

Garmin Software on the Mac

I have spent endless hours on Garmin's web site looking for the latest Mac software and documentation and this document is an attempt to present what I have found in an organized manner.

The Table of Contents shows all the software I was able to find as of January 31, 2008. I will continue to monitor Garmin's web site and update this document when I find changes.

The TOC shows not only the software package name and date, but also the web page where it can be found and a short description of what the software does. I found that I was better able to understand the map migration process when I was able to read all of these descriptions at one sitting. One wonders why Garmin made this process so tedious. Why can't Bobcat read the map files directly? Only Garmin knows the answer.

NOTE: I have not included the following software:

- Training Center
- Communicator Plugin
- Garmin Connect

These products are training, fitness, and workout oriented. Although laudable activities, I don't do fitness; I ride a moto.

Table of Contents

Bobcat software version 2.0.0.0 Beta as of January 15, 2008

<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3886>

- Bobcat allows you to transfer waypoints, tracks, and routes between your Mac and Garmin device and manage your data using your Garmin maps.
- Bobcat provides the ability to search for points of interest from the convenience of your Mac and then send the locations to your Garmin GPS.
- Bobcat also serves as a backup tool for your Garmin GPS. You can receive all your waypoints, routes, and tracks from your GPS and Bobcat will save them automatically.

MapConverter for Windows software version 2.0.0.3 Beta as of September 18, 2007

<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3706>

- MapConverter converts maps and unlock codes on your Windows PC to Macintosh format.

MapInstall and MapManager for the Mac software version 2.0.1 as of December 19, 2007

<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3825>

- MapInstall installs maps onto your Garmin USB GPS devices and SD card readers. Note that there is currently no support for serial or Palm devices.
- MapManager copies maps and unlock codes into the right place to be accessible by MapInstall and Training Center. To migrate the maps from your Windows PC, download MapConverter onto your PC and follow the instructions.

MapInstall for the Mac software version 2.0.0.1 Beta as of August 15, 2007

<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3702>

- MapInstall installs maps onto your Garmin USB GPS devices and SD card readers. Note that there is currently no support for serial or Palm devices.
- MapManager copies maps and unlock codes into the right place to be accessible by MapInstall and Training Center. To migrate the maps from your Windows PC, download MapConverter onto your PC and follow the instructions.

POI Loader for Mac software version 2.0.1 as of December 19, 2007

<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3697>

- POI Loader allows you to load custom points of interest into your unit. The input files can be downloaded from the internet or you can create your own. With POI Loader, you can configure the unit to alert you when you are within a certain distance of a point or if you are driving over a certain speed near a point; perfect to warn you about upcoming schools zones, red lights and speed cameras. The unit will also allow you to search for and navigate to the loaded points of interest.

POI Loader for Mac software version 2.0.2.1 Beta as of October 11, 2007

<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3751>

This beta version is an update and will become the current version after testing has finished.

WebUpdater For Mac software version 2.0.2 as of December 11, 2007

<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3699>

- WebUpdater guides you through the process of updating the software in your GPS.
- WebUpdater finds the most appropriate update for your GPS from the Garmin web site and performs the update.

Bobcat software version 2.0.0.0 Beta as of January 15, 2008

<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3886>

Download (24.28 MB)

<http://www8.garmin.com/software/ProjectBobcat_2000Beta.dmg>

Notes:

- Bobcat allows you to transfer waypoints, tracks, and routes between your Mac and Garmin device and manage your data using your Garmin maps.
- Bobcat provides the ability to search for points of interest from the convenience of your Mac and then send the locations to your Garmin GPS.
- Bobcat also serves as a backup tool for your Garmin GPS. You can receive all your waypoints, routes, and tracks from your GPS and Bobcat will save them automatically.
- MapManager copies maps and unlock codes into the right place to be accessible by Bobcat and MapInstall. To migrate the maps from your Windows PC, download MapConverter onto your PC and follow the instructions.
- Download and install MapConverter for Windows to convert your unlocked PC maps for use on your Mac. For more information please read this document. (PDF file- 245KB)
<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3706>
<http://www8.garmin.com/manuals/MapSource_MigratingGarminMapProductsfromWindowstoMacComputers.pdf>
- Please email us if you experience any issues at mac.bobcat@garmin.com.
- Although this software is believed to be reliable, it has not yet been released for production and should be used at your own risk.

Instructions for using this software:

1. Click on 'Download' and choose to save the file to your computer.
2. Double-click the file to open it.
3. A new Finder window will open. Drag both 'Garmin Bobcat' and 'Garmin MapManager' to your Application folder.

