

EarthComm: Maps

This investigation will help you to:

- Soil Maps
- Topographic Maps
- Reading Map Symbols
- Reading Geologic Maps
- State Geologic Maps
- National Geologic Maps
- Regional and Local Geologic Maps
- General Map Resources
- Dynamic Planet Maps
- Ocean Maps
- Weather Maps
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- Inquiry

Soil Maps

World Reference Base for Soil Resources, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Find global soil maps for all types of soil. Click on a certain soil type to see its global distribution.

World Soil Resources Map Index, NRCS

Includes a variety of soil maps. Also includes some more specific maps for a few countries.

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Topographic Maps

Maps, USGS

Search for maps by zip code or city and state. You can download or purchase maps.

Topographic Maps Online

57,000 U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps were digitized and are now available on the Web.

How to find topographic maps, USGS

Provides helpful links for finding geologic maps.

TopoZone

Find topographic maps by place name, latitude and longitude, or UTM coordinates under the Get A Map section. Allows you to download topographic maps (including USGS maps) for free, at various scales (from 1:100,000 to 1:24,000).

MapServer

Enter place name or zip code and state at the top to view maps. Offers free online viewing of topographical, nautical and aeronautical charts plus high altitude digital ortho quads (nav photos).

Need a Map?, Maptech

Just type in the city and state.

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Reading Map Symbols

Topographic Map Symbols, USGS

This site has information on reading topographic maps.

USGS Geography Education Materials, USGS

A USGS site for kids and teachers. Describes map types and features, including how to interpret them.

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Reading Geologic Maps

Reading Geologic Maps, About.com

Follow this tutorial on how to read and use geologic maps.

Geologic Maps, USGS

Explanation of how geologic features and rock units are shown on geologic maps.

What is a Geologic Map, USGS & NPS

Learn what a geologic map is and what information they provide.

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State Geologic Maps

State Geologic Maps, USGS

Provides descriptions and availability information for state geologic maps.

Association of American State Geologists, AASG

Obtain materials from your state geological survey.

Geologic Maps of States Online, About.com

Download state geologic maps from About.com.

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National Geologic Maps

National Geologic Map Database, USGS

Contains information on how and where to obtain geologic maps.

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Regional and Local Geologic Maps

Bookstore of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, AAPG

Click on Browse by Series and select AAPG maps for regional tectonic maps

USGS Store, USGS

This site allows you to order 7.5 minute maps online for \$4 per map plus \$5 s/h per order.

Map Dealers, USGS

The United States Geological Survey maintains a list of Map Dealers. Click on your state to obtain a list of retailers who sell maps

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General Map Resources

General Map Information, USGS Earth Science Information Center

Includes general map information, from how to read maps to how to obtain them. Also includes links to further information regarding topographic, thematic, planetary maps, and more.

Maps of the United States, USGS

A USGS fact sheet, contains a series of depictions of the United States, along with information on how to obtain additional US maps.

Maps of the World, USGS

USGS fact sheet, contains a series of world maps, including outline maps, seismicity maps, and political maps. Also contains information for ordering more specific world maps.

National Atlas Maps, USGS

USGS site of a variety of US maps that are available online, including shaded relief maps, aquifer maps, and further information on how to order maps not available online.

This Dynamic Planet, USGS

A USGS map showing the physiographic features of the Earth, current plate movements, and locations of volcanoes, earthquakes, and impact craters

National Geographic Map Machine, National Geographic

For a wide variety of thematic maps, click on "Dynamic Maps" or "Atlas Maps". Enter a location you wish to search for, and select from any number of themes, ranging from elevation to ocean floor. (You may need to click on "Select a New Theme" or "Related Atlas Maps" to find the theme you are looking for.)

Geospatial Maps and Data, data.gov

Make maps using geospatial data and information.

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Dynamic Planet Maps

This Dynamic Planet, USGS

Simkin, Tom, et al., 1994, This Dynamic Planet: World Map of Volcanoes, Earthquakes, Impact Craters, and Plate Tectonic, published by the US Geological Survey, Reston, VA.

U. S. Geological Survey Earthquake Maps, USGS

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Ocean Maps

Age of the Ocean Floor, NOAA

World Data Center for Marine Geology & Geophysics, Boulder.

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Weather Maps

National Weather Service Home Page, NOAA

The Datastreme Project, American Meteorological Society

Contains a variety of up-to-date weather maps. Under the "surface" subheading, you can find maps showing temperatures, pressures, isotherms, and fronts, along with other current weather data.

Weather.com, The Weather Channel Interactive, Inc.

A current weather map of the United States is found on the homepage. You can view an enlarged version by clicking on the map. To find weather maps of your local area, type in your zip code or city and state at the top of the page.

Unisys.com, Unisys Corp.

View a current United States weather map on the Unisys homepage.

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Satellite Maps

Google Maps

Type the address into the search engine toolbar. Wait for the map to come up. Click on "Satellite" in the upper right hand corner of the page. You will then receive a satellite image of your area

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Inquiry

Ask a Geographer, American Association of Geographers.

The website offers the media, government agencies, teachers and students links to experts in various fields of geography. The experts are drawn from and categorized according to the AAG Specialty Groups and may be contacted directly, using the information provided in this listing. They will respond to specific inquiries about geographic topics and issues in their areas of expertise.
