

# Software Timers

1.4

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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Software Timers Manual</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Features	1
1.2	Author	2
1.3	Download	2
1.4	Copyright	2
1.5	TODO	2
1.6	History	2
<b>2</b>	<b>Hierarchical Index</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1	Class Hierarchy	2
<b>3</b>	<b>Class Index</b>	<b>3</b>
3.1	Class List	3
<b>4</b>	<b>File Index</b>	<b>3</b>
4.1	File List	3
<b>5</b>	<b>Class Documentation</b>	<b>3</b>
5.1	SoftTimer Class Reference	3
5.1.1	Detailed Description	4
5.1.2	Member Function Documentation	4
5.2	SoftTimerExt Class Reference	9
5.2.1	Detailed Description	10
5.2.2	Constructor & Destructor Documentation	10
5.2.3	Member Function Documentation	11
<b>6</b>	<b>File Documentation</b>	<b>15</b>
6.1	mainpage_doxygen.h File Reference	15
6.1.1	Detailed Description	15
6.2	SoftTimer.cpp File Reference	15
6.2.1	Detailed Description	16
6.3	SoftTimer.h File Reference	17
6.3.1	Detailed Description	17

## 1 Software Timers Manual

### 1.1 Features

- Provide a simple, quick to use timer object.
- No hardware timer or interrupt is used.

- Less code to type, and shorter programs because of not having to pepper comparisons with `millis()` everywhere.

Developed and tested with Arduino IDE 1.6.10. May not run on Arduino 0.X.

## 1.2 Author

Volker Kuhlmann

<http://volker.top.geek.nz/contact.html>

## 1.3 Download

<http://volker.top.geek.nz/arduino/>

## 1.4 Copyright

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## 1.5 TODO

- Empty

## 1.6 History

- v1.4, 13 Sep 2016 Volker Kuhlmann
  - Released with doxygen comments and documentation.
  - GPLv3

# 2 Hierarchical Index

## 2.1 Class Hierarchy

This inheritance list is sorted roughly, but not completely, alphabetically:

<b>SoftTimer</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SoftTimerExt</b>	<b>9</b>

## 3 Class Index

### 3.1 Class List

Here are the classes, structs, unions and interfaces with brief descriptions:

<a href="#">SoftTimer</a>	Software timer object	3
<a href="#">SoftTimerExt</a>	Software timer object with extended features	9

## 4 File Index

### 4.1 File List

Here is a list of all documented files with brief descriptions:

<a href="#">mainpage_doxygen.h</a>	Content of the index page for the doxygen documentation	15
<a href="#">SoftTimer.cpp</a>	<a href="#">SoftTimer</a> - Arduino library for simple timers	15
<a href="#">SoftTimer.h</a>	<a href="#">SoftTimer</a> - Arduino library for simple software timers	17

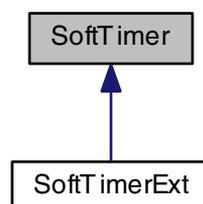
## 5 Class Documentation

### 5.1 SoftTimer Class Reference

Software timer object.

```
#include <SoftTimer.h>
```

Inheritance diagram for SoftTimer:



#### Public Member Functions

- bool [is\\_expired](#) ()

*Return true if the timer has expired.*

- void `start` (uint16\_t delay\_ms)

*Start timer with up to 65535 ms.*

- void `startW` (unsigned long delay\_ms)

*Start timer.*

- void `startN` (uint8\_t delay\_ms)

*Start timer with up to 255 ms.*

- bool `interval` (uint16\_t delay\_ms)

*Return true when timer expires, and restart. 65535 ms max.*

- bool `intervalW` (unsigned long delay\_ms)

*Return true when timer expires, and restart.*

- bool `intervalN` (uint8\_t delay\_ms)

*Return true when timer expires, and restart. 255 ms max.*

### Protected Attributes

- unsigned long `_finish_ms`

*Expiry time, in milliseconds.*

### 5.1.1 Detailed Description

Software timer object.

Simple timer that does not use interrupts. It's easier to use and produces shorter code than using 4-byte comparisons with `millis()` everywhere.

### 5.1.2 Member Function Documentation

#### 5.1.2.1 bool SoftTimer::interval ( uint16\_t delay\_ms )

Return true when timer expires, and restart. 65535 ms max.

