



Garmin Basecamp & OS Discoverer

All you need for Route Planning
On your PC! In your GPS!

Garmin users now only need purchase their OS mapping once!!

One of the key issues in the world of digital maps has always been that GPS owners have had to purchase their OS maps & license twice; once for the PC for Route Planning and then again for their GPS to see an OS map on screen. Garmin have resolved this issue with a unique new feature; now when you purchase a new GPS & OS Whole GB 50k Discoverer mapping bundle from the following ranges Dakota 20, Oregon & GPSMap62 the map is supplied on a pre-programmed MicroSD card which can be viewed in BaseCamp for route planning etc when the GPS is connected to your PC.



What does all this mean?

From now on Garmin owners no longer need expensive OS PC mapping software for route planning etc as they can now plan routes & trails anywhere in the country in the GPS and view the contents of their map card for route planning in BaseCamp.

How does BaseCamp compare with other OS PC based mapping software?

I'm sure Garmin won't mind us saying that BaseCamp isn't as sophisticated as some of the other PC software on the market; but if you just want to create waypoints, routes or tracks on an OS map, save the data to your PC/Laptop, and send to GPS then BaseCamp does all this without the additional cost of buying PC based software. Unfortunately the license agreement with Ordnance Survey does not permit the printing of maps in view from BaseCamp; but is this an issue if you have a full OS map in the GPS?

**OREGON OR
DAKOTA
OS BUNDLE**
+ 1:50K OS
LANDRANGER MAPS
FOR THE WHOLE OF GB

For many users; BaseCamp will be all the PC software they will ever need. It will allow them to plan routes & trails at a basic level for **free**; however we are realistic enough to understand that many of our clients will wish to continue to do their route planning on dedicated PC based OS software.



Basecamp Explained

Garmin have always support their handheld outdoor GPS units with software that allows you to view and organise your maps, waypoints, routes and tracks and send them to your Garmin device; in the past they used a software application called MapSource – Basecamp is simply an updated version of MapSource that supports all the new GPS features only available in the new generation GPS units like the Dakota 20, Oregon & GPSMap62 Ranges.

One of the key issues in the world of digital maps has always been that GPS owners have had to purchase their OS maps & license twice once for the PC for Route Planning and then again for their GPS to enable a map on screen. Garmin have resolved this issue with a unique new feature; when you purchase a new GPS & OS Whole GB 50k Discoverer mapping bundle from the following ranges Dakota 20, Oregon & GPSMap62 the map is supplied on a pre-programmed MicroSD card which can be viewed in BaseCamp for route planning etc when the GPS is connected to your PC.

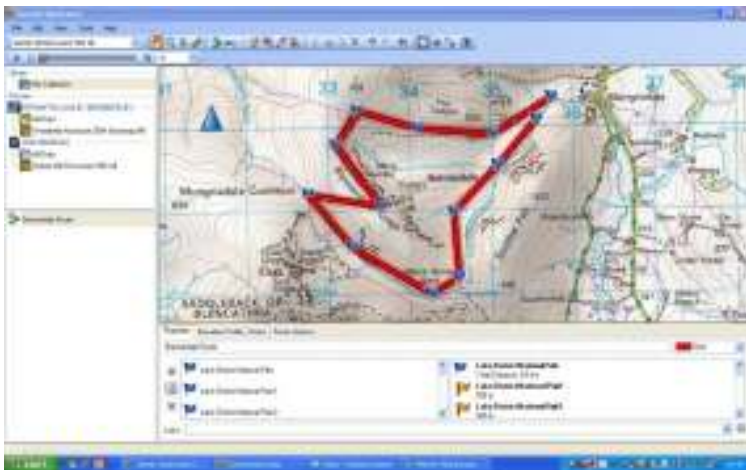
The key features of Basecamp are:

- Supports OS Discoverer by allowing you to view the contents of the Ordnance Survey map pre-loaded to the MicroSD card in Basecamp on your PC (version 3.0.6 Sept 2010)
- Supports OS Discoverer by allowing you to view the OS map in Basecamp and use it to create waypoints, routes & tracks, save to your PC and send to GPS.

