display. The system also includes instructions stored in the memory and acted upon by the processor to render on the touch screen display one of multiple dial pad configurations that utilizes either the touch screen display or the accelerometer in order to dial a phone number. The instructions might direct the processor to render on the touch screen display a rotary dial pad and to dial digits selected by a user using the rotary dial pad. Alternatively, the instructions may direct the processor to dial digits written using a finger or a stylus on the touch pad display. The instructions may also direct the processor to dial digits written by the portable electronic device being waved in the air in the shapes of the desired digits.

[0055] A further embodiment is a computer medium that comprises a software module to perform a method of dialing a telephone number using a portable electronic device. The medium includes instructions for selecting a first dial pad configuration for dialing telephone numbers using the portable electronic device. The first dial pad configuration is selected from more than one configuration embedded in a memory of the portable electronic device. In the case where the first dial pad configuration is a rotary dial pad configuration, a touch screen display is used. A touch screen display is also used in the case where the first dial pad configuration is a writing zone and wherein a finger or a stylus is used to write the desired digits on the touch screen display. The display is optionally a capacitive touch screen display. An accelerometer is used when the first dial pad configuration requires the user of the portable electronic device to wave the device in the air as if to write the desired digits.

[0056] Yet another embodiment includes a method of dialing a telephone number using a portable electronic device using a touch screen display. The display is optionally a capacitive touch screen display. The method includes selecting a first dial pad configuration for dialing telephone numbers using the portable electronic device. The first dial pad configuration is selected from more than one configuration embedded in a memory of the portable electronic device. The first dial pad configuration may either be a rotary dial pad configuration or a writing zone and wherein a finger or a stylus is used to write the desired digits on the touch screen display.

[0057] A further embodiment includes a method of dialing a telephone number using a portable electronic device using an accelerometer. The method includes waving the device in the air in motions that correspond to digits to be dialed by the portable electronic device.

[0058] Other examples, embodiments and applications related to the above description but not heretofore explained in detail are nevertheless considered pertinent and are to be considered within the scope of the following claims.

What is claimed as new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A portable electronic device comprising:
a display;
a communication system that allows the portable electronic device to send and receive wireless communications; and
a first embedded dial pad configuration selected from more than one dial pad configuration stored in a memory of the portable electronic device, the first dial pad configuration enabling a user of the portable electronic device to dial and call a telephone number using the display and the communication system.

2. The device of claim **1**, wherein the display is a capacitive touch screen display.

3. The device of claim **2**, wherein the first dial pad configuration is a virtual rotary dial pad on the display.

4. The device of claim **2**, wherein the first dial pad configuration is a writing zone on the display, and the telephone number is input by interpreting symbols written in the writing zone.

5. The device of claim **4**, wherein the symbols are digits.

6. The device of claim **1**, further comprising an accelerometer.

7. The device of claim **6**, wherein the first dial pad configuration requires that the device be waved in the shape of digits to be dialed.

8. The device of claim **6**, wherein the first dial pad configuration requires that the device be waved in motions that the device associates with digits to be dialed.

9. A method of dialing a telephone number using a portable electronic device, the method comprising:
selecting a first dial pad configuration for dialing telephone numbers using the portable electronic device, the first dial pad configuration being selected from more than one configuration embedded in a memory of the portable electronic device.

10. The method of claim **9**, wherein the selected first dial pad configuration is a rotary dial pad configuration.

11. The method of claim **10**, further comprising using a capacitive touch screen display to display the virtual rotary dial pad and to input a dialed telephone number based on movements of the virtual rotary dial pad.

12. The method of claim **11**, wherein inputting a dialed telephone number comprises determining that a desired digit on the rotary dial pad has been dragged in a predetermined direction to a stopping point on the pad.

13. The method of claim **9**, wherein the selected first dial pad configuration is a writing zone on a capacitive touch screen display.

14. The method of claim **13**, wherein dialing a telephone number comprises determining that a desired digit was written on the capacitive touch screen display.

15. The method of claim **9**, wherein the selected first dial pad configuration requires the portable electronic device to be moved in a manner corresponding to a digit.

16. The method of claim **15**, further comprising using an accelerometer to determine motion of the portable electronic device.

17. A system for using hardware of a portable electronic device to dial a telephone number, the system comprising:
a portable electronic device that includes a capacitive touch screen display, a processor, a memory and an accelerometer; and
instructions stored in the memory and acted upon by the processor to render on the capacitive touch screen display one of multiple embedded dial pad configurations that utilize either the capacitive touch screen display or the accelerometer to dial a phone number.

18. The system of claim **17**, wherein the instructions direct the processor to render a rotary dial pad on the capacitive touch screen display and to input and dial digits using the rotary dial pad.

19. The system of claim **17**, wherein the instructions direct the processor to input and dial digits written on the capacitive touch screen display.

20. The system of claim **17**, wherein the instructions direct the processor to input and dial digits based on movements of the portable electronic device that correspond to the digits to be dialed.

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