`is_expired()` and `start()` combined. Because the timer is restarted, true is returned only once (unless the timer has again expired before the next call).

```
SoftTimer timer;
if (timer.interval(1000)) {
    // Do something once per second
}
```

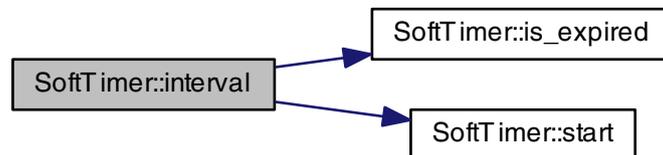
### Parameters

<code>delay_ms</code>	uint16_t Timer delay in milliseconds.
-----------------------	---------------------------------------

**Returns**

bool True if timer has expired.

Here is the call graph for this function:

**5.1.2.2 bool SoftTimer::intervalN ( uint8\_t delay\_ms )**

Return true when timer expires, and restart. 255 ms max.

[is\\_expired\(\)](#) and [startN\(\)](#) combined. See [interval\(\)](#).

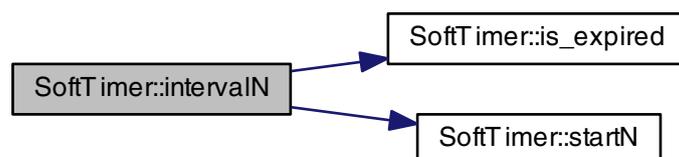
**Parameters**

<i>delay_ms</i>	uint8_t Timer delay in milliseconds.
-----------------	--------------------------------------

**Returns**

bool True if timer has expired.

Here is the call graph for this function:

**5.1.2.3 bool SoftTimer::intervalW ( unsigned long delay\_ms )**

Return true when timer expires, and restart.

[is\\_expired\(\)](#) and [startW\(\)](#) combined. See [interval\(\)](#).

Uses unsigned long instead of uint32\_t because that is what `millis()` uses.

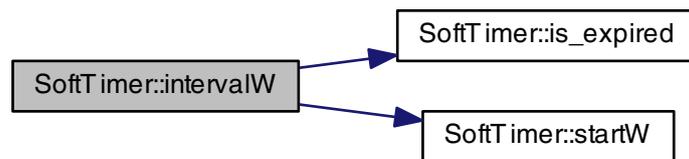
**Parameters**

<i>delay_ms</i>	unsigned long Timer delay in milliseconds.
-----------------	--

**Returns**

bool True if timer has expired.

Here is the call graph for this function:



Here is the caller graph for this function:

**5.1.2.4 bool SoftTimer::is\_expired ( )**

Return true if the timer has expired.

Compares with the current value of `millis()`.

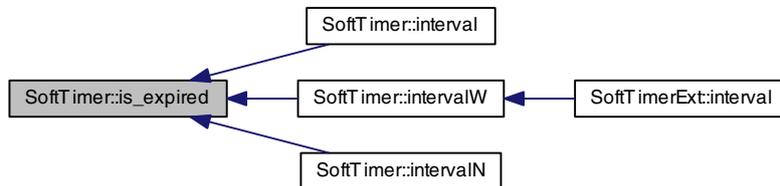
**Note**

The Arduino millisecond counter overflows after 49.7 days. This function fails if the timer's start and finish times cross the overflow.

**Returns**

bool True if timer has expired. Return true for as long as the timer is in the expired state.

Here is the caller graph for this function:

**5.1.2.5 void SoftTimer::start ( uint16\_t delay\_ms )**

Start timer with up to 65535 ms.

Start the timer with a 16 bit (65535 ms max) delay from now.

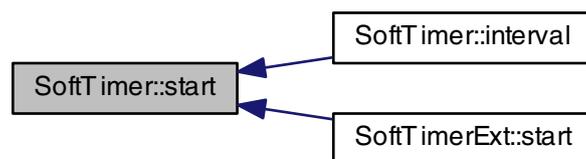
**Parameters**

<i>delay_ms</i>	uint16_t Timer delay in milliseconds.
-----------------	---------------------------------------

**Returns**

void

Here is the caller graph for this function:

**5.1.2.6 void SoftTimer::startN ( uint8\_t delay\_ms )**

Start timer with up to 255 ms.

