 COMPA interrupt is to be enabled. You are required to create an ISR function to handle it - ISR(TIMER1_COMPA_vect).
INT_COMPARE_MATCH_B	The TIMER1 COMPB interrupt is to be enabled. You are required to create an ISR function to handle it - ISR(TIMER1_COMPB_vect).
INT_OVERFLOW	The TIMER1 OVF interrupt is to be enabled. You are required to create an ISR function to handle it - ISR(TIMER1_OVF_vect).

An example of initialising the timer/counter with one interrupt enabled, would be:

① The interrupts parameter in action showing that there are no interrupts to be enabled for this timer. If required, you can or various values together to create the full set of required interrupts.



You don't have to activate the input capture interrupt (INT\_CAPTURE) if you don't wish to, you can poll (not always a good idea) bit ICF1 in register TIFR1 and when it is set, an event has occurred.



On an Arduino board, global interrupts are enabled as part of the Arduino initialisation code. Under other development systems, PlatformIO for example, this is not the case. Therefore, if you are developing on a system other than the Arduino IDE, and you wish to use interrupts with this timer/counter, then your code must enable global interrupts by calling the <code>sei()</code> function. <code>Timer1.h</code> will not automatically enable interrupts for you, as it is possible that this could interfere with other code in your application.

#### 3.1.6. Force Compare Options

Timer/counter 1 can be forced to run a compare of TCNT1 against OCR1A and/or OCR1B at any time. However, it is unlikely that this will be particularly useful - Famous last words? When actioned, the output pins OC1A (pin 15, Arduino D9) and OC1B (pin 16, Arduino D10) will be toggled or set according to the compare match options as long as that parameter is not set to OC1X\_DISCONNECTED and the pin(s) in question are set to toggle, clear or set.

These options, if enabled, are only ever actioned when the timer/counter is running in a mode other than any of the PWM modes.

When a forced comparison is carried out, no interrupts will fire, even if configured, and TCNT1 will not be cleared in CTC mode with OCR1A as TOP. (Timer mode MODE\_CTC\_OCR1A.)

Setting these bits at timer initialisation is perhaps not so useful, but at least the option is there. These bits are cleared immediately after the forced compare has taken place.

The options are:

Parameter	Description
FORCE_COMPARE_NONE	No forced comparisons will take place. This is the default.

FORCE_COMPARE_MATCH_A	A forced compare of TCNT1 against OCR1A will be carried out.
FORCE_COMPARE_MATCH_B	A forced compare of TCNT1 against OCR1B will be carried out.

While the default for this parameter is to have no force compares enabled, FORCE\_COMPARE\_NONE, you can be explicit if you wish, and call the initialise() function as follows:

① The force compare parameter in action showing that we are not requiring a force compare as soon as the timer is initialised.

You can, of course, initialise the timer as above, and then, in your code at any time, simply set one or other of the FOC1A and FOC1B bits in register TCCR1C to force a compare to affect the output pins at that point, but remember, no interrupts will fire for the compare match in that case.

#### 3.1.7. Input Capture

Timer/counter 1 has an input capture facility which allows it to record a 'timestamp' when an event happens on pin 14, ICP1, Arduino pin D8. This parameter allows the timer to be configured as required, or for the input capture to be disabled - the default setting.

The permitted values are shown in the following table.

Parameter	Description
INPCAP_NOISE_CANCEL_OFF_FALLING_EDGE	The input capture is running with no noise cancelling and will be triggered on a falling edge on ICP1.
INPCAP_NOISE_CANCEL_OFF_RISING_EDGE	The input capture is running with no noise cancelling and will be triggered on a rising edge on ICP1.
INPCAP_NOISE_CANCEL_ON_FALLING_EDGE	The input capture is running with noise cancelling enabled and will be triggered on a falling edge on ICP1.
INPCAP_NOISE_CANCEL_ON_RISING_EDGE	The input capture is running with noise cancelling enabled and will be triggered on a rising edge on ICP1.

When ICR1 is used as the TOP value in timer mode MODE\_PC\_FC\_PWM\_ICR1, MODE\_PC\_PWM\_ICR1, MODE\_CTC\_ICR1 or MODE\_FAST\_PWM\_1CR1, then the ICP1 (pin 14, Arduino pin D8) is disconnected from the input capture circuitry meaning that the input capture function is disabled.



You can still set the bits in *any* timer mode, obviously, but they won't work if the mode is one of the PWM modes.

Yes, I know, they are long names!

① The input capture parameter in action showing that we wish to have input capture noise cancelling turned off, and the input to be triggered on a falling edge on ICP1. As no interrupts have been enabled for the input capture, the code is assumed to be polling bit ICF1 in register TIFR1 to determine when an event occurred.

### Chapter 4. Timer 2

This AVR Assistant allows the simple setup and configuration of the 8 bit Timer/Counter 2 on your AVR (specifically, ATmega328) micro controller. This code works in the Arduino IDE or free standing for use with some other development system, such as PlatformIO. It has not been tested on other micro controllers. (Although he ATMega168 should work.)

To use the assistant, you must include the timer2.h header file:

```
#include "timer2.h"
```

Following this, you may, optionally, use the AVRAssist namespace:

```
using namespace AVRAssist;
```



The spelling of AVRAssist must be as shown above.

If you choose not to do this, you must prefix everything with AVRAssist:: or the code will not work.

