

Mega Security System - Technical Documentation

1. Executive Summary

The Mega Security System firmware transforms an Arduino Mega 2560 with Ethernet Shield into a fully functional, smart-home integrated alarm system. It supports traditional wired sensors, an alarm panel relay output, entry/exit delays with audible buzzer feedback, EEPROM-persisted zone configuration, and a web-based UI for control. It integrates seamlessly with Home Assistant via MQTT for state monitoring and remote control.

2. System Architecture

The system is modular for ease of maintenance:

- Zones.cpp/h: Reads zone sensors, manages EEPROM storage for zone descriptions/bypass, triggers alarm logic.
- MQTTHandler.cpp/h: Manages MQTT connection, subscriptions, publishes states and events.
- Countdown.cpp/h: Handles entry/exit delay countdowns with buzzer feedback.
- WebEndpoints.cpp/h: Implements password-protected HTTP endpoints for configuration and control.
- WebServer.h: Stores minified HTML/JS/CSS for the /zones configuration page.
- AlarmStates.h: Defines constants for alarm states and global alarm state variable.
- credentials.h: Stores network, MQTT, and login settings.

The firmware loop continuously polls zones, processes MQTT messages, updates countdown timers, and serves HTTP requests.

3. Hardware Requirements & Wiring

Required Components:

- Arduino Mega 2560
- Ethernet Shield (W5100 or W5500)
- Magnetic contact sensors or motion detectors
- Piezo buzzer (Pin 6)
- Relay module (Pin 5)

Pin Mapping for 16 zones (expandable):

Zone 1: 22 | Zone 9: 30
Zone 2: 23 | Zone 10: 31
Zone 3: 24 | Zone 11: 32
Zone 4: 25 | Zone 12: 33
Zone 5: 26 | Zone 13: 34
Zone 6: 27 | Zone 14: 35
Zone 7: 28 | Zone 15: 36
Zone 8: 29 | Zone 16: 37

Buzzer: Pin 6

Alarm Relay Output: Pin 5 (active LOW)

Ensure pull-up resistors or INPUT_PULLUP mode is used for normally closed sensors.
Connect Ethernet Shield to router/switch with CAT5/6 cable.

4. Software Requirements

- Arduino IDE 1.8.x or newer
- Ethernet3 or UIPEthernet library (depending on shield)
- PubSubClient library

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- ArduinoJson library

Compile mega-security-eth_FINAL_PRO.ino with all module files in the same project folder.

Update credentials.h before compiling to set IP address, MQTT broker info, and login credentials.

5. Setup Instructions

1. Wire all sensors, buzzer, and relay as per Section 3.
2. Edit credentials.h with correct IP, network, MQTT broker, and credentials.
3. Compile and upload the firmware to Arduino Mega.
4. Access web UI via `http://<device-ip>/zones` and log in.
5. Set zone descriptions, bypass where needed, click Save All.
6. Integrate with Home Assistant using `home_assistant_config.yaml`.

6. Web Interface Guide

Login: Use WEB_ADMIN_ID and WEB_ADMIN_PASSWORD from credentials.h

Zone Table:

- Description: Editable text name for each zone.
- Bypass: Checkbox to exclude a zone from arming logic.

Color Codes:

- Red: Zone triggered
- Yellow: Zone bypassed
- White: Zone clear

Buttons:

- Save All: Write all changes to EEPROM
- Toggle Test Mode: Enable/disable alarm triggering (logs only)
- Reboot: Restart the controller
- Toggle Theme: Switch between light and dark mode

The table auto-refreshes every 2 seconds with live status updates.

7. Home Assistant Integration

Import `home_assistant_config.yaml` into HA configuration.yaml.

Entities:

- `alarm_control_panel.mega_security`: Full arming/disarming control
- `sensor.alarm_countdown`: Shows seconds remaining
- `binary_sensor.alarm_test_mode`: Test Mode status
- `binary_sensor.zone_<n>`: Per-zone sensors
- `sensor.last_triggered_zone`: Last zone to trigger alarm

Add Lovelace alarm-panel card for user-friendly control.

