

## 18. 8-bit Timer/Counter2 with PWM and Asynchronous Operation

### 18.1 Features

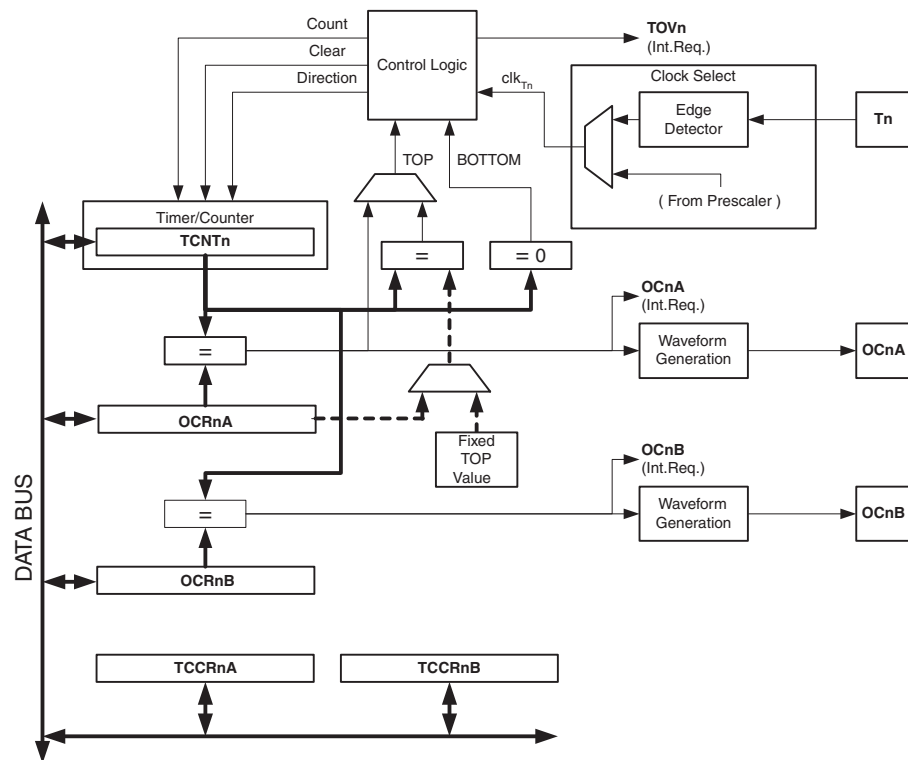
- Single Channel Counter
- Clear Timer on Compare Match (Auto Reload)
- Glitch-free, Phase Correct Pulse Width Modulator (PWM)
- Frequency Generator
- 10-bit Clock Prescaler
- Overflow and Compare Match Interrupt Sources (TOV2, OCF2A and OCF2B)
- Allows Clocking from External 32kHz Watch Crystal Independent of the I/O Clock

### 18.2 Overview

Timer/Counter2 is a general purpose, single channel, 8-bit Timer/Counter module. A simplified block diagram of the 8-bit Timer/Counter is shown in [Figure 18-1](#). For the actual placement of I/O pins, refer to ["Pinout ATmega48A/PA/88A/PA/168A/PA/328/P" on page 2](#). CPU accessible I/O Registers, including I/O bits and I/O pins, are shown in bold. The device-specific I/O Register and bit locations are listed in the ["Register Description" on page 160](#).

The PRTIM2 bit in ["Minimizing Power Consumption" on page 43](#) must be written to zero to enable Timer/Counter2 module.

**Figure 18-1.** 8-bit Timer/Counter Block Diagram



## 18.11 Register Description

### 18.11.1 TCCR2A – Timer/Counter Control Register A

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0xB0)	COM2A1	COM2A0	COM2B1	COM2B0	–	–	WGM21	WGM20	TCCR2A
Read/Write	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R	R	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bits 7:6 – COM2A1:0: Compare Match Output A Mode**

These bits control the Output Compare pin (OC2A) behavior. If one or both of the COM2A1:0 bits are set, the OC2A output overrides the normal port functionality of the I/O pin it is connected to. However, note that the Data Direction Register (DDR) bit corresponding to the OC2A pin must be set in order to enable the output driver.

When OC2A is connected to the pin, the function of the COM2A1:0 bits depends on the WGM22:0 bit setting. [Table 18-2](#) shows the COM2A1:0 bit functionality when the WGM22:0 bits are set to a normal or CTC mode (non-PWM).