#### 4.1. Timer Initialisation

Once the header file has been included, Timer/counter 2 can be initialised as follows:

The above sets Timer/counter 2 into fast PWM mode with TOP = to 255, with a clock prescaler of 64. When OCR2A and OCR2B match TCNT2 nothing happens to pins OC2A or OC2B but an interrupt will be fired when the comparison happens to match.

#### 4.1.1. Initialisation Function

The header file exposes a single initialise function which is defined as follows:

#### 4.1.2. Timer Modes

Timer/counter 2 can be initialised to run in one of 6 modes, as follows.

Mode	Parameter	Description
0	MODE_NORMAL	Normal mode.
1	MODE_PC_PWM_255	Phase Correct PWM with TOP at 255.
2	MODE_CTC_OCR2A	Clear Timer on Compare (CTC) with TOP at OCR2A.
3	MODE_FAST_PWM_255	Fast PWM with TOP at 255.
4	MODE_RESERVED_4	Reserved, do not use.
5	MODE_PC_PWM_OCR2A	Phase Correct PWM with TOP at OCR2A.
6	MODE_RESERVED_6	Reserved, do not use.
7	MODE_FAST_PWM_OCR2A	Fast PWM with TOP at OCR2A.

You use this parameter to define the mode that you wish the timer/counter to run in. It should be obvious, I hope, that only one of the above modes can be used, however, if you wish to or them together, be it on your own head!

```
Timer2::initialise(Timer2::MODE_FAST_PWM_255,

Timer2::CLK_PRESCALE_64,

Timer2::OC2X_DISCONNECTED,

Timer2::INT_COMPARE_MATCH_A |

Timer2::INT_COMPARE_MATCH_B,

Timer2::FORCE_COMPARE_NONE
);
```

① The timer mode parameter in action enabling the timer/counter in fast PWM mode with TOP defined by the value 255.

#### 4.1.3. Clock Sources

The timer/counter needs a clock source to actually start it running as a timer, or as a counter. The following options are available for Timer/counter 2 and are slightly different from Timer/counter 0, the other 8 bit timer/counter, as there are no facilities to clock this timer/counter externally. It also has an additional two prescaler options over Timer/counter 0.

Parameter	Description
CLK_DISABLED	The timer/counter will stopped.
CLK_PRESCALE_1	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/1
CLK_PRESCALE_8	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/8
CLK_PRESCALE_32	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/32
CLK_PRESCALE_64	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/64
CLK_PRESCALE_128	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/128
CLK_PRESCALE_256,	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/256
CLK_PRESCALE_1024	The timer/counter will be running at F_CPU/1024

You use this mode to define how fast the timer/counter will count, or, to disable the timer.

1 The clock source parameter in action showing that the timer/counter will be running at a speed defined by the system clock, F\_CPU, divided by 64.

#### 4.1.4. Compare Match Options

This parameter allows you to indicate what actions you want the AVR micro controller to perform on pins OC2A (pin 17, Arduino pin D11) and/or OC2B (pin 5, Arduino pin D3) when the value in TCNT2 matches OCR2A or OCR2B. The allowed values are:

Parameter	Description
OC2X_DISCONNECTED	The two OC2x pins will not be affected when the timer count matches either OCR2A or OCR2B. This is the default.
OC2A_TOGGLE	Pin OC2A will toggle when TCNT2 matches OCR2A.
OC2A_CLEAR	Pin OC2A will be reset LOW when TCNT2 matches OCR2A.
OC2A_SET	Pin OC2A will be set HIGH when TCNT2 matches OCR2A.
OC2B_TOGGLE	Pin OC2B will toggle when TCNT2 matches OCR2B. You cannot use OC2B_TOGGLE in anything but NORMAL and CTC modes.
OC2B_CLEAR	Pin OC2B will be reset LOW when TCNT2 matches OCR2B.
OC2B_SET	Pin OC2B will be set HIGH when TCNT2 matches OCR2B.

An example of initialising the timer/counter using this parameter is:

① The compare match parameter in action showing that when TCNT2 matches OCR2A or OCR2B, that no special effects take place. The pins OC2A (pin 17, Arduino D11) and OC2B (pin 5, Arduino D3) are not affected.

#### 4.1.5. Interrupts

Timer/counter 2 has three interrupts that can be enabled and these are:

Parameter	Description
INT_NONE	No interrupts are required on this timer/counter. This is the default.
INT_COMPARE_MATCH_A	The TIMER2 COMPA interrupt is to be enabled. You are required to create an ISR function to handle it - ISR(TIMER2_COMPA_vect).
INT_COMPARE_MATCH_B	The TIMER2 COMPB interrupt is to be enabled. You are required to create an ISR function to handle it - ISR(TIMER2_COMPB_vect).

An example of initialising the timer/counter with interrupts enabled, would be:

- ① The interrupts parameter in action showing that the 'compare match A' and 'compare match B' interrupts are to be enabled, while the other interrupt, the timer/counter overflow interrupt, is not to be enabled.
- ② You can or various values together to create the full set of required interrupts, as in this example.



On an Arduino board, global interrupts are enabled as part of the Arduino initialisation code. Under other development systems, PlatformIO for example, this is not the case. Therefore, if you are developing on a system other than the Arduino IDE, and you wish to use interrupts with this timer/counter, then your code must enable global interrupts by calling the <code>sei()</code> function. <code>Timer2.h</code> will not automatically enable interrupts for you, as it is possible that this could interfere with other code in your application.

