

MultiWingSpan

[Home](#) [Programming](#) [Web Design](#) [Computer Science](#) [Twisting Puzzles](#) [Arduino](#) [BBC micro:bit](#)

BBC micro:bit Bryn's Concentrated Clocks

Introduction

This game is based on code written with Bryn during one of our lessons. Bryn took an example program from the page on the matrix - the one which does a slideshow of the built-in images. He removed all of the images except the ones that were clock hands. He adjusted the speed of the animation and ended up with a line that was spinning round in circles. Having played the other concentration game, he realised that you could make another version based on stopping the rotating line at when it is in the 12 o'clock position.

The line will spin around when the game starts. It can spin happily for as long as you want. You need to stop it when it reaches the 12 position. If you are successful, you get a point and the game speeds up a little.

Programming

I reordered the clock images and built upon the code we wrote in class. Here is a basic version of the game that you can adapt to suit your purposes.

```
from microbit import *

clocks = [
    Image.CLOCK1, Image.CLOCK2, Image.CLOCK3,
    Image.CLOCK4, Image.CLOCK5, Image.CLOCK6,
    Image.CLOCK7, Image.CLOCK8, Image.CLOCK9,
    Image.CLOCK10, Image.CLOCK11, Image.CLOCK12]

counter = 0
start = 200
paws = start
score = 0

while True:
    display.show(clocks[counter])
    # extra help on the last tick
    if counter==11:
        sleep(paws/10)
    if button_a.was_pressed():
        sleep(500)
        if counter==11:
            display.show(Image.HAPPY)
            score += 1
            paws = paws - 10
            paws = max(10, paws)
            sleep(500)
        else:
            display.show(Image.SAD)
            display.scroll(str(score))
            sleep(500)
            score = 0
            paws = start
        counter += 1
    if counter>11:
        counter = 0
    sleep(paws)
```

As you read through the program, you should be able to see which numbers and calculations you can change to alter the pace of the game. The variable **paws** is the key one for this.

Challenges

1. Start by getting the game play settings as you want them.
2. Everyone seems to like using Play-Doh buttons for these games. Why should this one be any different?
3. This game idea would also work by having the user have to wait for a number of cycles before stopping the clock.
4. Another variant of this game would be to have the user need to stop the clock in different positions. This could be a curious way of getting answers to questions in some sort of quiz-based affair.

BBC Microbit

- + [Block Editor - The Basics](#)
- + [Block Editor - Components](#)
- + [Kodu - micro:bit Worlds](#)
- + [JavaScript Blocks](#)
- + [JavaScript Blocks - Exercises](#)
- + [Blocks - Bit:Bot](#)
- + [Blocks - Bit:Commander](#)
- + [MicroPython - Starting Off](#)
- [MicroPython - Examples](#)
 - ✱ [Dice Rolling](#)
 - ✱ [Shut The Matrix](#)
 - ✱ [Encoding Morse Code](#)
 - ✱ [Encoding Ciphers](#)
 - ✱ [Drawing A Maze](#)
 - ✱ [Scrolling Race Track](#)
 - ✱ [Vertical Scroller](#)
 - ✱ [Concentration Game](#)
 - ✱ [Text Entry - Accelerometer](#)
 - ✱ [Charlie's Python Game](#)
 - ✱ [Lights Out Game](#)
 - ✱ [Sam's French Number Game](#)
 - ✱ [Bryn's Concentrated Clocks](#)
 - ✱ [Lattice Paths](#)
 - ✱ [Knight Moves](#)
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- + [MicroPython - Breakout Boards](#)
- + [MicroPython - Exercises](#)
- + [MicroPython - Pi Accessories](#)
- + [MicroPython - Bit:Bot](#)
- + [MicroPython - Bit:Commander](#)
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- + [MicroPython - Visual Basic](#)
- + [Other - Odds & Ends](#)