Start the timer with an 8 bit (narrow, 255 ms max) delay from now.

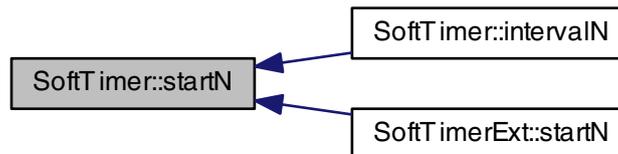
**Parameters**

<i>delay_ms</i>	uint8_t Timer delay in milliseconds.
-----------------	--------------------------------------

**Returns**

void

Here is the caller graph for this function:

**5.1.2.7 void SoftTimer::startW ( unsigned long *delay\_ms* )**

Start timer.

Start the timer with a 32 bit (wide) delay from now.

Uses unsigned long instead of uint32\_t because that is what millis() uses.

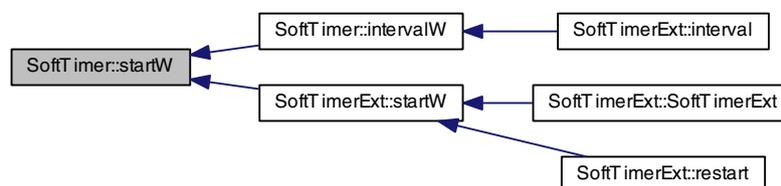
**Parameters**

<i>delay_ms</i>	unsigned long Timer delay in milliseconds.
-----------------	--

**Returns**

void

Here is the caller graph for this function:



The documentation for this class was generated from the following files:

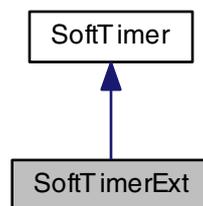
- [SoftTimer.h](#)
- [SoftTimer.cpp](#)

## 5.2 SoftTimerExt Class Reference

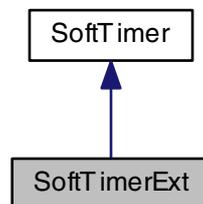
Software timer object with extended features.

```
#include <SoftTimer.h>
```

Inheritance diagram for SoftTimerExt:



Collaboration diagram for SoftTimerExt:



### Public Member Functions

- [SoftTimerExt \(\)](#)  
*Default constructor, does nothing.*
- [SoftTimerExt \(unsigned long delay\\_ms\)](#)  
*Save the timer interval without starting timer.*
- void [restart \(\)](#)  
*Restart timer (that was previously started).*
- bool [interval \(\)](#)  
*Return true when timer expires, and restart.*
- uint32\_t [remaining \(\)](#)  
*Return remaining timer milliseconds.*
- uint32\_t [remaining\\_s \(\)](#)  
*Return remaining timer seconds.*
- uint32\_t [elapsed \(\)](#)  
*Return elapsed milliseconds since (re-)start.*

- `uint32_t elapsed_s ()`  
*Return elapsed seconds since (re-)start.*
- `bool is_new_s ()`  
*Return true if a new second has started since last call.*
- `void start (uint16_t delay_ms)`  
*Same as for [SoftTimer](#).*
- `void startW (unsigned long delay_ms)`  
*Same as for [SoftTimer](#).*
- `void startN (uint8_t delay_ms)`  
*Same as for [SoftTimer](#).*

#### Protected Attributes

- `unsigned long _length_ms`  
*Timer interval in milliseconds.*

#### Private Attributes

- `uint8_t _last_s`  
*Hold the seconds when [is\\_new\\_s\(\)](#) was last called.*

### 5.2.1 Detailed Description

Software timer object with extended features.

The timer can be restarted without having to give the interval again. Elapsed and remaining times are available. Uses more memory.

### 5.2.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

#### 5.2.2.1 `SoftTimerExt::SoftTimerExt ( )`

Default constructor, does nothing.

Empty constructor, but required.

#### 5.2.2.2 `SoftTimerExt::SoftTimerExt ( unsigned long delay_ms )`

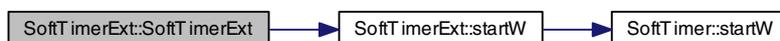
Save the timer interval without starting timer.