#### 4.1.6. Force Compare Options

Timer/counter 2 can be forced to run a compare of TCNT2 against OCR2A and/or OCR2B at any time. However, it is unlikely that this will be particularly useful - Famous last words? When actioned, the output pins OC2A (pin 17, Arduino D11) and OC2B (pin 5, Arduino D3) will be toggled or set according to the compare match options as long as that parameter is not set to OC2X\_DISCONNECTED and the pin(s) in question are set to toggle, clear or set.

When the forced comparison is carried out, no interrupts will fire, if configured, and TCNT2 will not be cleared in CTC mode with OCR2A as TOP. (Timer mode MODE\_CTC\_OCR2A.)

Setting these bits at timer initialisation is perhaps not so useful, but at least the option is there. These bits are cleared immediately after the forced compare has taken place.

The options are:

Parameter	Description
FORCE_COMPARE_NONE	No forced comparisons will take place. This is the default.
FORCE_COMPARE_MATCH_A	A forced compare of TCNT2 against OCR2A will be carried out. You cannot use any force compare modes in anything but NORMAL and CTC modes.
FORCE_COMPARE_MATCH_B	A forced compare of TCNT2 against OCR2B will be carried out. You cannot use any force compare modes in anything but NORMAL and CTC modes.

While the default for this parameter is to have no force compares enabled, FORCE\_COMPARE\_NONE, you can be explicit if

you wish, and call the initialise() function as follows:

① The force compare parameter in action showing that we are not requiring a force compare as soon as the timer is initialised.

You can, of course, initialise the timer as above, and then, in your code at any time, simply set one or other of the FOC2A and FOC2B bits in register TCCR2B to force a compare to affect the output pins at that point, but remember, no interrupts will fire for the compare match in that case.

# **Chapter 5. Analogue Comparator**

This AVR Assistant allows the simple setup and configuration of the Analogue Comparator on your AVR (specifically, ATmega328) micro controller. This code works in the Arduino IDE or free standing for use with some other development system, such as PlatformIO. It has not been tested on other micro controllers. (Although the ATMega168 should work.)

The comparator output will be HI6H whenever the reference voltage is higher than the sampled voltage, and will be LOW when the reference voltage is lower or equal to the sampled voltage. The comparator output is simply bit ACO in register ACSR.

To use this assistant, you must include the comparator.h header file:

```
#include "comparator.h"
```

Following this, you may, optionally, use the AVRAssist namespace:

```
using namespace AVRAssist;
```



The spelling of AVRAssist must be as shown above.

If you choose not to do this, you must prefix everything with AVRAssist:: or the code will not work.

### 5.1. Comparator Initialisation

Once the header file has been included, the comparator can be initialised as follows:

The above sets the comparator to use AINO, pin 12, Arduino pin D6 as the reference voltage, AIN1, pin 13, Arduino pin D7 as the voltage to be sampled and compared, and an interrupt to fire whenever the comparator output toggles.

The ADC and the Analogue Comparator can both use the ADC's MUX3:0 bits in the ADMUX register and also the ADCSRB register, where the comparator has the bit ACME. The code in this AVRAssistant preserves the setting of the comparator bit in ADCSRB to allow you to use the two devices. However, there are certain conditions that will affect the ability to use both devices:



- If the comparator uses any of the ADC0 through ADC7 inputs, then you cannot use the ADC as it will be disconnected from the multiplexor by the comparator;
- If the ADC is in use, the comparator can only be used if its reference voltage used the AINO pin and it compares that with pin AIN1. These are Arduino pins D6 and D7. Both devices can be used in this configuration.

#### 5.1.1. Initialisation Function

The header file exposes a single initialise function which is defined as follows:

#### 5.1.2. Reference Voltage

The comparator can be configured to use one of two separate voltage sources as the reference voltage, these being:

Parameter	Description
REFV_EXTERNAL	Pin 12, AINO, Arduino pin D6 will be used as the reference voltage.
REFV_INTERNAL	The internal 1.1 volt bandgap reference voltage will be used.

The data sheet advises strongly, that you do not change to REFV\_INTERNAL if the AREF pin is connected to any external source of voltage. You will let the magic blue smoke out if you do.



Many of the 'breadboard Arduinos' on the internet, show the AREF pin connected to 5V - this is a bad thing if you ever configure the Analogue Comparator or the ADC to use the internal voltage as a reference.

The only thing you should connect to the AREF pin is a 100nF capacitor to ground.

You use this parameter to define the reference voltage to be used, as follows:

```
Comparator::initialise(Comparator::REFV_EXTERNAL,
Comparator::SAMPLE_AIN1,
Comparator::INT_TOGGLE);
```

1 The comparator will be set up using the AINO pin as its reference voltage.

#### 5.1.3. Sample Voltage

The comparator needs a second voltage source, this one is to be compared with the reference voltage described above. The following values are permitted:

Parameter	Description
SAMPLE_ADC0	Compare the voltage on pin PC0 (Arduino A0) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC1	Compare the voltage on pin PC1 (Arduino A1) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC2	Compare the voltage on pin PC2 (Arduino A2) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC3	Compare the voltage on pin PC3 (Arduino A3) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC4	Compare the voltage on pin PC4 (Arduino A4) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC5	Compare the voltage on pin PC5 (Arduino A5) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC6	Compare the voltage on pin ADC6 with the reference voltage. (SMD version only.)
SAMPLE_ADC7	Compare the voltage on pin ADC7 with the reference voltage. (SMD version only.)
SAMPLE_AIN1	Compare the voltage on pin AIN1 with the reference voltage.



