



1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster User guide

Preface

This user guide contains information on the technical specification and product specification for 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster. It is designed to help you understand how to use the 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster.

This user guide has been checked and validated before issue and every endeavour made to ensure that the contents are accurate. If you find an error, omission, or otherwise wish to make a suggestion as to how this user guide can be improved, please contact us at customerservices@ordnancesurvey.co.uk or the address shown under contact details or use the Product and service performance report form at [appendix A](#)

Contact details

The Customer Service Centre will be pleased to deal with your enquiries:

Phone: 023 8030 5030

Fax: 023 8079 2615

Email: customerservices@ordnancesurvey.co.uk

Welsh Language HelpLine [in Welsh] phone: 08456 05 05 04.

or write to:

Customer Service Centre
Ordnance Survey
Romsey Road
SOUTHAMPTON
United Kingdom
SO16 4GU

Visit the Ordnance Survey® web site at: www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk

Product performance

If you have any problems with or identify any errors in the data or user guide, please complete the Product and service performance report form at [appendix A](#).

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Chapter 1 Introduction

Ordnance Survey's 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster product, available in various formats (see *Technical specification*), provides entry-level small-scale backdrop mapping suitable for overlaying with individual business information.

It is derived from Road Maps Production data, resulting in high quality image and resolution. The 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster is available as either full national coverage (providing an excellent overview of the country), or as England, Scotland or Wales separately.

All features within 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster are edge matched. This raster data provides an image where the Road Maps Production data detail has been converted to a grid of pixels which can then be displayed on computer screens. Each data tile is converted into a raster tile at a resolution of (10) dots per mm (dpmm) – 254 dots per inch (dpi) and a pixel is twenty five (25) metres on the ground. This resolution maintains the necessary clarity of text.

1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster combines roads, railways and other key features, making this an ideal cartographic backdrop that can be overlaid by a customer's own geographical/business data, besides being a useful background map in its own right.

As 1:250 000 Scale Raster is aimed at professional/business markets, its graphic specification can provide assistance with:

- Route planning
- Backdrop Mapping
- Enhancing an Intranet or Internet site

1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster is supplied with a 1:250 000 scale gazetteer and [digital legend](#) (key) providing a useful:

- Place name location finder
- Reference resource tool

Chapter 2 Technical specification

Specification		1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster	
Data source		Road maps production data	
Number of tiles		53 (edge matched)	
Tile size		100 km by 100 km	
Resolution		254 dots per inch	
Data structure		Raster	
Transfer formats		TIFF Uncompressed TIFF with LZW compression	
Storage volumes Uncompressed (256 colours)	Great Britain	880 Mb	(55 tiles x 16 Mb)
	England	448 Mb	(28 tiles x 16 Mb)
	Scotland	416 Mb	(26 tiles x 16 Mb)
	Wales	128 Mb	(8 tiles x 16 Mb)
Compressed (256 colours)	Great Britain	440 Mb	(55 tiles x 8 Mb)
	England	224 Mb	(28 tiles x 8 Mb)
	Scotland	208 Mb	(26 tiles x 8 Mb)
	Wales	64 Mb	(8 tiles x 8 Mb)
Update frequency		Annual	

Specification

Data source

Data structure

Transfer formats

Storage volumes

1:250 000 Scale Gazetteer

1:250 000 topographic data

ASCII List (table format, 4 columns Settlements. Admin area Eastings and Northings, Six figure reference)

Text file

Road Atlas (25 500 names approx.) 1 Mb

Motoring Atlas (22 500 names) 0.960 Mb

Chapter 3 Managing 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster files

Georeferencing

Georeferencing files allow tiles of map data to be located in their correct geographical position when loaded into a geographical information system (GIS). This is achieved by loading in files alongside the data files that contain the National Grid corner coordinates for each 100 km by 100 km tile. This is especially useful if more than one tile of data is being loaded at once, as it allows for a true geographical depiction of the data.

When 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster is supplied to customers, it is not georeferenced in any way. The implications of this are that tiles will not be set up in geographical relationship to each other when loaded into a GIS.

TIFF World Files (TWF) can be downloaded from www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/productpages/250kraster and used to georeference 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster in ESRI® ArcView® and ArcInfo®. Also available are the TAB files for use with MapInfo®

Please note there are some World Files available that contain only sea, therefore there is no data available. These World Files have been created to allow customers to complete the coastline.

For LZW compressed formats, you may need to acquire a licence for LZW. UNISYS® owns the rights to the LZW format and levies a charge for its use in GIS systems. Some software suppliers license LZW for use in their products, others expect the 'end user' to license LZW separately by buying a plug in.

Further information can be obtained from the UNISYS web site at http://www.unisys.com/about__unisys/lzw/

Backup of the data

You are advised to copy the supplied data to a back-up storage medium.

Chapter 4 Product specification

Ordnance Survey's 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster product is based on the Road maps series database. The product is supplied as 100 km by 100 km colour tiles at high resolution for excellent image clarity.

It benefits from increased clarity and accuracy of detail, as well a greater degree of currency across the series, which has enabled the production of an edge matched* database. The features include clear detail on all motorways, A and B roads, all cities, towns and many villages.

* Map features which occur at the edge of tiles are adjusted to align with their correspondent part on the adjacent tile. This means when a map area falls over two or more tiles, the picture is complete or 'edge matched.' Principal communication features (motorways, 'A' roads, railways, major rivers) are edge matched across tiles.

Place names and locations can be identified using the 1:250 000 Scale gazetteer and digital legend supplied with the 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster.

Tiles

Because digital maps frequently cover very large areas, they are split down into squares known as tiles, each of which covers part of the overall area.

Appendix A Product and service performance report form

Ordnance Survey welcomes feedback from its customers about 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster.

If you would like to share your thoughts with us, please print a copy and when completed post it to the address below.

Your name: Phone:

Organisation: Fax:

Address: Email:

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Postcode: Quotation or order reference:

Please record your comments or feedback in the space below. We will acknowledge receipt of your form within 3 working days and provide you with a full reply or a status report within 21 working days.

If you are posting this form, please send it to:

Customer Contact Centre, Ordnance Survey, Romsey Road, SOUTHAMPTON, SO16 4GU.

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