



- The system may be susceptible to some potential radio-frequency interference.
- Adjacent wireless systems (in the same condominium building, for instance) must be carefully configured to avoid potential interference with each other.

23.3.3 User interface

There are many different ways for home automation users to interact with the system to give commands (“Turn on living room lights 75%”, “Show last 10 people who entered the home”, “Increase heat to 21°C”, “Run playlist romantic music in living room”, etc.). All systems display a menu of some form or other that allows the user to select any feature by selecting a top-level menu item, then “drilling down” to more specific choices. The various means of user interface are as follows:

- Wall-mounted keypad—a dedicated keypad with buttons or a touch-sensitive screen that displays the menu options (Figure 23.6).
- Wireless touchscreen—a tabletop Wi-Fi touchscreen, typically 25 cm (10 in.) or so in size that can be hand-carried around the home.
- Handheld remote—a specialized universal remote control that replaces all other remotes in the home, and allows full control of the home automation via a small LCD screen on the remote.
- Television—automation menu is displayed on the household TV set, and the specialized remote is used to control the system (Figure 23.7).
- PDA (personal digital assistant—handheld computer)—used to display the main menu and select options.

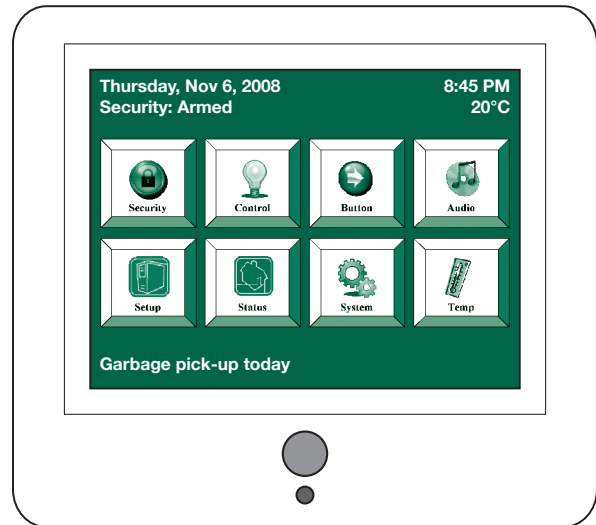


Figure 23.6 Wall-mounted keypad

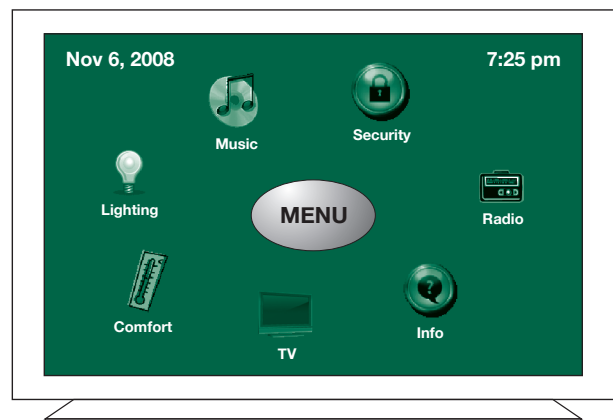


Figure 23.7 Television interface

A typical automated home has at least one wall-mounted touchscreen in the primary living area, one or two smaller keypads in other rooms, and a remote or other portable, wireless control device.