

MobileMapper Pro FAQ: Using Waypoints

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How do I create waypoint files in MobileMapper Office for uploading to the receiver?

Click on **Tools > Place Waypoints** or on the Place Waypoints icon (a push pin). This launches the Waypoints window to the right of the map screen. You may select from a variety of map symbols to identify the waypoints. You may also use the box under the symbols to name the waypoint that you wish to place on the map. Then click on the location on the map screen where you wish to place the first waypoint. To see more precisely where the arrow cursor is located, you may refer to the coordinates' box to the lower right of the map screen. The level of precision here corresponds to the level of precision with which you can move the cursor. Once a waypoint is placed on the map screen, you can adjust its location with greater precision by editing its parameters (see below).

I can see the position of the arrow cursor in the coordinates' box to the lower right of the map screen, but only when I'm in latitude/longitude. When I switch to a grid system, the coordinates' box is empty. How do I fix this?

You probably have not selected the correct zone for your grid system. Click on **Options > Coordinate System** and reselect the zone. If you do not know the zone, select the Geodetic, WGS84 option instead of the grid, position the arrow cursor in the center of your positions (features or waypoints) and make a note of the longitude. Then go back to **Options > Coordinate System**, reselect the grid system you want and select the zone based on the longitude in degrees that you just wrote down.

How do I edit waypoint files in MobileMapper Office?

If you want to edit the parameters for your waypoints, we recommend that you first place the arrow cursor on the boundary between the map window and the waypoint window. Click and drag this boundary to the left so as to enlarge the waypoint window to reveal all the parameter fields that you may edit. To edit any parameter for any waypoint, double-click on the field and type in a new value. These parameters include:

- Display/hide waypoint
- Waypoint name
- Latitude (northing)
- Longitude (easting)
- Altitude
- Icon (map symbol)
- Message

You will notice that there is increased level of precision when editing a waypoint's position: one one-thousandths of a minute or one tenth of a meter/foot.

I did not use the default name (WPT001) for the first waypoint but when I add more waypoints each is automatically given the default name. Is there any way to automatically increment non-default waypoint names?

Because you are free to use all six characters to name your waypoints, the automatic incrementing of the waypoint names works only for the default waypoint name where the first three characters are always "WPT" and the subsequent characters are numerals beginning with "001."

How do I build routes in MobileMapper Office?

Once you have positioned some waypoints you may link them together to form routes. Click on Tools > Build Routes or click on the Build Routes icon next to the Place Waypoints' push pin icon. (The Build Routes icon represents three waypoints connected with straight lines.) Then use the arrow cursor to click on the waypoints in the desired order in which you want to build the route.

How do I save my waypoint files in MobileMapper Office?

All waypoint and route files must be associated with a MobileMapper job file. So, you first must save the waypoints to a job by clicking on File > Save As. When you select a job name, two files are actually created by MobileMapper Office: the job file (*filename.mmj*) and a separate waypoint file (*filename.mmw*). You do NOT have to import any features into the job file for the waypoint file to be generated.

How do I import waypoint files into MobileMapper Office for upload to the receiver?

In order to import a waypoint file into MobileMapper Office it must be in the same format as MobileMapper waypoint files or specially formatted .txt or .xls file. There is no conversion module to automate the importing of files in other formats.

A. Importing a .txt file

In order to import a txt waypoint file in .txt format, the file must contain the following information:

1. A command line: "\$PMGNWPL"
2. A numeric field is the latitude in DDMM.MMMMM (Degrees.Minutes.Decimal Minutes to 5 places)
3. An N (or S) for north (or south) latitude
4. A second numeric field for the longitude in DDDMM.MMMMM format (Degrees/Minutes/Decimal Minutes to 5 places)
5. An E (or W) for east (west) longitude
6. A third numeric field (in the example below, a zero) for the altitude
7. A field for a message (indicated in the example below by the letter "M")
8. A field containing the waypoint's name, in this case WPT001
9. A final field containing a code for selecting an icon

After importing a waypoint file into MobileMapper Office, you can edit waypoint names, icons and messages as desired.

Example of a waypoint file in .txt format

```
$PMGNWPL,3721.08731,N,12156.18597,W,0,M,WPT001,,a*2D
$PMGNWPL,3721.12816,N,12156.15346,W,0,M,WPT002,,a*28
$PMGNWPL,3721.09022,N,12156.07005,W,0,M,WPT003,,a*2B
$PMGNWPL,3721.03921,N,12156.09323,W,0,M,WPT004,,a*25
```

B. Importing a .xls file

It is also possible to import waypoints contained in Microsoft Excel files if the format is correct. The following is an example of what information must be in each column. Note: the first row of column headers is mandatory.