The various dual inline versions of the ATmega328 do not have pins ADC6 and ADC7, those two are only present on the surface mount versions. Some Arduino Uno clones have been built with a surface mount version of the ATmega328, and on those boards, *some* manufacturers have connected these two pins to a header while others leave them unconnected.

You use this parameter to define which pin will be use to source the voltage to be compared with the reference voltage.

```
Comparator::initialise(Comparator::REFV_EXTERNAL,

Comparator::SAMPLE_AIN1,

Comparator::INT_TOGGLE);
```

1 The comparator will be set up using the AIN1 pin as its sample voltage source.

#### 5.1.4. Interrupts

The comparator has a single interrupt, but it has thee separate manners of firing it. These are:

Parameter	Description
INT_NONE	The comparator will not raise any interrupts. The code is assumed to be monitoring bit ACO in register ACSR.
INT_TOGGLE	When bit ACO in register ACSR toggles, the ANALOG_COMP interrupt will be fired, you are required to create an interrupt handler for it - ISR(ANALOG_COMP_vect).
INT_FALLING	When bit ACO in register ACSR changes from HIGH to LOW, the ANALOG_COMP interrupt will be fired, you are required to create an interrupt handler for it - ISR(ANALOG_COMP_vect).
INT_RISING	When bit ACO in register ACSR changes from LOW to HIGH, the ANALOG_COMP interrupt will be fired, you are required to create an interrupt handler for it - ISR(ANALOG_COMP_vect).

An example of initialising the comparator using this parameter is:

① The comparator will be set up so that the interrupt will be fired whenever the ACO bit changes.



On an Arduino board, global interrupts are enabled as part of the Arduino initialisation code. Under other development systems, PlatformIO for example, this is not the case. Therefore, if you are developing on a system other than the Arduino IDE, and you wish to use interrupts with the comparator, then your code must enable global interrupts by calling the <code>sei()</code> function. Comparator.h will not automatically enable interrupts for you, as it is possible that this could interfere with other code in your application.

### Chapter 6. Analogue to Digital Converter

This AVR Assistant allows the simple setup and configuration of the Analogue to Digital Converter (ADC) on your AVR (specifically, ATmega328) micro controller. This code works in the Arduino IDE - if you wish to bypass the analogRead() function call and go straight to the heart of the ADC - or free standing for use with some other development system, such as PlatformIO. It has not been tested on other micro controllers. (Although the ATMega168 should work.)

The ADC's result is read in a number separate ways when a conversion has completed:

• By reading all 10 bits from the ADCW pseudo-register;

```
ADCResult = ADCW;
```

• By reading the ADCL register *first* to get the low 8 bits of the result, and then the ADCH register is read to get the 2 high bits - this is best done when the result is right aligned, the default alignment;

```
ADCResult = ADCL;
ADCResult |= (ADCH << 8);
```

• By reading the ADCH register when the result is set to be left aligned, and you only want the top 8 bits, not all 10.

```
ADCResult = ADCH;
```

The ADC and the Analogue Comparator can both use the ADC's MUX3:0 bits in the ADMUX register and also the ADCSRB register, where the comparator has the bit ACME. The code in this AVRAssistant preserves the setting of the comparator bit in ADCSRB to allow you to use the two devices. However, there are certain conditions that will affect the ability to use both devices:



- If the comparator uses any of the ADC0 through ADC7 inputs, then you cannot use the ADC as it will be disconnected from the multiplexor by the comparator;
- If the ADC is in use, the comparator can only be used if its reference voltage used the AIN0 pin and it compares that with pin AIN1. These are Arduino pins D6 and D7. Both devices can be used in this configuration.

To use this assistant, you must include the adc.h header file:

```
#include "adc.h"
```

Following this, you may, optionally, use the AVRAssist namespace:

```
using namespace AVRAssist;
```



The spelling of AVRAssist must be as shown above.

If you choose not to do this, you must prefix everything with AVRAssist:: or the code will not work.

The header file exposes the following two functions:

The initialise() function sets up and enables the ADC, while the start() function causes a single-shot conversation to be initiated, or, starts the ADC in free running mode. You can, even when set up to run under auto-triggering modes, take a reading from the ADC by calling start().

The default settings for the initialise() function are listed above. Only the first two parameters, the reference voltage source and the pin to be used as input, are required. The remainder have, hopefully, suitable default values.

#### 6.1. ADC Initiation

Once the ADC has been initialised, some modes of operation need it to be explicitly "told" to start a conversion. These modes are:

- Single-shot, ie, no auto-triggering is enabled;
- · Auto-triggering in Free Running Mode, where the first conversions has to be manually initiated.

The other auto-triggering modes will initiate a conversion whenever the triggering event occurs.

To manually initiate a conversion, use the following code:

```
#include <adc.h>
using namespace AVRAssist;
...
// Initialise the ADC.
Adc::initialise(...);
...
// Ready to take a reading from the ADC.
Adc::start();
...
```

The following section explains the various parameters that affect how the ADC is initialised.