**Table 18-2.** Compare Output Mode, non-PWM Mode

COM2A1	COM2A0	Description
0	0	Normal port operation, OC0A disconnected.
0	1	Toggle OC2A on Compare Match
1	0	Clear OC2A on Compare Match
1	1	Set OC2A on Compare Match

[Table 18-3](#) shows the COM2A1:0 bit functionality when the WGM21:0 bits are set to fast PWM mode.

**Table 18-3.** Compare Output Mode, Fast PWM Mode<sup>(1)</sup>

COM2A1	COM2A0	Description
0	0	Normal port operation, OC2A disconnected.
0	1	WGM22 = 0: Normal Port Operation, OC0A Disconnected. WGM22 = 1: Toggle OC2A on Compare Match.
1	0	Clear OC2A on Compare Match, set OC2A at BOTTOM, (non-inverting mode).
1	1	Set OC2A on Compare Match, clear OC2A at BOTTOM, (inverting mode).

Note: 1. A special case occurs when OCR2A equals TOP and COM2A1 is set. In this case, the Compare Match is ignored, but the set or clear is done at BOTTOM. See ["Fast PWM Mode" on page 152](#) for more details.

Table 18-4 shows the COM2A1:0 bit functionality when the WGM22:0 bits are set to phase correct PWM mode.

**Table 18-4.** Compare Output Mode, Phase Correct PWM Mode<sup>(1)</sup>

COM2A1	COM2A0	Description
0	0	Normal port operation, OC2A disconnected.
0	1	WGM22 = 0: Normal Port Operation, OC2A Disconnected. WGM22 = 1: Toggle OC2A on Compare Match.
1	0	Clear OC2A on Compare Match when up-counting. Set OC2A on Compare Match when down-counting.
1	1	Set OC2A on Compare Match when up-counting. Clear OC2A on Compare Match when down-counting.

Note: 1. A special case occurs when OCR2A equals TOP and COM2A1 is set. In this case, the Compare Match is ignored, but the set or clear is done at TOP. See "Phase Correct PWM Mode" on page 154 for more details.

## • Bits 5:4 – COM2B1:0: Compare Match Output B Mode

These bits control the Output Compare pin (OC2B) behavior. If one or both of the COM2B1:0 bits are set, the OC2B output overrides the normal port functionality of the I/O pin it is connected to. However, note that the Data Direction Register (DDR) bit corresponding to the OC2B pin must be set in order to enable the output driver.

When OC2B is connected to the pin, the function of the COM2B1:0 bits depends on the WGM22:0 bit setting. Table 18-5 shows the COM2B1:0 bit functionality when the WGM22:0 bits are set to a normal or CTC mode (non-PWM).

**Table 18-5.** Compare Output Mode, non-PWM Mode

COM2B1	COM2B0	Description
0	0	Normal port operation, OC2B disconnected.
0	1	Toggle OC2B on Compare Match
1	0	Clear OC2B on Compare Match
1	1	Set OC2B on Compare Match

Table 18-6 shows the COM2B1:0 bit functionality when the WGM22:0 bits are set to fast PWM mode.

**Table 18-6.** Compare Output Mode, Fast PWM Mode<sup>(1)</sup>

COM2B1	COM2B0	Description
0	0	Normal port operation, OC2B disconnected.
0	1	Reserved
1	0	Clear OC2B on Compare Match, set OC2B at BOTTOM, (non-inverting mode).
1	1	Set OC2B on Compare Match, clear OC2B at BOTTOM, (inverting mode).

Note: 1. A special case occurs when OCR2B equals TOP and COM2B1 is set. In this case, the Compare Match is ignored, but the set or clear is done at BOTTOM. See ["Phase Correct PWM Mode" on page 154](#) for more details.

Table 18-7 shows the COM2B1:0 bit functionality when the WGM22:0 bits are set to phase correct PWM mode.

**Table 18-7.** Compare Output Mode, Phase Correct PWM Mode<sup>(1)</sup>

COM2B1	COM2B0	Description
0	0	Normal port operation, OC2B disconnected.
0	1	Reserved
1	0	Clear OC2B on Compare Match when up-counting. Set OC2B on Compare Match when down-counting.
1	1	Set OC2B on Compare Match when up-counting. Clear OC2B on Compare Match when down-counting.

Note: 1. A special case occurs when OCR2B equals TOP and COM2B1 is set. In this case, the Compare Match is ignored, but the set or clear is done at TOP. See ["Phase Correct PWM Mode" on page 154](#) for more details.

