

Garmin GPS Quick Start Guide

Turn the GPS on

Press and hold the **Power** button to turn the GPS on or off. A short press turns on the light. **Page** cycles through the different pages. Press **Menu** to view the current page menu. The buttons **In** and **Out** zooms the map and navigate lists.

Satellite lock

When you turn on the GPS it needs to lock the satellites before use. This takes about a minute and it requires that the antenna has a clear view to the sky. Garmin eTrex series work best in a horizontal position while GPS60/62 series work best in a vertical position. Avoid covering the antenna as any short disruption of the clear view to the sky will extend the satellite lock time. When satellite lock is achieved, the GPS can handle short disruptions without problems.

Sometimes the GPS is unable to achieve a satellite lock. It is not defective but needs to download a new almanac from the satellites. Turn off and on the GPS and leave it with a clear view to the sky. It takes between 5 and 30 minutes to download the almanac and then achieve the satellite lock. During that process it might ask you to verify the current date or your approximate location.

Before you go

On the page Main Menu select Setup and then Units. Verify that *Position format* and *Map Datum* is correct. If you are uncertain of what to use, you should choose $hddd^{\circ}mm.mmm'$ and WGS 84. You may also want to clear the trip data and track log. Go to the page Trip Computer, Press *Menu* and select *Reset*. Remember to bring a set of spare batteries.

Create a waypoint

Press and hold **Mark** until the Mark Waypoint page is displayed. The coordinates represent your current position, but you may change them if you want to key in other coordinates. Remember to select and press OK in the lower right corner to save the waypoint.

Navigate to a waypoint

Press and hold **Find** until the Find page is displayed, then select *Waypoints*. Choose the desired waypoint and select *Goto*. Now the page Compass shows the direction and distance to your waypoint. You need to move forward while holding the GPS in front of you in order to make the compass arrow point in the right direction.

Tips & hints

When using the GPS under dense tree coverage or near hillsides or tall buildings you may experience a very low accuracy or the GPS may lose the satellite lock. Move to give the GPS antenna a clear view to the sky.

Garmin eTrex and 60/62 series will withstand moist and rain but not splashing water. The display contrast varies with temperature, you can adjust the contrast under *Setup*.

The GPS is powered by two standard, rechargeable or Lithium AA size batteries. In cold climates keep the GPS under your jacket and preferably use Lithium batteries. WAAS is an option under *Setup* which improves the GPS accuracy a bit. Consider switching it off as it consumes more power. Some units contain a magnetic compass. Consider switching it off as it consumes power and might confuse you unless you have experience with it.

You can convert between different position formats by keying in the position using one *Position format* and then set the GPS to the new *Position format*. You may also use the free online application GeoConvert at <http://cetus.dk/geoconvert>

When connecting the GPS to a computer you can download waypoints and tracks directly to Google Earth <http://earth.google.com> For download and conversion of waypoints and tracks to other formats use <http://www.gpsbabel.com>

Safe use of a GPS for navigation requires experience with the equipment and knowledge about possible error sources and the problems that may arise. Never use the GPS as the only means of navigation in situations where your life may depend on it.



Mark Waypoint		
My Waypoint		
Note	20-AUG-10 11:07:59	
Location	N 55°40.585' E 012°34.819'	
Elevation	15m	
From Current Location	SE 3.29m	
Avg	Map	OK