#	Name	Icon	Message	Latitude	Longitude	Altitude (m)	Latitude (degrees)	Longitude (degrees)	Icon ID
1	WPT001	Crossed Square		N37°21.087'	W121°56.186'	0	37.35145517	-121.93643283	a
2	WPT002	Crossed Square		N37°21.128'	W121°56.153'	0	37.35213600	-121.93589100	a
3	WPT003	Crossed Square		N37°21.090'	W121°56.070'	0	37.35150367	-121.93450083	a
4	WPT004	Crossed Square		N37°21.039'	W121°56.093'	0	37.35065350	-121.93488717	a

How do I upload waypoint files into the MobileMapper receiver?

Once you have created a job that has waypoint and route files associated with it, you upload the job to the receiver the waypoint files are automatically uploaded with the job. When you open the job file in the field, the receiver automatically displays the waypoints. You can also open the waypoint files without opening the job by pressing the Menu button and selecting GOTO > User Waypoint > Positions. Select the waypoint you want to navigate to and press the Enter button. You may use any of the MobileMapper navigation screens to find the selected waypoint.

To select a route, press the Menu button and select the Routes option. You then select the specific route you want to use, press enter and select the waypoint where you wish to begin using the route.

How do I display waypoints in the receiver?

There are two ways to do this:

1. Press the MENU button and select the **Card Utilities** option and then the **Load WP/Route** option.
2. Press MENU and select the **Setup** option and then the **Map Display** option. Press the right arrow button to move to the **Display** tab. Scroll down to the **Mark All** option or the **Waypoints** option and press ENTER. Then press ESC to accept the changes and move back to the **Setup** screen.

How do I hide waypoint files in the receiver?

Press MENU and select the **Setup** option and then the **Map Display** option. Press the right arrow button to move to the Display tab. Scroll down to the **Clear All** option or the **Waypoints** option and press ENTER. Then press ESC to accept the changes and move back to the **Setup** screen.

How do I edit waypoint descriptions in the receiver?

With the waypoint file selected for display, press the NAV button until you come to the **Map** screen. Then use the arrow button to move the map cursor over a waypoint symbol and press ENTER. If the name of the waypoint you have selected is correct, press ENTER a second time. You will now see a screen with the **Edit** option highlighted. Press ENTER again and you will see the **Edit Waypoint** screen. Use the arrow button to move to the field you wish to edit and press ENTER.

How do I delete waypoint files from the receiver?

You can do this in three ways:

1. When downloading files using the MobileMapper Transfer Utility, click any file you wish to delete and click the Delete button on your keyboard or on the Utility's tool bar. You can also right-click on any file and select the **Delete** option.
2. With the SD card in a card reader, use Windows Explore to delete any file on the receiver.
3. Format the SD card. (This should always be done in the receiver.) Press MENU, select the **Card Utilities** option and then the **Format Card** option. NOTE: this will delete all the files from your receiver. Magellan recommends that you reformat your SD card before every project, or more often, if you wish.

How to do I create waypoints in the receiver?

There are two ways to do this:

1. Press the LOG button for more than 2 seconds.
2. Press MENU and select the **Mark** option.

How do I download waypoint files from the receiver to MobileMapper Office?

Either attach the receiver to the PC using the serial data cable or place the receiver's SD card in a card reader. Then, in MobileMapper Office, click File>Download Waypoints/Routes.

Can I use MobileMapper Office to edit waypoint files recorded in the field?

Yes. The process is the same as when you use MobileMapper Office to create waypoint files.

Can I export waypoints out of MobileMapper Office?

In the MobileMapper system, waypoints are considered only as navigational aids and so there is no provision in the current release for exporting them out of MobileMapper Office, a program whose focus is on supporting GIS application and not on navigation. We strongly recommend using the MobileMapper receiver to collect point features instead of waypoints. Point features can be much more conveniently described using feature libraries instead of a limited-character text field that is typically used to record comments for a waypoint. Also, point features can be easily exported in GIS formats using MobileMapper Office.

If you have already collected waypoints and need to download them to a PC, there are some third-party applications that can handle this.