

# **Free Maps for Garmin GPS**

## **Requirements**

- Free Maps for Garmin GPS device
- Free Maps for Garmin BaseCamp

A map for the device must be a single image file (.img or .IMG) with the filename prefix 8 chars long.

A map for BaseCamp can be an image file on the device, an image file on a USB or 'installed'. Either solution can work but the install involves the Windows registry etc.

So for consistency the best solution is:

- Store all of the downloads and img files on the PC
- Copy the maps of interest to a USB – BaseCamp will detect and load the maps – img files can be copied to the SD card for the device

## **Map sources**

For walking or cycling level of detail:

- OpenMaps the world
- OpenMtbMap / OpenVeloMap

Other maps:

[https://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/OSM\\_Map\\_On\\_Garmin/Download](https://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/OSM_Map_On_Garmin/Download)

## **Map types**

The final appearance of the map is determined by what map type is used. Different types are suitable for Garmin devices and BaseCamp

- When downloading from OpenMaps (the world) a choice will be offered before downloading
- When downloading from OpenMtbMap the choice can be made after download.

## **OpenMaps**

1. Go to <http://garmin.openstreetmap.nl>
2. Select manual tile selection, select the required tiles, and typ = Routable cycle map
3. Download map. If map small download may happen immediately otherwise it will be done in the background and you'll be notified by email when its ready
4. From the downloads access the [...]zip file, extract the IMG file
5. Rename the file to something unique in the format [8chars].IMG
6. Copy the file into a folder entitled GARMIN on any PC drive, suggest a USB
7. Start JaVaWa Device Manager, it will find all Garmin image maps in all drive letters with a folder GARMIN including any GPS devices plugged in via USB
8. Click on 'manage maps', select the map you want to rename.
9. Rename the map to something unique
10. Store on the PC for safe keeping

- Copy to a USB for display in BaseCamp
  - Copy to an SD card for the GPS device
  - In either case it must be in a top level directory by the name of "Garmin"
11. When you fire up Basecamp if the USB is inserted in the PC, BaseCamp will find it and load all the map files on the USB

## OpenMtbMap

1. The download provides a single executable – run it, don't bother installing separate contourlines. Choose:
  - Mapsource-Qlandkarte\_GT for a map for BaseCamp
  - Thin for a map for the device
2. Choose destination folder the same as the downloaded file
3. A lot of files are created enabling choices:
  - Install into BaseCamp
  - Create IMG file – do this:
4. NB this has actually performed a hard install into BaseCamp so after the next steps are complete need to run the uninstall
5. There will be a file called create\_gmapsupp\_img.bat
6. Run it; it uses gmt.exe; it will download this but you can copy it if already downloaded version from previous (if so ensure in same directory).
7. Choose type traditional for BaseCamp
8. The script builds gmapsupp.img
9. Rename it using JaVaWa to name of your choice

## Preparing the SD card

Copy the required maps to the SD card under folder Garmin or GARMIN. Ignore the Id.txt file – that's created by BaseCamp and is of no interest to the GPS device.

## Notes

If installing maps in BaseCamp beware: Maps listed in Basecamp use the Registry:

HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\WOW6432Node\Garmin\Mapsource\Families

If BaseCamp is up and running when doing uninstall, the uninstall may not work to completion and bits are left over in the registry.

See also

[https://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/OSM\\_Map\\_On\\_Garmin/Download#Single\\_European\\_Countries](https://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/OSM_Map_On_Garmin/Download#Single_European_Countries)