System Requirements:

Intel-based or PowerPC G3 or later Mac
OS 10.4 or later
512 MB RAM
USB port

MapConverter for Windows software version 2.0.0.3 Beta as of September 18, 2007

<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3706>

Download (1.06 MB)

<http://www8.garmin.com/software/MapConverterforWindows_2003Beta.exe>

Notes:

- MapConverter converts maps and unlock codes on your Windows PC to Macintosh format.
- View instructions on migrating Garmin map products from Windows to the Mac here. (PDF file- 245KB)
<http://www8.garmin.com/manuals/MapSource_MigratingGarminMapProductsfromWindowstoMacComputers.pdf>
- Please send issues to Application.Support@garmin.com.
- Download and install the MapInstall/MapManager package to your Mac to complete the migration.
<http://www.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3702>
- Although this software is believed to be reliable, it has not yet been released for production and should be used at your own risk.

Changes made from version 2.0.0.2 to 2.0.0.3:

- Fixed an issue with the conversion of CD installations.

Changes made from version 2.0.0.1 to 2.0.0.2:

- Added ability for users to create a destination folder and open that folder from within the application.
- Added ability to write the converted maps directly to the shared Mac folder in Parallels.
- Improved robustness of conversion.
- Improved display of progress during conversion.
- Fixed issue where non-ascii characters (like umlaut) in unlock codes were not handled correctly.
- Fixed issue where info.xml was not written correctly.
- Fixed issue with the application not handling the case where the user had no installed maps.

Changes made from version 2.0.0.0 to 2.0.0.1:

- Fixed issue converting certain maps such as Topo Canada and Blue Chart.
- Fixed issue that caused 'Error 2' to be reported during unarchive.
- Added feature to warn users when they are converting locked map products.
- Made file writing more robust.

Instructions for using this software:

1. Download MapConverter to your Windows PC.
2. Double-click on the downloaded file to run installer.
3. Click Unzip button to install MapConverter.

System requirements:

1. IBM-compatible PC running Windows 2000 or Windows XP operating system.

MapInstall and MapManager for the Mac software version 2.0.1 as of December 19, 2007
<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3825>

Download (13.71 MB)

<http://www8.garmin.com/software/MapInstallandMapManagerfortheMac_201.dmg>

Notes:

- MapInstall installs maps onto your Garmin USB GPS devices and SD card readers. Note that there is currently no support for serial or Palm devices.
- MapManager copies maps and unlock codes into the right place to be accessible by MapInstall and Training Center. To migrate the maps from your Windows PC, download MapConverter onto your PC and follow the instructions.
- System Requirements:
 - Intel-based or PowerPC G3 or later Mac
 - OS 10.4 or later
 - 512 MB RAM
 - USB port
- Download and install MapConverter for Windows to convert your unlocked PC maps for use on your Mac.
<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3706>

Instructions for using this software:

1. Click on 'Download' and choose to save the file to your computer.
2. Double-click the file to open it.
3. A new Finder window will open. Locate and double-click on the 'Install Garmin MapInstall' icon.
4. Follow the installer program's prompts to install Garmin MapInstall.

System requirements:

1. Apple Macintosh with a PowerPC or Intel processor
2. Mac OS 10.4 or higher

MapInstall for the Mac software version 2.0.0.1 Beta as of August 15, 2007
<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3702>

Download (11.29 MB)

<http://www8.garmin.com/software/MapInstallfortheMac_2001Beta.dmg>

Notes:

- MapInstall installs maps onto your Garmin USB GPS devices and SD card readers. Note that there is currently no support for serial or Palm devices.
- MapManager copies maps and unlock codes into the right place to be accessible by MapInstall and Training Center. To migrate the maps from your Windows PC, download MapConverter onto your PC and follow the instructions.
<http://www.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3706>
- System Requirements:
 - Intel-based or PowerPC G3 or later Mac
 - OS 10.4 or later
 - 512 MB RAM
 - USB port
- Please submit problems and suggestions to mac.mapinstall.200beta@garmin.com.
- View instructions on migrating Garmin map products from Windows to the Mac here. (PDF file- 245KB)
<http://www8.garmin.com/manuals/MapSource_MigratingGarminMapProductsfromWindowstoMacComputers.pdf>
- Although this software is believed to be reliable, it has not yet been released for production and should be used at your own risk.

Changes made from version 2.0.0.0 to 2.0.0.1:

- Added ability to enter unlock codes
- Added support for 3rd party maps
- Added additional error reporting and logging
- Fixed miscellaneous issues found during internal and beta testing

Instructions for using this software:

1. Click on 'Download' and choose to save the file to your computer.
2. Double-click the file to open it.
3. A new Finder window will open. Locate and double-click on the 'Install Garmin MapInstall' icon.
4. Follow the installer program's prompts to install Garmin MapInstall.