Constructor that stores the timer delay (in milliseconds). The timer is not started.

#### Parameters

<code>delay_ms</code>	unsigned long Timer delay in milliseconds.
-----------------------	--

Here is the call graph for this function:



### 5.2.3 Member Function Documentation

#### 5.2.3.1 `uint32_t SoftTimerExt::elapsed ( )`

Return elapsed milliseconds since (re-)start.

##### Returns

`uint32_t` Number of milliseconds since the timer was started.

Here is the caller graph for this function:



#### 5.2.3.2 `uint32_t SoftTimerExt::elapsed_s ( )`

Return elapsed seconds since (re-)start.

Uses integer division.

##### Returns

`uint32_t` Number of seconds since the timer was started.

Here is the call graph for this function:



#### 5.2.3.3 `bool SoftTimerExt::interval ( )`

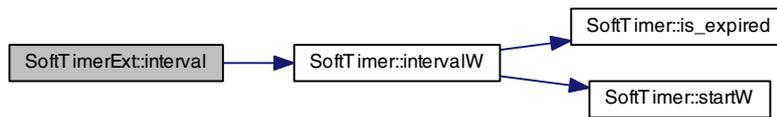
Return true when timer expires, and restart.

Check if the timer has expired, and restart it if it has. Similar to the [SoftTimer](#) interval functions, but [start\(\)](#), [startW\(\)](#), or [startN\(\)](#) must have been called at least once before, as for [restart\(\)](#).

**Returns**

bool True if timer has expired.

Here is the call graph for this function:

**5.2.3.4 bool SoftTimerExt::is\_new\_s ( )**

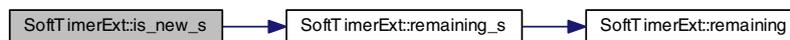
Return true if a new second has started since last call.

Returns true once for each second that has elapsed since the timer was started. This can be used e.g. to show elapsed time on a display, updating every second.

**Returns**

bool True if another second of the timer delay has elapsed.

Here is the call graph for this function:

**5.2.3.5 uint32\_t SoftTimerExt::remaining ( )**

Return remaining timer milliseconds.

**Returns**

uint32\_t Number of milliseconds before the timer expires.

Here is the caller graph for this function:

**5.2.3.6 uint32\_t SoftTimerExt::remaining\_s ( )**

Return remaining timer seconds.

This returns `ceil()` of the remaining seconds. I.e. 0s returns 0, 0.001 .. 1.000s returns 1, 1.001s .. 2.000s returns 2.

Uses integer division.

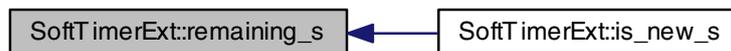
**Returns**

uint32\_t Number of seconds before the timer expires.

Here is the call graph for this function:



Here is the caller graph for this function:

**5.2.3.7 void SoftTimerExt::restart ( )**

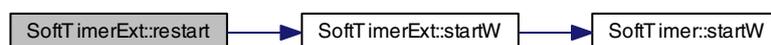
Restart timer (that was previously started).

This function only works correctly if the timer interval has been stored before, by calling [start\(\)](#), [startW\(\)](#), or [startN\(\)](#) at least once before, or using the constructor with delay parameter. The start-functions can be called any time to change the timer delay for subsequent calls to [restart\(\)](#).

**Returns**

void

Here is the call graph for this function:

**5.2.3.8 void SoftTimerExt::start ( uint16\_t delay\_ms )**

Same as for [SoftTimer](#).

Re-implementation, to also store the timer delay for use later.

**Parameters**

<i>delay_ms</i>	uint16_t Timer delay in milliseconds.
-----------------	---------------------------------------

**Returns**

void

Here is the call graph for this function:

**5.2.3.9 void SoftTimerExt::startN ( uint8\_t *delay\_ms* )**

Same as for [SoftTimer](#).

Re-implementation, to also store the timer delay for use later.

**Parameters**

<i>delay_ms</i>	uint8_t Timer delay in milliseconds.
-----------------	--------------------------------------

**Returns**

void

Here is the call graph for this function:

**5.2.3.10 void SoftTimerExt::startW ( unsigned long *delay\_ms* )**

Same as for [SoftTimer](#).