## • Bits 3, 2 – Reserved

These bits are reserved bits in the ATmega48A/PA/88A/PA/168A/PA/328/P and will always read as zero.

## • Bits 1:0 – WGM21:0: Waveform Generation Mode

Combined with the WGM22 bit found in the TCCR2B Register, these bits control the counting sequence of the counter, the source for maximum (TOP) counter value, and what type of waveform generation to be used, see [Table 18-8](#). Modes of operation supported by the Timer/Counter unit are: Normal mode (counter), Clear Timer on Compare Match (CTC) mode, and two types of Pulse Width Modulation (PWM) modes (see ["Modes of Operation" on page 151](#)).

**Table 18-8.** Waveform Generation Mode Bit Description

Mode	WGM2	WGM1	WGM0	Timer/Counter Mode of Operation	TOP	Update of OCRx at	TOV Flag Set on <sup>(1)(2)</sup>
0	0	0	0	Normal	0xFF	Immediate	MAX
1	0	0	1	PWM, Phase Correct	0xFF	TOP	BOTTOM
2	0	1	0	CTC	OCRA	Immediate	MAX
3	0	1	1	Fast PWM	0xFF	BOTTOM	MAX
4	1	0	0	Reserved	–	–	–
5	1	0	1	PWM, Phase Correct	OCRA	TOP	BOTTOM
6	1	1	0	Reserved	–	–	–
7	1	1	1	Fast PWM	OCRA	BOTTOM	TOP

Notes: 1. MAX= 0xFF  
2. BOTTOM= 0x00

## 18.11.2 TCCR2B – Timer/Counter Control Register B

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0xB1)	FOC2A	FOC2B	–	–	WGM22	CS22	CS21	CS20	TCCR2B
Read/Write	W	W	R	R	R	R	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 7 – FOC2A: Force Output Compare A**

The FOC2A bit is only active when the WGM bits specify a non-PWM mode.

However, for ensuring compatibility with future devices, this bit must be set to zero when TCCR2B is written when operating in PWM mode. When writing a logical one to the FOC2A bit, an immediate Compare Match is forced on the Waveform Generation unit. The OC2A output is changed according to its COM2A1:0 bits setting. Note that the FOC2A bit is implemented as a strobe. Therefore it is the value present in the COM2A1:0 bits that determines the effect of the forced compare.

A FOC2A strobe will not generate any interrupt, nor will it clear the timer in CTC mode using OCR2A as TOP.

The FOC2A bit is always read as zero.

- **Bit 6 – FOC2B: Force Output Compare B**

The FOC2B bit is only active when the WGM bits specify a non-PWM mode.

However, for ensuring compatibility with future devices, this bit must be set to zero when TCCR2B is written when operating in PWM mode. When writing a logical one to the FOC2B bit, an immediate Compare Match is forced on the Waveform Generation unit. The OC2B output is changed according to its COM2B1:0 bits setting. Note that the FOC2B bit is implemented as a strobe. Therefore it is the value present in the COM2B1:0 bits that determines the effect of the forced compare.

A FOC2B strobe will not generate any interrupt, nor will it clear the timer in CTC mode using OCR2B as TOP.

The FOC2B bit is always read as zero.

- **Bits 5:4 – Reserved**

These bits are reserved bits in the ATmega48A/PA/88A/PA/168A/PA/328/P and will always read as zero.

- **Bit 3 – WGM22: Waveform Generation Mode**

See the description in the ["TCCR2A – Timer/Counter Control Register A" on page 160](#).

- **Bit 2:0 – CS22:0: Clock Select**

The three Clock Select bits select the clock source to be used by the Timer/Counter, see [Table 18-9 on page 164](#).

**Table 18-9.** Clock Select Bit Description

CS22	CS21	CS20	Description
0	0	0	No clock source (Timer/Counter stopped).
0	0	1	$\text{clk}_{T2S}/(\text{No prescaling})$
0	1	0	$\text{clk}_{T2S}/8$ (From prescaler)
0	1	1	$\text{clk}_{T2S}/32$ (From prescaler)
1	0	0	$\text{clk}_{T2S}/64$ (From prescaler)
1	0	1	$\text{clk}_{T2S}/128$ (From prescaler)
1	1	0	$\text{clk}_{T2S}/256$ (From prescaler)
1	1	1	$\text{clk}_{T2S}/1024$ (From prescaler)

If external pin modes are used for the Timer/Counter0, transitions on the T0 pin will clock the counter even if the pin is configured as an output. This feature allows software control of the counting.