System requirements:

1. Apple Macintosh or compatible with an Intel processor
2. Mac OS 10.4 or higher

POI Loader for Mac software version 2.0.1 as of December 19, 2007

http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3697

Download (4.79 MB)

http://www8.garmin.com/software/POILoaderforMac_201.dmg

Notes:

- POI Loader allows you to load custom points of interest into your unit. The input files can be downloaded from the internet or you can create your own. With POI Loader, you can configure the unit to alert you when you are within a certain distance of a point or if you are driving over a certain speed near a point; perfect to warn you about upcoming schools zones, red lights and speed cameras. The unit will also allow you to search for and navigate to the loaded points of interest.

Instructions for using this software:

1. Click on 'Download' and choose to save the file to your computer.
2. Double-click the file to open it.
3. A new Finder window will open. Locate and double-click on the 'Install Garmin POI Loader' icon.
4. Follow the installer program's prompts to install Garmin POI Loader.

System Requirements:

Intel-based or PowerPC G3 or later Mac
OS 10.4 or later
256 MB RAM
USB port

POI Loader for Mac software version 2.0.2.1 Beta as of October 11, 2007

<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3751>

Download (6.52 MB)

<http://www8.garmin.com/software/POILoaderforMac_2021Beta.dmg>

Notes:

- POI Loader allows you to load custom points of interest into your unit. The input files can be downloaded from the internet or you can create your own. With POI Loader, you can configure the unit to alert you when you are within a certain distance of a point or if you are driving over a certain speed near a point; perfect to warn you about upcoming schools zones, red lights and speed cameras. The unit will also allow you to search for and navigate to the loaded points of interest.
- Please report issues to Mac.PoiLoader@garmin.com.
- The drag and drop install was failing due to permissions errors. To resolve that remove the Garmin POI Loader file from your Applications directory, or download this new version of the installer.
- Although this software is believed to be reliable, it has not yet been released for production and should be used at your own risk.

Changes made from version 2.0.2.0 to 2.0.2.1:

- Fixed issue that caused a crash on startup for some users.

Changes made from version 2.0.1 to 2.0.2.0:

- Added 'Manual' mode to allow the customization of speed and distance alerts on a per file basis.
- Added ability to delete custom POIs from the unit.
- Added support for 16-bit mono wav files. This allows the customization of the alert sound for custom POIs.
- Added ability to save the custom POI file (POI.GPI) to your Mac. The user is prompted for a directory to save the file into.
- Fixed issue that would duplicate all the custom POI data on the unit.

Instructions for using this software:

1. Click on 'Download' and choose to save the file to your computer.
2. Double-click the file to open it.
3. A new Finder window will open. Locate and double-click on the 'Install Garmin POI Loader' icon.
4. Follow the installer program's prompts to install Garmin POI Loader.

System Requirements:

Intel-based or PowerPC G3 or later Mac
OS 10.4 or later
256 MB RAM
USB port

WebUpdater For Mac software version 2.0.2 as of December 11, 2007

<http://www8.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=3699>

Download (5.24 MB)

<http://www8.garmin.com/software/WebUpdaterForMac_202.dmg>

Notes:

- WebUpdater guides you through the process of updating the software in your GPS.
- WebUpdater finds the most appropriate update for your GPS from the Garmin web site and performs the update.
- WebUpdater for Mac is not compatible with Palm, Pocket PC, serial, fixed-mount marine, chartplotters, fishfinders and discontinued devices.
- WebUpdater for Mac does not perform Beta updates.
- For some device updates, this software will clear user memory, including 'Recent Finds' and 'Favorites.' Please back up important data such as routes, tracks, and waypoints prior to updating.
- Possible fixes for common issues:
 - Web Updater doesn't detect my device
Older versions of some Garmin devices' software have an issue that prevents them from communicating with the Mac. If you are experiencing this problem, you may need to update your device's software to the latest version using WebUpdater on a PC. After this update, your device should be able to communicate with your Mac and be updated using WebUpdater on your Mac.
 - Update hangs during 'Erasing' phase
This issue may be solved by directly plugging your device into your Mac instead of a USB Hub.

Changes made from version 2.0.1 to 2.0.2:

- Fixed an issue that caused software update to fail for certain nuvi and StreetPilot devices on PowerPC Macs.

Instructions for using this software:

1. Click on 'Download' and choose to save the file to your computer.
2. Double-click the file to open it.
3. A new Finder window will open. Locate and double-click on the 'Install Garmin WebUpdater' icon.
4. Follow the installer program's prompts to install Garmin WebUpdater.

System Requirements:

Intel-based or PowerPC G3 or later Mac
OS 10.4 or later
256 MB RAM
USB port