

DGT 1002: A small but great chess clock

In this review, we examined the chess clock DGT1002 of the Dutch firm DGT, leader in chess clocks and official partner of the International Chess Federation (FIDE).

Any chess player knows that there are chess clocks from this brand in every important tournament, being the most widespread model the DGT2010, whose PVP is around 70 – 80 euros.

The main advantage of this small clock, whose price is around 20 - 30 euros, is the option of using increments ("bonus"), a function usually reserved for more high-end clocks.

In a few seconds, you can easily set the common time controls used in most open tournaments, such as 90 minutes plus 30 seconds per move, as well as the most common blitz and rapid time controls.

It is important to note that it does not support partial time controls, such as the usual one in move 40, which is used in tournaments of a certain level, nor does it allow a different time control for each player, although this does not seem to be a very relevant factor.

The clock is intuitively manipulated with four easy-access buttons at the top. When turned on, it shows the base time, and the power button has to be pressed once more to set the "bonus".

The design is very accomplished, in its simplicity, and it is comfortable to use, with two big buttons at the top, like buzzers.

It is on the DGT1002 screen that you can tell the difference with its high range siblings. It looks perfect from the front, but when placed in a 90-degree angle, depending on the brightness, we have to advance slightly to see it with total clarity. Even so, the visibility is correct, and unless we are in a time scramble it will not be a great inconvenience.

An intermittent flag clearly and unequivocally points out who has lost on time, and in the tests performed, the playing experience has been satisfactory. The clock warns with an icon on the screen if the battery is low, and DGT ensures that even then it would last for several long games.

To sum up, it is a product with good performance and a great value for money. Totally recommended.

DATA SHEET

Rating: 5 stars ★★★★★

Box contents

- Chess clock DGT 1002.
- A cylindrical AA battery.
- Instruction manual in several languages.

Technical specifications

- Screen: 115 x 17 mm.
- Size: 155 x 60 x 42 ".
- Weight: 105 g. (with battery).
- Casing: ABS plastic (various colors).
- Time deviation: Less than one second per hour.

What we liked

- **PRICE**
Very cheap, unprecedented for what it offers.
- **PERFORMANCE**
Possibility of setting tournament time controls.
- **SIMPLICITY**
Easy to use and manual included.
- **DESIGN**
Nice appearance and rugged housing.
- **PORTABILITY**
Lightweight and hard case, easy to carry.
- **WARRANTY**
2 years of coverage of the leading brand DGT.

Aspects to improve

- **SCREEN**
A little bit small and a fair amount of contrast.
- **BUTTONS**
Being flat, you cannot distinguish well who has pressed the clock.

Recommended for

- **CHESS FOR KIDS**
The price, size and resistance make it a perfect clock for children.
- **TOURNAMENTS WITH A LOW BUDGET**
If the Money is a factor, this is a good option.
- **FRIENDLY GAMES**
At home or at the club, it fulfils its role perfectly.