### 18.11.3 TCNT2 – Timer/Counter Register

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0xB2)	TCNT2[7:0]								TCNT2
Read/Write	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

The Timer/Counter Register gives direct access, both for read and write operations, to the Timer/Counter unit 8-bit counter. Writing to the TCNT2 Register blocks (removes) the Compare Match on the following timer clock. Modifying the counter (TCNT2) while the counter is running, introduces a risk of missing a Compare Match between TCNT2 and the OCR2x Registers.

### 18.11.4 OCR2A – Output Compare Register A

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0xB3)	OCR2A[7:0]								OCR2A
Read/Write	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

The Output Compare Register A contains an 8-bit value that is continuously compared with the counter value (TCNT2). A match can be used to generate an Output Compare interrupt, or to generate a waveform output on the OC2A pin.

### 18.11.5 OCR2B – Output Compare Register B

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0xB4)	OCR2B[7:0]								OCR2B
Read/Write	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

The Output Compare Register B contains an 8-bit value that is continuously compared with the counter value (TCNT2). A match can be used to generate an Output Compare interrupt, or to generate a waveform output on the OC2B pin.

## 18.11.6 TIMSK2 – Timer/Counter2 Interrupt Mask Register

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0x70)	–	–	–	–	–	OCIE2B	OCIE2A	TOIE2	TIMSK2
Read/Write	R	R	R	R	R	R/W	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 2 – OCIE2B: Timer/Counter2 Output Compare Match B Interrupt Enable**

When the OCIE2B bit is written to one and the I-bit in the Status Register is set (one), the Timer/Counter2 Compare Match B interrupt is enabled. The corresponding interrupt is executed if a compare match in Timer/Counter2 occurs, i.e., when the OCF2B bit is set in the Timer/Counter 2 Interrupt Flag Register – TIFR2.

- **Bit 1 – OCIE2A: Timer/Counter2 Output Compare Match A Interrupt Enable**

When the OCIE2A bit is written to one and the I-bit in the Status Register is set (one), the Timer/Counter2 Compare Match A interrupt is enabled. The corresponding interrupt is executed if a compare match in Timer/Counter2 occurs, i.e., when the OCF2A bit is set in the Timer/Counter 2 Interrupt Flag Register – TIFR2.

- **Bit 0 – TOIE2: Timer/Counter2 Overflow Interrupt Enable**

When the TOIE2 bit is written to one and the I-bit in the Status Register is set (one), the Timer/Counter2 Overflow interrupt is enabled. The corresponding interrupt is executed if an overflow in Timer/Counter2 occurs, i.e., when the TOV2 bit is set in the Timer/Counter2 Interrupt Flag Register – TIFR2.

## 18.11.7 TIFR2 – Timer/Counter2 Interrupt Flag Register

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
0x17 (0x37)	–	–	–	–	–	OCF2B	OCF2A	TOV2	TIFR2
Read/Write	R	R	R	R	R	R/W	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 2 – OCF2B: Output Compare Flag 2 B**

The OCF2B bit is set (one) when a compare match occurs between the Timer/Counter2 and the data in OCR2B – Output Compare Register2. OCF2B is cleared by hardware when executing the corresponding interrupt handling vector. Alternatively, OCF2B is cleared by writing a logic one to the flag. When the I-bit in SREG, OCIE2B (Timer/Counter2 Compare match Interrupt Enable), and OCF2B are set (one), the Timer/Counter2 Compare match Interrupt is executed.

- **Bit 1 – OCF2A: Output Compare Flag 2 A**

The OCF2A bit is set (one) when a compare match occurs between the Timer/Counter2 and the data in OCR2A – Output Compare Register2. OCF2A is cleared by hardware when executing the corresponding interrupt handling vector. Alternatively, OCF2A is cleared by writing a logic one to the flag. When the I-bit in SREG, OCIE2A (Timer/Counter2 Compare match Interrupt Enable), and OCF2A are set (one), the Timer/Counter2 Compare match Interrupt is executed.