#### 6.2. ADC Initialisation

Once the header file has been included, the ADC can be *initialised*, but not yet *initiated* unless auto-triggering is enabled, as follows:

The above sets the ADC to use:

- The supply voltage to the AVCC pin as the reference voltage;
- The ADCO input, Arduino pin AO AVR pin PCO as the voltage source to be compared with the reference;
- No interrupts will be used, the code must therefore poll the ADSC bit in ADCSRA to check if a result is available;
- The result will be aligned right, the default;
- The F\_CPU will be divided by 128 to correctly set the ADC Frequency into the range 50-200 KHz;
- There will be no auto-triggering, thus the ADC is in single-shot mode. AUTO\_FREE\_RUNNING is ignored.

As this initialisation is in single-shot mode, the code must call Adc::start() whenever it wants to start an ADC conversion, and as interrupts are not used, it must also poll bit ADSC in register ADCSRA to determine if a result is available.



After calling the Adc::initialise() function, you will need to call Adc::ADCStart() to actually initiate the first conversion. This is only required when you are using either the single shot, or, the free running mode of the ADC. The other modes will be initiated by the appropriate trigger event.

Only the first two parameters to the <code>initialise()</code> function are mandatory, the remainder should have good enough defaults.

#### 6.2.1. Reference Voltage Source

The ADC can be configured to use one of three separate voltage sources as the reference voltage, these being:

Parameter	Description	
REFV_AREF	AREF pin has the reference voltage.	
REFV_AVCC	AVCC pin has the reference voltage.	
REFV_BANDGAP	The reference is the internal 1.1V bandgap reference. This must be selected if the sample source is ADC8.	

The data sheet advises strongly, that you do not change to REFV\_AVCC or REFV\_BANDGAP if the AREF pin is connected to any external source of voltage. You will let the magic blue smoke out if you do.



Many of the 'breadboard Arduinos' on the internet, show the AREF pin connected to 5V - this is a bad thing if you ever configure the ADC (or the Analogue Comparator) to use either of the internal voltage sources as a reference.

The only thing you should connect to the AREF pin is a 100nF capacitor to ground.

You use this parameter, which is mandatory, to define the reference voltage to be used, as follows:

```
#include <adc.h>
using namespace AVRAssist;
Adc::initialise(Adc::REFV_AVCC,
                                             (1)
                Adc::SAMPLE_ADC0,
                Adc::INT_DISABLED,
                Adc::ALIGN_RIGHT,
                Adc::ADC_PRESCALE_128,
                Adc::AUTO_DISABLED,
                Adc::AUTO_FREE_RUNNING
                );
```

1 The ADC will be set up using the voltage on pin AVCC as its reference voltage.



When using the SAMPLE\_ADC8 input, see below, the reference voltage must be the internal bandgap 1.1v reference.

#### 6.2.2. Sample Voltage Source

The ADC needs a second voltage source, this one is to be compared with the reference voltage described above. The following values are permitted:

Parameter	Description
SAMPLE_ADC0	Compare the voltage on pin PC0 (Arduino A0) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC1	Compare the voltage on pin PC1 (Arduino A1) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC2	Compare the voltage on pin PC2 (Arduino A2) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC3	Compare the voltage on pin PC3 (Arduino A3) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC4	Compare the voltage on pin PC4 (Arduino A4) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC5	Compare the voltage on pin PC5 (Arduino A5) with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_ADC6	Compare the voltage on pin ADC6 with the reference voltage. (SMD version only.)
SAMPLE_ADC7	Compare the voltage on pin ADC7 with the reference voltage. (SMD version only.)
SAMPLE_ADC8	Use the internal temperature sensor. The reference voltage must be $\mbox{REFV\_BANDGAP}$ in this case.
SAMPLE_BANDGAP	Compare the internal 1.1V bandgap voltage with the reference voltage.
SAMPLE_GND	Compare GND with the reference voltage. The result is always zero.

The various dual inline versions of the ATmega328 do not have pins ADC6 and ADC7, those two are only present on the surface mount versions. Some Arduino Uno clones have been built with a surface mount version of the ATmega328, and on those boards, *some* manufacturers have connected these two pins to a header while others leave them unconnected.



Input SAMPLE\_ADC8 is the internal temperature sensor built in to the micro-controller. When using that input, you must select the internal bandgap 1.1V reference voltage. It cannot be used in auto-triggering mode.

The last two options look a bit weird. However, it does allow you to see whether or not the ADC returns zero for a GND voltage, or, to determine if the internal 1.1V bandgap voltage is actually 1.1 when compared with some other reference voltage. On my Arduino Duemilanove, I get 1.1-1.2V when using AVCC as the reference, which is 5V.

You use this parameter to define which pin will be use to source the voltage to be compared against the reference voltage.

1 The ADC will be set up to compare the voltage on Arduino pin A0, AVR pin PC0 with the reference voltage.

#### 6.2.3. Interrupts

The ADC has a single interrupt, which is fired when the ADC has completed a conversion and a result is available in ADCH and ADCL. The permitted values for this parameter, which is optional and defaults to INT\_DISABLED are:

Parameter	Description
INT_DISABLED	The ADC will not raise any interrupts. The code is assumed to be monitoring bit ACSC in register ADCSRA to determine when the result is available.
INT_ENABLED	When the ADC has completed a conversion, the ADC interrupt will be fired, you are required to create an interrupt handler for it - ISR(ADC_vect).

