

OS Street View™

User guide



www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk

Preface

This user guide contains information on the technical specification and product specification for the OS Street View™ dataset. It is designed to help you understand how to use the OS Street View dataset.

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Chapter 1 Introduction

Our new OS Street View dataset is a ready-to-use, high-quality backdrop raster map suitable for any standard web browser. OS Street View provides a map image where the information has been converted to a grid of pixels that can be displayed on a computer screen; the suggested display scale is 1:5000. Each data tile is converted into a raster tile at a resolution of five (5) dots per mm (dpmm) – or 254 dots per inch (dpi), that is one (1) metre on the ground. This resolution maintains the necessary clarity of text. OS Street View's primary intended use is within Internet server-based geographical information system (GIS) software. It is a ready-made raster mapping backdrop for customers to display their own and third party information as they wish. OS Street View has been produced by automatically merging selected layers from the 1:10 000 scale Landplan® dataset with OSCAR Traffic-Manager® information. It has been designed with a palette of 256 colours and includes very detailed road, railway, building, woodland and water information. OS Street View will be available as national and regional cover.

Chapter 2 Technical specification

Specification	OS Street View
Data source	Landplan data and OSCAR Traffic-Manager road information
Accuracy standard: there are two types of accuracy:	<p>Relative accuracy compares the scaled distance between features measured from the map data with distances measured between features on the ground. Ordnance Survey is continually sampling data and testing the accuracy of well-defined points of detail; 1:10 000 scale: within ± 3.5 m over a maximum measured distance of 500.0 m.</p> <p>Absolute accuracy compares how closely the coordinates of a point in the Landplan data agree with the <i>true</i> National Grid coordinates of the same point on the ground; 1:10 000 scale: within ± 4.1 m*</p> <p><i>* NOTE: some generalisation of detail does occur at this scale. This means some points may appear to be less accurate than figures quoted.</i></p>
Number of tiles in Great Britain	10 568 (edgematched) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• England 5 690• Scotland 4 007• Wales 1 008
Tile size	5 km by 5 km
Availability	National and regional cover
Resolution	254 dpi
Data structure	Raster
Data specification	Selection of map features combined with relevant OSCAR Traffic-Manager road data.

Transfer format	JPEG, TIFF 8 bit compressed (LZW *& PackBits) * see Georeferencing in chapter 3 .
Storage volumes per tile	Uncompressed: approx. 15 Mb Compressed: 1 Mb–6 Mb
Greyscale	A high-quality alternative to colour raster data is to use a GIS to convert data to a greyscale format.

Chapter 3 Managing OS Street View files

Georeferencing

Georeferencing files allow tiles of map data to be located in their correct geographical position when loaded into a GIS. This is achieved by loading in files alongside the data files that contain the National Grid corner coordinates for each 5 km by 5 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 OS Street View is supplied to customers, it is not geo-referenced in any way. The implications of this are that tiles will not be set up in geographical relationship to each other loaded into a GIS. TIFF World Files (TFW) that can be downloaded from OS Street View web page www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk and used to georeference OS Street View. ESRI® ArcView® and ArcInfo® and TAB files for use with MapInfo® are also available.

If you use LZW compressed formats, you may have to pay a licence fee for such usage in a GIS, some software suppliers license LZW software for use in their products; others expect the end-user to license LZW software separately by buying a plug-in. Guidance on the UNISYS® licence is available on the UNISYS web site at: http://www.unisys.com/about__unisys/lzw/.

Back-up of OS Street View

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

Chapter 4 Product specification

OS Street View is derived from source data used to create its graphic counterpart, Landplan, and selected data from OSCAR Traffic-Manager information.

OS Street View is supplied as 5 km by 5 km tiles and is available as colour raster data. 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 edgematched database. The detail includes road, railway, building, woodland and water information, including relevant text. A common palette of 256 colours has been designed for this dataset. This allows users to customise the look of the dataset by changing groups of colours, which represent elements of the map whose representation they wish to change.

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.

Product performance

If you have any problems with or identify any errors in the OS Street View dataset, or this OS Street View user guide, please complete the product performance report form at [appendix A](#) and return it to us.

The product specification was created in July 2002.

Appendix A Product and service performance report form

Ordnance Survey welcomes feedback from its customers about OS Street View.

If you would like to share your thoughts with us, please use the form below and return it to Ordnance Survey at 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:

OS Street View Brand Manager, Ordnance Survey,
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