

# Chronographs - Continued

## Greetings Watch Guys (and Gals).

This email contains pictures, if you cannot receive email in HTML format and want to see any specific pictures, just give me a shout and I'll send them to you. If you do not wish to receive future emails, please respond to this one with the word "remove" in the subject line.

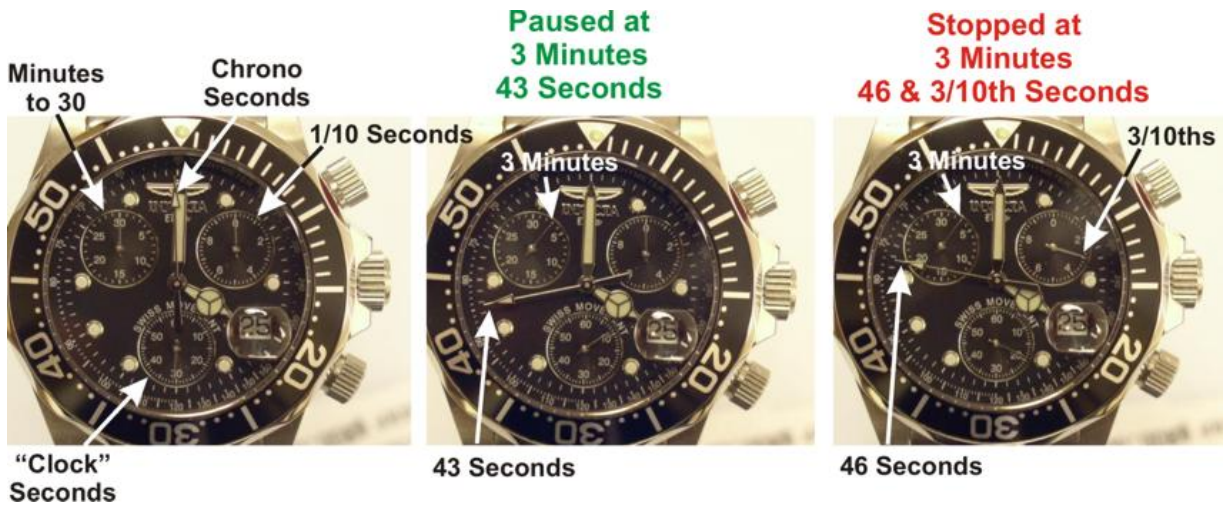
## More Chronograph Ramblings

In all honesty, I originally wrote this as one looooooong email. Upon review, I realized that I am simply too fond of our clients to subject any of you to that much gibberish at one sitting.

## So who uses a chronograph?

In the early 1900s, chronographs were used mainly by the military and people involved in sport. Professionally, they had to be able to measure the time of certain events accurately. There were also the early aviators for whom a good chronograph was a virtual necessity. I touched on pilot chronographs in an earlier email (*let me know if you missed that one, or intentionally blocked it from your memory and I'll be glad to re-send it to you*) and of course chronographs and stopwatches are still an important tool at sporting events. There are various engineering and scientific uses for chronographs. The wrist-born chronograph has largely been replaced by industry-specific digital tools in these areas. I guess the question is really who do we associate with chronographs? The list (*for most of us*) would include the astronauts of Apollo 13, race car drivers (*Paul Newman for instance*), famous pilots (*such as Charles Lindberg*), among others. Pretty good company I'd say.

Let's take a look at the most common modern chronograph configuration. The watch pictured below is typical. It displays continuous seconds in the sub-dial at the 6:00 position, chronograph minutes up to 30 in the sub-dial at the 10:00 position, chronograph seconds at the center hand, and 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a second in the sub-dial at the 2:00 position. The top plunger starts, pauses, and stops the chronograph and the bottom plunger re-sets the chronograph to zero. A little known element of most quartz movement chronographs is that they can be easily "re-zeroed" if the reset goes off at all. Though the specific functions vary by model, one pulls the crown out to the first position or "click" and the plungers may move one of the chronograph indicators around its circle of display. Repeat this with the crown pulled out to the second click. Most quartz chronographs can be brought back to an accurately aligned "zero" by this method.