Automations can use MQTT topics for advanced behavior.

8. Alarm Operation Logic

States:

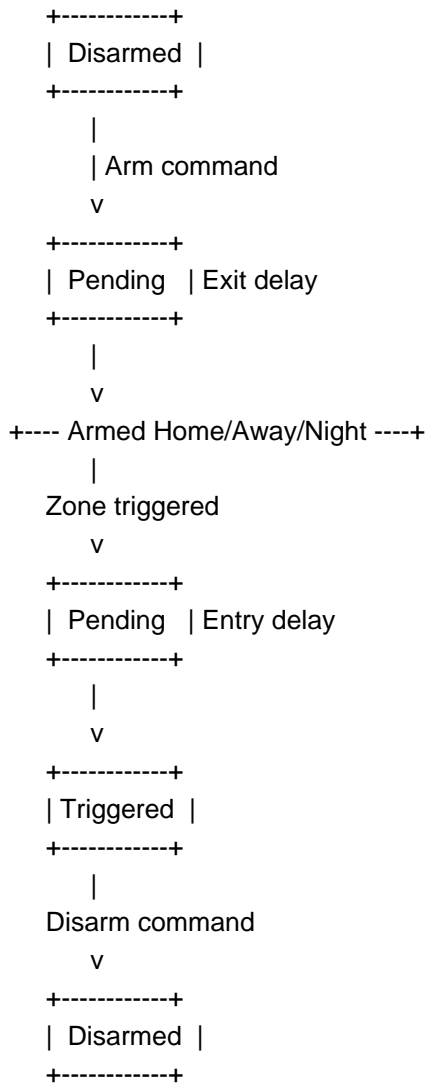
- Disarmed
- Pending (exit delay)
- Armed (Home/Away/Night)
- Pending (entry delay)
- Triggered

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Flow:

Disarmed -> (arm command) -> Pending (exit delay) -> Armed mode -> (zone trip) -> Pending (entry delay) -> Triggered -> (disarm) -> Disarmed

State Machine Diagram:



9. MQTT API Specification

Topic	Direction	Payload Example	Description
home/alarm	Pub	armed_home	Current alarm state
home/alarm/set	Sub	arm_away	Command to change alarm state
home/alarm/countdown	Pub	25	Seconds remaining in countdown
home/alarm/test_mode	Pub	on	Test mode status
home/alarm/zones	Pub	{"total_zones":16,"zones":[...]}	JSON array of all zones
home/alarm/zone/<n>	Pub	triggered	State of individual zone
home/alarm/last_trigger	Pub	{"zone":3,"desc":"Garage","time":"14:35:22"}	Last zone triggered

10. EEPROM Layout

Each zone:

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- 20 bytes: ASCII description (null-padded)
 - 1 byte: Bypass flag (0/1)
- Offset = zone_index * 21

11. Maintenance & Troubleshooting

- No MQTT updates: Check broker IP/port and network cables
- No Web UI access: Confirm IP address, LAN connectivity
- Zones always triggered: Check sensor wiring and pull-up configuration
- Settings not saved: Check EEPROM write logic and power cycle

12. Security Best Practices

- Change default WEB_ADMIN_ID and WEB_ADMIN_PASSWORD
- Use unique MQTT username/password
- Restrict device to LAN or VLAN segment
- Consider TLS-secured MQTT broker

13. Commissioning Checklist

- All zones wired and detected in UI
- Zone descriptions set and bypass flags configured
- MQTT connection confirmed
- Alarm arms/disarms from both UI and Home Assistant
- Exit delay buzzer works
- Entry delay triggers alarm
- Test Mode disables triggering
- Relay output activates alarm panel
- Settings persist after power cycle
- Reboot button functions correctly