Nouveau Aurora by ChronoArt

(Another of Barry's Clock Dreams)

Attention: Nouveau Aurora features time keeping while power has been off. So when you receive it you may only have to set the hour.

What is Nouveau Aurora?

It is different for everyone. It's kinetic art, it's a conversation starter, it's playful, it's an hourly chime clock, and the colors are a wonderful surprise each time you look. I have been creating wonderful art clocks for 49 years. Enjoy.

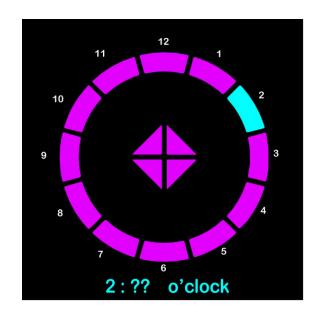
Why did I design the **Nouveau Aurora**? Each creation has a different goal. My goal was to create something very colorful like an Aurora, much less expensive, easy to read the time, and as always – fun!

Barry Gamble

HOW TO READ THE TIME?

Nouveau Aurora (let's call it **NA**) has a circle of 12 segments, just like a normal clock.

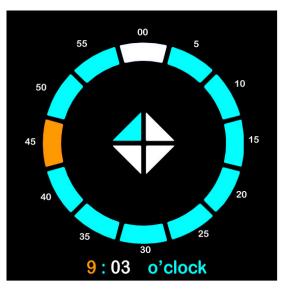
Let's start with — reading the hour. When you look at the 12 hour locations one is a different color – that is the hour.



You will also see one that is normally white, and the other 10 areas a background color See below.

Next look at the location of the white segment, that is the fives-of-minute. And finally, to read the time to the minute look at the center diamond of 4 segments. Each white is 1 an additional minute. So the time in the diagram is 2:52

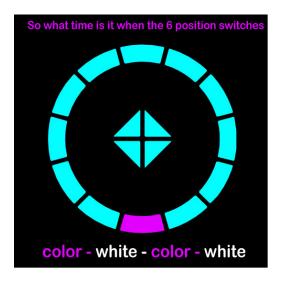




And there is more. See later – Reading the Seconds.

WATCHING

Watch it for a few minutes just to enjoy and learn. Notice how the hour and background change color. Notice how the minutes advance. And especially notice what happens when the hours and fives want to use the same segment.



The time above is 6:30 Okay, now let's move along from watching to....SETTING.

SETTING THE HOUR

Look on the back. The Hour Set Switch is in the upper left corner. Push in and hold. The hours will march around the face. There is a chirp sound with each hour advance.

SETTING THE MINUTES

Note, using another clock that displays the seconds accurately can be useful.

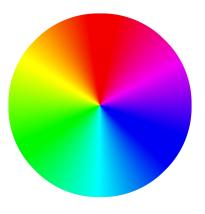
The Minutes Set Switch is just to the right of the Hours Set Switch. Hold in the Minute Set Switch. You can watch the minutes advance.

When setting the minutes, each minute advance also *resets* the seconds to zero. So, if you wait until 00 seconds to advance it the final Minute, the hourly chime will be more precise.

Tip: You can speed up minute setting knowing a trick — if you hold in both the Minute & Mode switches together, minutes will — go backwards. Let's go back to reading the time...

Reading the Seconds & the Color of the Background?

The background color is actually an approximate second hand. See color wheel.



From 0 to 20 seconds the background will step from red thru magentas to blue — the next 20 seconds from blue thru aquas to green — and then completing the color wheel from green - lime - yellow - gold/orange and back to red.

A COMMENT (Preliminary Possibility)

The hourly chime for now has no display. When I started this design keeping the price down was one of my goals. I removed two parts that has limited my programming design choices. So far there is no easy way to have the clock both chime and have a display at the same time. But I have some good ideas to try. I am at working to fix this. My fingers are crossed.



SELECTABLE FEATURES:

HOURLY CHIME ON/OFF (a toggle)

Push in both the HOUR & MINUTE switches. A chirp sound means you just turned the chime OFF. A ding means you just turned the chime ON.

SETTING THE DISPLAY BRIGHTNESS

This feature is desirable for bedside use. There are 6 levels of brightness. If you hold in both the Hour Switch and the Mode Switch together, the display will dim in steps. When it gets to minimum brightness on the next step it will hop to maximum brightness and start down again.

TO FREEZE/STOP COLOR CHANGING

Some of you may want to stop the color changing on some favorite color, or on colors that are easier to see the time.

To do this push in the MODE switch on the back. Release when you hear the "chirp" sound. This function is a toggle action. So it you push it again it will hop back to color changing.

CLOCK'S ACCURACY & POWER FAILURES

As long as the power stays on it should not gain or lose time. The power company may allow it to wander 10 seconds now and then, but it always gets corrected. If power fails, the display will turn off, and **NA** will keep time using a crystal and a lithium coin cell battery for power. This should help with those power failures you get when there is a lightning strike in your area. The battery should last 6-9 months of keeping time with power off.

TROUBLES

On rare occasions, with a power failure, the face will stay dark when power returns. You may have to remove the coin cell lithium battery and unplug it for 30 minutes or even an hour for the **NA**'s microprocessor to get an orderly startup. My apologies for this nuisance. It happens so rarely that it is hard to find the reason. Weird.

WARRANTY & REPAIR

Your **NA** is guaranteed against defects, under normal use, for one year from the date of purchase. The warranty covers parts and labor and shipping back to you. All repairs are handled directly by the factory. Please call or email me with any problems. If you email and send any *attachments* (like photos) with an email, be aware that your email could end up in a SPAM, or JUNK folder and I may never see it. You can call me to say you just sent an email. Or, send me a separate email, without any attachments that says, "*See my other email*" and then I will look for the first one.

Having fun YET?



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