Password-Protected Security System Using Arduino

Project Overview

This project is a **Password-Protected Security System** that employs an **Arduino Uno**, a **4x4 Keypad**, **LEDs**, and a **Piezo Buzzer**. The system allows users to enter a **4-character password**, which is automatically validated upon entry. If the input matches the predefined password, access is granted (indicated by a green LED and a short buzzer beep). If incorrect, access is denied (indicated by a red LED and a long buzzer beep). This system enhances security for doors, lockers, or other restricted areas.

Components Used

1. Arduino Uno

- A microcontroller board based on the ATmega328P with 14 digital I/O pins, 6 analog inputs, and a 16 MHz quartz crystal.
- o Features **USB connectivity** for programming and serial communication.
- Uses the **Arduino IDE** for coding and can interact with various sensors and modules.
- o Processes input from the keypad and triggers output components accordingly.

2. 4x4 Keypad

- o A **matrix keypad** with **16 keys** (0-9, A-D, *, and #).
- Used to enter the password.
- o Works by detecting the row-column short-circuit when a key is pressed.
- Requires pull-down resistors or built-in pull-up configuration to stabilize inputs.
- Communicates with Arduino using digital pins in a matrix scanning method.

3. LEDs (Red & Green)

- o **Green LED** signals successful authentication.
- o **Red LED** signals incorrect password entry.
- Low power consumption with a forward voltage of around 2V (Red) and 3V (Green).
- o Requires **current-limiting resistors** to prevent burnout.

4. Piezo Buzzer

- o Provides audible feedback based on authentication results.
- Uses the piezoelectric effect to generate sound upon receiving an electrical signal.
- Can be controlled using PWM (Pulse Width Modulation) for different sound patterns.
- o Operates at a typical voltage of **3V-12V**.

5. Resistors (220 Ω)

- Used to **limit current** to the LEDs, preventing damage.
- o Ensures stable operation by reducing excessive current draw.
- o Calculated using **Ohm's Law (V = IR)** to determine the correct resistance.

6. Breadboard

- o A tool for **prototyping** the circuit without soldering.
- Enables easy component connections.
- Has a **grid-like structure** with interconnected rows and columns for placing electronic components.
- o Helps in **circuit debugging and modifications** before permanent soldering.

7. Jumper Wires

- Used for connecting different components to the Arduino board.
- o Available in male-to-male, male-to-female, and female-to-female types.
- Essential for making quick connections between the Arduino, keypad, and other components.
- Typically made from copper wires with plastic insulation to ensure flexibility and durability.

Working Principle

- 1. The user enters a **4-character password** via the **4x4 Keypad**.
- 2. Each keypress is detected and sent to the **Arduino Uno**.
- 3. Once **four characters** are entered, the Arduino automatically compares them to the predefined password.
- 4. If the password is correct:
 - o The **green LED** turns on.
 - o The buzzer emits a short beep.
 - o (Optional) A relay or servo motor can be triggered to unlock a door.

5. If the password is incorrect:

- o The **red LED** turns on.
- o The buzzer emits a long beep.
- o The system resets and allows a new attempt.

Applications

- Home security systems (Door locks, safes, cabinets)
- **Industrial security** (Restricted access zones)
- Educational projects (Learning microcontrollers and embedded systems)

This project demonstrates a practical **access control mechanism** using an Arduino and basic electronic components. It can be extended to include **LCD displays**, **RFID authentication**, or **IoT connectivity** for enhanced security features.