- **Bit 0 – TOV2: Timer/Counter2 Overflow Flag**

The TOV2 bit is set (one) when an overflow occurs in Timer/Counter2. TOV2 is cleared by hardware when executing the corresponding interrupt handling vector. Alternatively, TOV2 is cleared by writing a logic one to the flag. When the SREG I-bit, TOIE2A (Timer/Counter2 Overflow Interrupt Enable), and TOV2 are set (one), the Timer/Counter2 Overflow interrupt is executed. In PWM mode, this bit is set when Timer/Counter2 changes counting direction at 0x00.

## 18.11.8 ASSR – Asynchronous Status Register

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0xB6)	–	EXCLK	AS2	TCN2UB	OCR2AUB	OCR2BUB	TCR2AUB	TCR2BUB	ASSR
Read/Write	R	R/W	R/W	R	R	R	R	R	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 7 – Reserved**

This bit is reserved and will always read as zero.

- **Bit 6 – EXCLK: Enable External Clock Input**

When EXCLK is written to one, and asynchronous clock is selected, the external clock input buffer is enabled and an external clock can be input on Timer Oscillator 1 (TOSC1) pin instead of a 32kHz crystal. Writing to EXCLK should be done before asynchronous operation is selected. Note that the crystal Oscillator will only run when this bit is zero.

- **Bit 5 – AS2: Asynchronous Timer/Counter2**

When AS2 is written to zero, Timer/Counter2 is clocked from the I/O clock,  $clk_{I/O}$ . When AS2 is written to one, Timer/Counter2 is clocked from a crystal Oscillator connected to the Timer Oscillator 1 (TOSC1) pin. When the value of AS2 is changed, the contents of TCNT2, OCR2A, OCR2B, TCCR2A and TCCR2B might be corrupted.

- **Bit 4 – TCN2UB: Timer/Counter2 Update Busy**

When Timer/Counter2 operates asynchronously and TCNT2 is written, this bit becomes set. When TCNT2 has been updated from the temporary storage register, this bit is cleared by hardware. A logical zero in this bit indicates that TCNT2 is ready to be updated with a new value.

- **Bit 3 – OCR2AUB: Output Compare Register2 Update Busy**

When Timer/Counter2 operates asynchronously and OCR2A is written, this bit becomes set. When OCR2A has been updated from the temporary storage register, this bit is cleared by hardware. A logical zero in this bit indicates that OCR2A is ready to be updated with a new value.

- **Bit 2 – OCR2BUB: Output Compare Register2 Update Busy**

When Timer/Counter2 operates asynchronously and OCR2B is written, this bit becomes set. When OCR2B has been updated from the temporary storage register, this bit is cleared by hardware. A logical zero in this bit indicates that OCR2B is ready to be updated with a new value.

- **Bit 1 – TCR2AUB: Timer/Counter Control Register2 Update Busy**

When Timer/Counter2 operates asynchronously and TCCR2A is written, this bit becomes set. When TCCR2A has been updated from the temporary storage register, this bit is cleared by hardware. A logical zero in this bit indicates that TCCR2A is ready to be updated with a new value.

- **Bit 0 – TCR2BUB: Timer/Counter Control Register2 Update Busy**

When Timer/Counter2 operates asynchronously and TCCR2B is written, this bit becomes set. When TCCR2B has been updated from the temporary storage register, this bit is cleared by hardware. A logical zero in this bit indicates that TCCR2B is ready to be updated with a new value.

If a write is performed to any of the five Timer/Counter2 Registers while its update busy flag is set, the updated value might get corrupted and cause an unintentional interrupt to occur.



The mechanisms for reading TCNT2, OCR2A, OCR2B, TCCR2A and TCCR2B are different. When reading TCNT2, the actual timer value is read. When reading OCR2A, OCR2B, TCCR2A and TCCR2B the value in the temporary storage register is read.

## 18.11.9 GTCCR – General Timer/Counter Control Register

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
0x23 (0x43)	<b>TSM</b>	–	–	–	–	–	<b>PSRASY</b>	<b>PSRSYNC</b>	GTCCR
Read/Write	R/W	R	R	R	R	R	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 1 – PSRASY: Prescaler Reset Timer/Counter2**

When this bit is one, the Timer/Counter2 prescaler will be reset. This bit is normally cleared immediately by hardware. If the bit is written when Timer/Counter2 is operating in asynchronous mode, the bit will remain one until the prescaler has been reset. The bit will not be cleared by hardware if the TSM bit is set. Refer to the description of the ["Bit 7 – TSM: Timer/Counter Synchronization Mode" on page 145](#) for a description of the Timer/Counter Synchronization mode.