An example of initialising the ADC using this parameter is:

① The ADC will be set up so that the interrupt will be fired whenever the ADC completes a conversion. This will cause the ISR to be executed and the conversion result will be copied into the global variable ADCResult.



On an Arduino board, global interrupts are enabled as part of the Arduino initialisation code. Under other development systems, PlatformIO for example, this is not the case. Therefore, if you are developing on a system other than the Arduino IDE, and you wish to use interrupts with the ADC, then your code must enable global interrupts by calling the <code>sei()</code> function. <code>adc.h</code> will not automatically enable interrupts for you, as it is possible that this could interfere with other code in your application.

#### 6.2.4. Result Alignment

The ADC, at least on the ATmega328P, has a 10 bit resolution, and returns the result of a conversion as a number between 0 (representing GND) and 1,023 representing whatever voltage has been used as the reference voltage. The result is too big to fit into a single register of 8 bits, so two bits will always be held in another register. The two registers are ADCH and ADCL for the high and low parts of the result. The ADC's result can be right aligned, the default, or left aligned.

Depending on the requested alignment of the result, set by using Adc::ALIGN\_RIGHT and Adc::ALIGN\_LEFT (see below), these registers hold the following bits of the result:

Alignment	Result ADCH	Result ADCL
ALIGN_RIGHT	xxxxxx98	76543210
ALIGN_LEFT	98765432	10xxxxxx

In the above, 'x' means we don't care about this bit of the result as it is outside the 10 bit resolution of the ADC.

The valid options for this optional parameter to Adc::initialise() are:

Parameter	Description
ALIGN_RIGHT	This is the default for the ADC at power on/reset etc. The top 2 bits of the result will be found in ADCH and the lower 8 bits in ADCL as described above.
ALIGN_LEFT	In this alignment, The bottom 2 bits of the result will be found in ADCL and the higher 8 bits in ADCH as described above.

An example of initialising the ADC using this parameter, which is optional and defaults to Adc::ALIGN RIGHT, is:

1 The ADC will be set up so that the result of a conversion will be returned left aligned.

#### 6.2.5. ADC Prescaler

To obtain the full 10 bit resolution of the ADC result, it is required to run the ADC with its clock speed somewhere in the range between 50 KHz and 200 KHz. To this end, the ADC has its own prescaler which can be used to divide the system clock speed, F\_CPU, down to enable the ADC to operate in it's most preferred frequency range. If you need all 10 bits of the ADC result, then you must make sure that you configure the ADC to run within the desired frequency range.

You can enable the ADC clock speed to be faster, or slower, than the ideal frequency if the full 10 bit resolution of the result is not required. Unfortunately, the Data Sheet doesn't specify how many bits of the result will be accurate at different ADC clock frequencies.

It's probably best to stay in range.

The permitted values for this parameter, which is optional, and default to ADC\_PRESCALE\_128, are:

Parameter	Description
ADC_PRESCALE_1	Divide F_CPU by 1
ADC_PRESCALE_2	Divide F_CPU by 2
ADC_PRESCALE_4	Divide F_CPU by 4
ADC_PRESCALE_8	Divide F_CPU by 8
ADC_PRESCALE_16	Divide F_CPU by 16
ADC_PRESCALE_32	Divide F_CPU by 32
ADC_PRESCALE_64	Divide F_CPU by 64
ADC_PRESCALE_128	Divide F_CPU by 128

The default for this parameter is ADC\_PRESCALE\_128 as that is the most appropriate prescaler value for any Arduino running at 16 MHz or above. For devices running at 8 MHz, then ADC\_PRESCALE\_64 is suitable and for 1 MHz devices, the factory default, ADC\_PRESCALE\_8 is appropriate. Devices running at speeds above 26MHz cannot configure a prescaler that will allow the ADC to operate at its desired frequency.

The following table gives a number of potential F\_CPU frequency ranges and the appropriate prescaler to keep the ADC running at its ideal speed.

F_CPU	Prescaler
1	8
2-3	16
4-6	32

7-12	64
13-25	128
26+	No prescaler available.



Obviously, not all frequencies within the ranges given above are available for F\_CPU, but the above are the ranges where the given prescaler applies. Who knows, there might be someone out there using a 555 timer, or similar, to generate some weird and wonderful clocks!

An example of initialising the ADC using this optional parameter is:

```
Adc::initialise(Adc::REFV_AVCC,
                Adc::SAMPLE ADC0,
                Adc::INT_DISABLED,
                Adc::ALIGN_LEFT,
                Adc::ADC_PRESCALE_128,
                                             (1)
                Adc::AUTO_DISABLED,
                Adc::AUTO_FREE_RUNNING
                );
. . .
```

① The ADC will be set up so that the F\_CPU clock is divided by 128 to obtain the ADC clock frequency..

#### 6.2.6. Auto Triggering

The ADC can be left to fire off a conversion any time that a certain event happens. This is called auto-triggering and allows other parts of the micro-controller to initiate a conversion. There are three cases when the ADC must be started manually in code:

- When running in single-shot mode (Adc::AUTO\_DISABLED);
- When running in auto-triggering mode with the trigger source set to Adc::AUTO\_FREE\_RUNNING;
- When using the internal temperature sensor SAMPLE\_ADC8.

