

GARAGE DOOR CONTROL
on the interfaceGO NK8 & NK8-PC

Please see my article here on how to control and monitor your garage doors using the ISY and a Simplehomenet EZIO2x4 module:

<http://forums.interfacego.com/viewtopic.php?f=8&t=19>

The following is for informational purposes only. Great consideration should be given to controlling something as critical as your garage door with any home automation product. An unintentional opening of your garage door could increase the likelihood of an intruder gaining access to your home. On the other hand, the ability to monitor and control your garage door from a remote location can clearly improve security. Please consider all possibilities carefully before moving forward with a project of this type.

This information is not meant to be a complete guide to implementing a project like this. It is only meant to relay some of my own personal experiences, in hopes that it will help someone else already considering a similar project.

Please be aware that by proceeding, you are doing so COMPLETELY at your own risk.

Monitoring and controlling your garage doors using the NK8 touch panel couldn't be easier. To start, let's create a widget that will allow us to monitor the status of a garage door. In the Config Utility, drag and drop an "Input Output" widget onto your interface. Then drag and drop your Garage Door Input 1 device onto the widget. Choose the widget icon you prefer under the widget's properties. Most people would probably use the "garage_red" widget - this will show a red indicator light if the door is open. Please check the "Status Only" box under "Behavior" since this widget will be only be used to see the status of the door, NOT control it.



Next, let's create a button that will operate the door. Drag and drop a "Command" widget onto the interface, then drag and drop your Garage Door Relay 1 device onto the widget. Since this is a "Command" widget, we need to choose which command will be sent to the device when the widget is pressed. For our purposes, please choose the command "ON". To operate a garage door, we only need the relay to be turned ON momentarily. No need to worry - if you followed the ISY article linked above you will have created a program to automatically turn the relay back off.



At this point, we have a widget to show us the status of our garage door, and a widget just below it that will control the garage door. To complete my configuration, I went ahead and duplicated these steps using my Garage Door Input 2 device and Garage Door Relay 2 device to give me the same capabilities with my 2nd garage door. I also added the ability to control my garage lights within this same page of my touch panel interface.



Once complete, our live interface should look like this:



Since I'm using the "illumination" feature of the NK8 software, a quick glance at my touch panel's home screen will tell me if something needs my attention in the garage. If my garage folder is "illuminated", I'll know that either the light was left on, or that one of the doors was left open. With the NK8, I now have the ability to correct this from anywhere in my home - or even away from home!