Re-implementation, to also store the timer delay for use later.

**Parameters**

<i>delay_ms</i>	unsigned long Timer delay in milliseconds.
-----------------	--

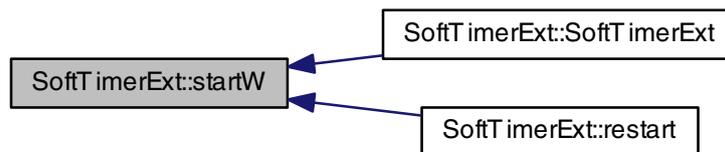
**Returns**

void

Here is the call graph for this function:



Here is the caller graph for this function:



The documentation for this class was generated from the following files:

- [SoftTimer.h](#)
- [SoftTimer.cpp](#)

## 6 File Documentation

### 6.1 mainpage\_doxygen.h File Reference

Content of the index page for the doxygen documentation.

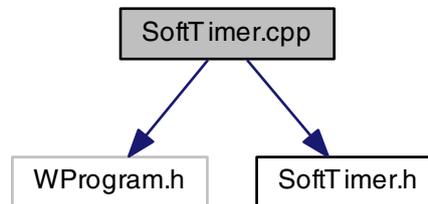
#### 6.1.1 Detailed Description

Content of the index page for the doxygen documentation.

### 6.2 SoftTimer.cpp File Reference

[SoftTimer](#) - Arduino library for simple timers.

```
#include <WProgram.h>
#include "SoftTimer.h"
Include dependency graph for SoftTimer.cpp:
```



### 6.2.1 Detailed Description

[SoftTimer](#) - Arduino library for simple timers.

#### Description

Provide a simple, quick to use timer object. No hardware timer or interrupt is used. Less code to type, and shorter programs because of not having to pepper comparisons with `millis()` everywhere.

Developed with Arduino IDE 1.6.10. May not run on Arduino 0.X.

#### TODO

#### Author

Volker Kuhlmann

<http://volker.top.geek.nz/contact.html>

#### Download

<http://volker.top.geek.nz/arduino/>

#### Copyright

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#### History

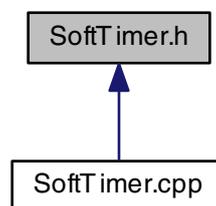
- v1.0, 24 Aug 2016 Volker Kuhlmann
  - Initial version. Based on code in a project from 19 Aug 2016.
- v1.1, 25 Aug 2016 Volker Kuhlmann
  - Add missing `intervalS()`. Change unsigned short to explicit `uint8_t`.
  - Add example.
- v1.2, 05 Sep 2016 Volker Kuhlmann
  - Rename from `SimpleTimer` to [SoftTimer](#).

- Rename startS/intervalS to startN/intervalN, for Narrow / Wide.
- Add [SoftTimerExt](#).
- v1.3, 09 Sep 2016 Volker Kuhlmann
  - Add interval().
- v1.4, 13 Sep 2016 Volker Kuhlmann
  - Doxygen comments.

### 6.3 SoftTimer.h File Reference

[SoftTimer](#) - Arduino library for simple software timers.

This graph shows which files directly or indirectly include this file:



#### Classes

- class [SoftTimer](#)  
*Software timer object.*
- class [SoftTimerExt](#)  
*Software timer object with extended features.*

#### 6.3.1 Detailed Description

[SoftTimer](#) - Arduino library for simple software timers.

##### Description

Provide a simple, quick to use timer object. No hardware timer or interrupt is used. Less code to type, and shorter programs because of not having to pepper comparisons with millis() everywhere.

Developed with Arduino IDE 1.6.10. May not run on Arduino 0.X.

#### TODO

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## History

- v1.0, 24 Aug 2016 Volker Kuhlmann
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  - Add example.
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  - Rename from SimpleTimer to [SoftTimer](#).
  - Rename startS/intervalS to startN/intervalN, for Narrow / Wide.
  - Add [SoftTimerExt](#).
- v1.3, 09 Sep 2016 Volker Kuhlmann
  - Add interval().
- v1.4, 13 Sep 2016 Volker Kuhlmann
  - Doxygen comments.