The permitted values for this parameter are:

Parameter	Description	
AUTO_DISABLED	The ADC will run in single-shot mode. It will not carry out a conversion until manually initiated in code.	
AUTO_ENABLED	The ADC will be running in auto-triggering mode. If the trigger is AUTO_FREE_RUNNING then the ADC will not begin running until manually started in code.	

An example of initialising the ADC using this optional parameter is:

```
Adc::initialise(Adc::REFV_AVCC,
                Adc::SAMPLE_ADC0,
                Adc::INT_DISABLED,
                Adc::ALIGN_LEFT,
                Adc::ADC_PRESCALE_128,
                                             1
                Adc::AUTO_ENABLED,
                Adc::AUTO_FREE_RUNNING
                );
. . .
```

1 The ADC will be set up so that it will be triggered automatically, depending on the setting of the following parameter.



You cannot use any of these modes when the <u>sample voltage input</u> is selected as <u>SAMPLE\_ADC8</u> as the internal temperature sensor cannot be run in auto-triggering mode.

#### 6.2.7. Auto Trigger Source

When the ADC is configured to run in auto-triggering mode, there must be a source trigger that will initiate an ADC conversion, without necessarily requiring the conversion to be started manually by code.

The permitted values for this parameter are:

Parameter	Description
AUTO_FREE_RUNNING	Free Running, requires manual start, but will continue initiating new conversions as soon as the current one completes.
AUTO_COMPARATOR	The Analogue comparator will initiate a conversion when the ACO bit goes HIGH.
AUTO_INT0	External interrupt 0.
AUTO_TIMERO_MATCH_A	Timer/counter 0 compare match A.
AUTO_TIMERO_OVERFLOW	Timer/counter 0 overflow.
AUTO_TIMER1_MATCH_B	Timer/counter 1 compare match B.
AUTOI_TIMER1_OVERFLOW	Timer/counter 1 overflow.
AUTO_TIMER1_CAPTURE	Timer/counter 1 input capture.

The data sheet advises that the ADC will be automatically triggered whenever the triggering event shows a positive edge. Whatever that means given the above triggering sources!

In AUTO\_FREE\_RUNNING mode, there is no automatic start, the ADC must be initiated with a manual start request. However, after the first conversion completes, the ADC will trigger itself to keep on making readings as soon as the current one completes.

The default for this parameter is AUTO\_FREE\_RUNNING but this has no effect unless the auto trigger parameter specified AUTO\_ENABLED.

An example of initialising the ADC using this optional parameter is:

① The ADC will be set up so that after the manual initiation, it will continue to make conversions as soon as one finishes. In this mode it's advised to use an interrupt to indicate when your code can grab the current result from the ADC. The example above doesn't do this and this implies that while it wants the ADC to free run, it's not really interested in grabbing *every* conversion result.

# Chapter 7. Watchdog Timer

This AVR Assistant allows the simple setup and configuration of the Watchdog Timer on your AVR (specifically, ATmega328) micro controller. This code works in the Arduino IDE or free standing for use with some other development system, such as PlatformIO. It has not been tested on other micro controllers. (Although the ATMega168 should work.)

To use this assistant, you must include the watchdog.h header file:

```
#include "watchdog.h"
```

Following this, you may, optionally, use the AVRAssist namespace:

```
using namespace AVRAssist;
```



The spelling of AVRAssist must be as shown above.

If you choose not to do this, you must prefix everything with AVRAssist:: or the code will not work.

### 7.1. Watchdog Timer Initialisation

Once the header file has been included, the watchdog can be initialised as follows:

The above sets the watchdog to timeout every 8 seconds, and to run in Watchdog Interrupt mode, WDI. In this mode, there is no need to call the wdt\_reset() function before the timeout occurs, that is only required in WDT\_MODE\_RESET and WDT\_MODE\_BOTH modes, and is simply to prevent the watchdog from resetting the device.

#### 7.1.1. Initialisation Function

The header file exposes a single initialise function which is defined as follows:

#### 7.1.2. Timeout Setting

The watchdog timer has 10 available timeouts ranging from 16 milliSeconds up to 8 seconds. These are as follows:

Parameter	Description
WDT_TIMEOUT_16MS	Watchdog times out after 16 milliSeconds.

WDT_TIMEOUT_32MS	Watchdog times out after 32 milliSeconds.
WDT_TIMEOUT_64MS	Watchdog times out after 64 milliSeconds.
WDT_TIMEOUT_125MS	Watchdog times out after 125 milliSeconds.
WDT_TIMEOUT_250MS	Watchdog times out after 250 milliSeconds.
WDT_TIMEOUT_500MS	Watchdog times out after 500 milliSeconds.
WDT_TIMEOUT_1S	Watchdog times out after 1 Seconds.
WDT_TIMEOUT_2S	Watchdog times out after 2 Seconds.
WDT_TIMEOUT_4S	Watchdog times out after 4 Seconds.
WDT_TIMEOUT_8S	Watchdog times out after 8 Seconds.

You use this parameter to define the timeout period of the watchdog timer, as follows:

1 The watchdog will be set up so that it times out every 8 seconds.

#### 7.1.3. Watchdog Mode

The watchdog timer can run in one of three modes, as described in the following table:

Parameter	Description
WDT_MODE_RESET	The device will be reset when the watchdog times out, unless reset.
WDT_MODE_INTERRUPT	The device will execute an interrupt, ISR(WDT_vect), when it times out. It will not reset the device.
WDT_MODE_BOTH	The device will fire the interrupt, ISR(WDT_vect), when it times out _the first time. It will then reset the device when it times out for the second time - unless reset.

