

SHREWSBURY U3A COMPUTER CLUB

Mapping on your Computer / Where-a-abouts are you?

Google Maps <https://www.google.com/maps>

VIEWING THE MAP

There are 3 views to view Google Maps.

- Map: Roads, places, and major landmarks
- Satellite: Aerial pictures - Either with labels on or off.
- Terrain: Local terrain



and you can select the info that you want to see on your map. Not all are available in all locations.

- Traffic: Local traffic conditions. Either Live or typical traffic
- Transit: Bus, subway, and rail routes
- Bicycling: Bike paths
- Street View: Access Street View of the area
- 3D: See buildings in 3D

SEARCHING

Set your Home (and Work) address/es. Thereafter, when using search for directions you can use “Home” (and “Work”) as one of the locations. To set these labels, go: Menu | Your Places | Labelled.

You can search for all kinds of things; Post offices, bus stops, restaurants, hairdressers etc. Locations are marked with a pin or icon (they are colour coded).

Note the tick box at the bottom of the screen to update the map if you move the map around.

(If you are signed into your Google account) You can search for your contacts from your Contacts list.

If your contacts aren't showing up in your search results or when you select an address, try these tips:

- Make sure Web and App Activity is on: [Web and App Activity](#) must be turned on for Google Maps to show your contacts in search results.
- Make sure the person's name and address is in your Google Contacts: Learn how to [add a contact](#) and [edit a contact](#).

Tips for searching:

Specific businesses: MacDonalds.

Types of places: Coffee near Shrewsbury Town Centre.

Narrow your results by using the city and state: Groceries in Shrewsbury.

Narrow your results by using a (part) post code: Petrol in SY3

An address, city, state, country, or airport: 23 Westhope Avenue, Shrewsbury Shropshire.

Latitude and longitude coordinates: 52.710278, -2.789563.

Friends and other contacts (you must be signed in): Geoff Lane.

Other names of people in your G Suite Contacts.

Local search results in Maps are based primarily on relevance, distance, prominence, as well as your **personal interests**. These factors are combined to help find the best match for your search. For example, Google algorithms might decide that a business that is farther away from you is more likely to have what you're looking for than a business that's closer. Therefore, it will rank higher in local results.

You can use Latitude and Longitude coordinates to search for, or find a place. Be aware there are different formats (although they all work).

- Degrees, minutes, and seconds (DMS): 41°24'12.2"N 2°10'26.5"E
- Degrees and decimal minutes (DMM): 41 24.2028, 2 10.4418
- Decimal degrees (DD): 41.40338, 2.17403 (My preference).

DIRECTIONS AND ROUTES

Search for your starting point. Click Directions, either, click points on the map, type an address or add a place name. Choose the method of travel. Whenever you see multiple routes, the 'best' route to your destination is coloured blue (the others are gray).

To add multiple destinations, Click on the Plus sign in a circle under your current start and previous destinations. Repeat as required. To reorder destinations, click and drag them either up or down the list.

To change a route, click and drag the line on the map.

MEASURING DISTANCE

On Google maps you can measure a straight-line distance between two or more points. Right click the starting point and select "Measure Distance". Click anywhere on the map to create a path to measure, for further points, click again in another place. Optional, you can move the selected points by clicking and dragging if they are not in the right place.

SHARING

You can share a location, directions, or a map. You can share:

- A place, business, or address
- A directions search
- A Street View image

You can't share:

- A map with your saved locations, which are private
- A map with a distance measurement
- A screenshot or image of the map itself

From the Menu (Top left) go: Menu | Share or embed map. Copy the link and then paste it into your email or whatever.

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

Share your location with friends and family. Need to turn on Location History for your Google Account.

Label or Save places you refer to constantly.

Your Timeline. View where you have been – There can be a lot of detail here if you are worried about 'Big Brother'. I've turned Location History off.

[Bing Maps](#).

Views available: Road, Aerial & **Ordnance Survey** (1:50,000 & 1:25,000)

Share and Save

My Places:

Home / Work Favourites – Itineraries & Collections

Explore: Attractions, Cafes, Shopping Centres, Museums & Restaurants

See also. www.streetmap.co.uk

And Ordnance Survey. <https://osmaps.ordnancesurvey.co.uk>

Standard view, aerial view.

Requires subscription to see Landranger and Explorer Maps (1:50,000 & 1:25,000 respectively) But you can view these in Bing Maps.

Easy to identify an 8 figure grid reference for location.

OS Maps and Streetview will find a Grid Reference if you search for them.

[Plus Codes](#)

A plus code is like a street address for people or places that don't have one.

Plus codes give addresses to everyone, everywhere, allowing them to receive deliveries, access emergency services, register to vote, and are already improving peoples' lives.

A plus code address looks like a regular address, but with a short code where the street name and number would be. These addresses exist for any location, even for places where there are no roads.

Plus codes are based on latitude and longitude – the grid that can be used to describe every point on the planet. By using a simpler code system, they end up much shorter and easier to use than traditional global coordinates.

A plus code in its full length is 10 characters long, with a plus sign before the last two. It consists of two parts: The first four characters are the area code, describing a region of roughly 100 x 100 kilometers.

The last six characters are the local code, describing the neighbourhood and the building, an area of roughly 14 x 14 meters – about the size of one half of a basketball court.

[What 3 Words \(what3words.com\)](http://what3words.com)

what3words is a really simple way to talk about location. We have assigned each 3m square in the world a unique 3 word address that will never change.

For example `///filled.count.soap` marks the exact entrance to what3words' London headquarters and `///curvy.noses.voter` marks the corner of Tesco's where we hold our meetings.

3 word addresses are easy to say and share, and are as accurate as GPS coordinates.

51.520847, -0.19552100 $\leftrightarrow$ `/// filled.count.soap`

Our vision is to become a global standard for communicating location. People use what3words to find their tents at festivals, navigate to B&Bs, and to direct emergency services to the right place.