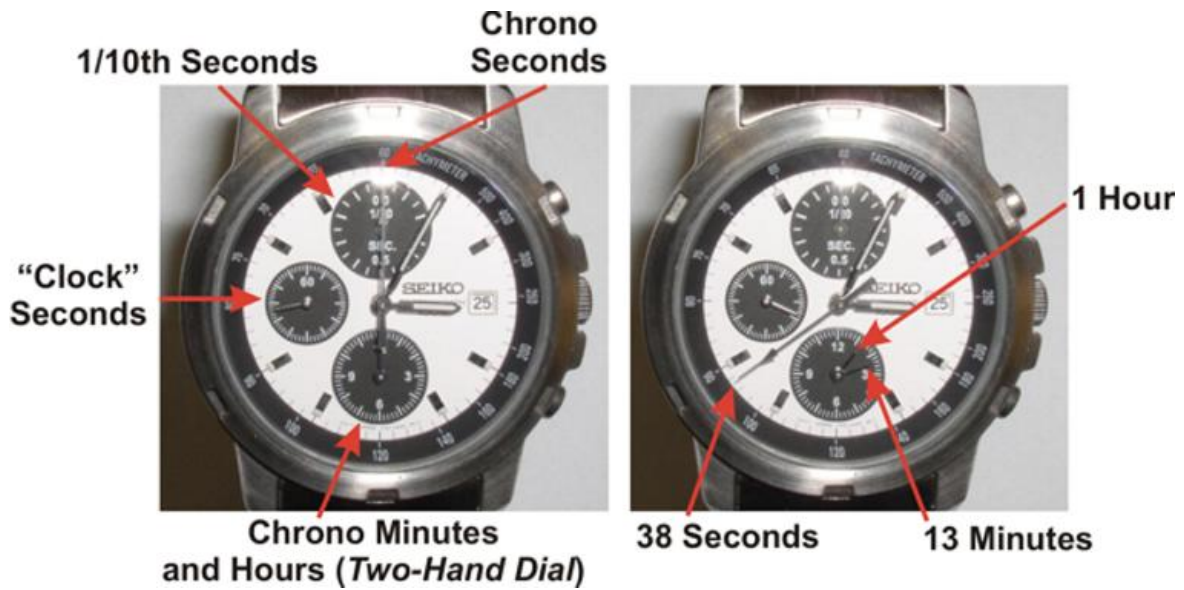


***Chronographs that measure more than 60 minutes.***

A big part of what prompted this email subject was the increase in inquiries we have been receiving about chronographs that will track more than hour of elapsed time. By a pretty wide margin, most chronographs available today are of the variety shown above. But of course we exist to serve our client’s wishes and offer several chronographs of the “hours” variety. The watch shown below features a mechanical self-winding movement and displays elapsed hours in ½ hour increments in the sub-dial at the 6:00 position. It *is*, however, about \$500. Compared to other mechanical chronographs, that’s a great value.... But it’s still \$500.



The watch shown below is a Seiko that has an interesting way of displaying elapsed hours and minutes. The sub-dial at the 6:00 position has two hands, one for minutes, one for hours. The sub-dial at the 12:00 position displays 1/10<sup>th</sup> seconds. This watch is about \$140.



My current favourite chronograph is a Swiss quartz model from Wenger. It's a little pricey at about \$300, but it has some fantastic features and is *very* well made. The sub-dial at the 9:00 position has two hands and two rings making it easy to read elapsed hours and minutes. It also has a "big-date" display in dual windows at the 6:00 position. The display jumps from 31 to 01, not to 32 as is the case on so many watches with this type of display.



What do you use your chronograph for?

In my work as an Engineer, I often use a chronograph for timing machine functions as well as human factors analysis. Of course I really do time my commute (*having a "job" to do helps reduce frustration*). Has anyone else ever timed their microwave to see if it's accurate? Oh, it's just me then.

Thanks again for your support of our sites. We truly appreciate your comments and feedback.

*David Harrington*

[www.InvictaGuys.com](http://www.InvictaGuys.com)

[david@harringtonbusinessgroup.com](mailto:david@harringtonbusinessgroup.com)

[dharrin302@aol.com](mailto:dharrin302@aol.com)

(651) 645-7041

(651) 286-2670 - FAX