You use this parameter to define the mode in which the watchdog timer is to run.

① The watchdog will be set up so that it times out every 8 seconds, firing an interrupt but allowing the device to continue operation without being reset.



If the mode contains a reset, WDT\_MODE\_RESET and WDT\_MODE\_BOTH, then there must be a call to wdt\_reset() before the timeout period expires, otherwise the watchdog will reset the system - on the very first timeout in WDT\_MODE\_RESET or on the second in WDT\_MODE\_BOTH.



On an Arduino board, global interrupts are enabled as part of the Arduino initialisation code. Under other development systems, PlatformIO for example, this is not the case. Therefore, if you are developing on a system other than the Arduino IDE, and you wish to use interrupts with the watchdog, then your code must enable global interrupts by calling the <code>sei()</code> function. <code>Watchdog.h</code> will not automatically enable interrupts for you, as it is possible that this could interfere with other code in your application, however, it will preserve the existing state of the global interrupt flag in the status register when <code>Watchdog::initialise()</code> is called. If global interrupts are enabled they will remian enabled, and if disabled, they will remain that way too.

### **Appendix A: Foibles**

The following foibles have been detected with the AVRAssist code. Some of these *may* be able to be fixed in future, and if so, this appendix will be updated to show that such a thing has happened. Some might not be fixable.

### A.1. General - Interrupts

When using interrupts in your code, there is one major difference when using the Arduino IDE and other development systems such as PlatformIO. In the Arduino IDE, all sketches are started with the global interrupts enabled. This is done so that the Timer/Counter 0 overflow interrupt can be used to count up and maintain the millis() function and everything else that relies on it. The Serial interface also uses interrupts.

With other development systems, which do not have the *hand holding* of the Arduino IDE, this is not done. If your code needs interrupts, then it is up to your code to enable global interrupts at the appropriate time, by calling the sei() function.

AVRAssist cannot simply enable interrupts - for example, when you select that an interrupt be used - because there may be further initialisation in your code that needs to be done before the interrupts are enabled. For this reason, it is still the responsibility of your code to enable interrupts as and when required.

#### A.2. General - Timers

For some, currently unknown, reason, setting up timers in the Arduino IDE differs from setting them up in other development environments. Obviously, the Arduino *hand holding* code, that happens in the background, has its own requirements for the various timer/counter and sets them up accordingly. AnalogWrite() for example, relies on the three timer//counters being set up correctly. However, it should be the case that calling Timer1::initialise(), for example, will *override* all the Arduino settings and define the settings that your code requires.

Strangely, this does not appear to happen correctly, although I have examined the generated assembly code, and it does appear to do the required setup, overwriting the setup created by the Arduino IDE, it causes some code not to work when compiled in the Arduino IDE. The following, for example, fails in the Arduino IDE:

However, it works perfectly in other development environment. The fix, is to initialise the time/counter first, then set the required value in OCR1A (in this case), as follows, which works in all environments:

It is possible that other timer/counter settings will be similarly affected.

#### A.3. Timer 0

#### A.3.1. Timer 0 - General

See the General - Timers section for details.

#### A.3.2. Timer 0 - Interrupts

See the General - Interrupts section for details.

#### A.3.3. Timer 0 - Overflow Interrupt

The ISR for this timer 0 overflow *cannot* be used when compiling code within the Arduino IDE. This is down to the fact that the Arduino IDE sets up its own ISR for this interrupt and if you (or I) define one for our own code, it will cause duplicate definition errors in the linker.

This problem cannot be fixed in the AVRAssist code as it is caused by the Arduino IDE. The problem does not occur in PlatformIO, for example, where you can define your own ISR for this interrupt without any problems.



Redefining this interrupt in the Arduino IDE, if it actually was possible, would lead to all sorts of problems as you would be messing with the interrupt that works the millis() function, and from that, the delay() and all the other functions that depend upon millis().

#### A.4. Timer 1

#### A.4.1. Timer 0 - General

See the General - Timers section for details.

#### A.4.2. Timer 0 - Interrupts

See the General - Interrupts section for details.

#### A.5. Timer 2

#### A.5.1. Timer 0 - General

See the General - Timers section for details.

#### A.5.2. Timer 0 - Interrupts

See the General - Interrupts section for details.

### A.6. Analogue Comparator

#### A.6.1. Analogue Comparator - Interrupts

See the General - Interrupts section for details.

### A.7. Watchdog

While this is not a foible, as such, it is repeated here for information - the Data Sheet doesn't make things exactly clear

on the matter.

When using the watchdog in WDI, Watchdog Interrupt, mode, there is no need to call the wdt\_reset() function. If you are running in this mode, the WDT will not reset the device after the timeout period. If, on the other hand, you are running the WDT in either of the modes that do involve potentially resetting the device, then you must call wdt\_reset() within the timeout period to avoid said resets. In summary then:

- WDT\_MODE\_INTERRUPT there is no reset, so no need to call wdt\_reset();
- WDT\_MODE\_RESET there is a possibility of a reset, so your code *must* call wdt\_reset() before the defined timeout expires;
- WDT\_MODE\_BOTH there is a possibility of a reset, so your code *must* call wdt\_reset() before the defined timeout expires;

#### A.7.1. Watchdog - Interrupts

See the General - Interrupts section for details.