- Allows you to organise your maps, waypoints, routes and tracks and send them to your Garmin device
- Routes can be planned as Direct Routes (straight lines for use on the hill) or in Auto-Routing mode (with auto routing with directions, profile).
- View supported topographical maps like World Basemap & European Recreational maps pre-installed to your Garmin device in Basecamp
- View & Rotate maps
- Transfer Satellite Imagery to your device (with the purchase of BirdsEye Satellite Imagery)
- Will allow purchase, download and transfer of OS Discoverer 25k Mapping to a compatible device (Jan 2011)
- Shows animated playback of Routes & Tracks over time
- Supports geotagged photos
- Prints full page colour maps (Not OS Discoverer)
- Exports user data files for viewing in Google Earth
- Includes advanced Geocaching support (paperless Geocaching)
- Both Windows & Mac versions of Basecamp available as free downloads

To download Basecamp; which is **Free**, go the Garmin website (www.garmin.com) look for the **Support** tab > and click on **Software** on the software page look for **Mapping Programmes** then select either **Basecamp** (Windows compatible) or **Basecamp for Mac** or use [this link](#) which will take you to the download page.

GPST Tip – remember to check for software updates on a regular basis; this is how glitches are fixed and new features are added.



Connect your GPS to your PC or Laptop using the cable provided and you will be able to view the contents of your Garmin OS Discoverer Map Card displayed in Basecamp

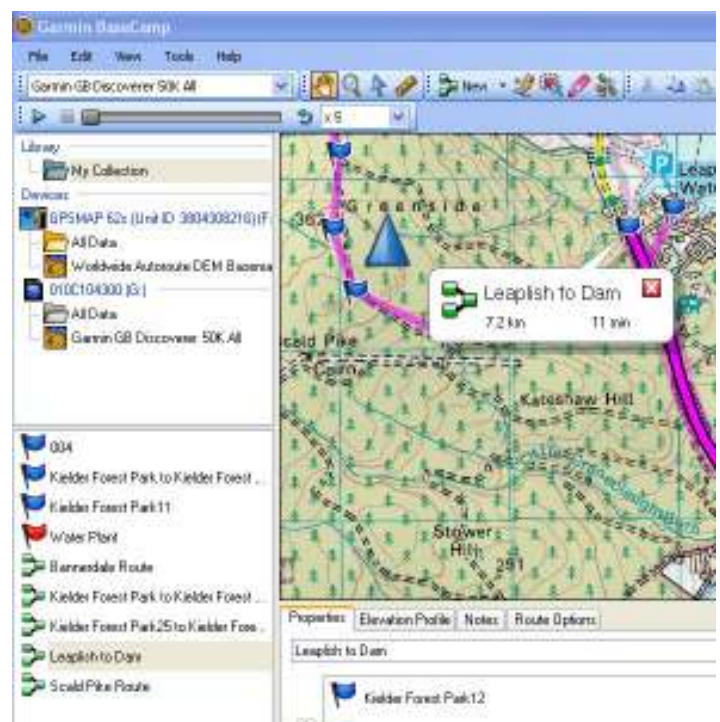
You then use the map for waypoint & route planning you can then save these data files to your PC or send them to your GPS.

Once you have connected your GPS to BaseCamp it recognises the connected device (in our case a GPSMap62s) BaseCamp will then display All Data (GPX files) and maps held on both the internal memory (Worldwide Autoroute DEM Basemap) and the MicroSD card (Garmin GB Discoverer 50K All)

If you highlight the Devices All Data folder it will display all waypoints, routes and tracks held in the device. Once displayed in BaseCamp they can be sent to your Library or saved to your PC.

Library is a folder that allows you to create, store and save data files like Waypoints, Routes & Tracks. If you highlight you're My Collection folder then all data in the folder can be viewed

New Waypoints, Routes & Tracks can only be created, saved and sent to GPS in Library mode



How to View Maps in BaseCamp

Since I have upgraded my Garmin MapSource to BaseCamp I can see any maps previously visible in MapSource in the new software application; in addition when I connect any new generation Garmin GPS to my PC I can see any maps pre-loaded to the internal memory and any BaseCamp supported maps like my OS Discoverer 50k All.

When I excitedly came to view my OS mapping in BaseCamp I frustratingly found that the default setting in BaseCamp is to View **Base Map Only** and I could only view my OS map when I had unchecked this setting and checked the Map I wished to view in the **Select a Map Product to View** Drop down box

To uncheck **Base Map Only** > in BaseCamp go to View > uncheck **Base Map Only**. if your GPS is connect to your PC then any other maps you select from the drop down list will be visible on screen.

An alternative way to bring into view any maps in BaseCamp is to > go to **View > Map Product** and check the map you wish to view

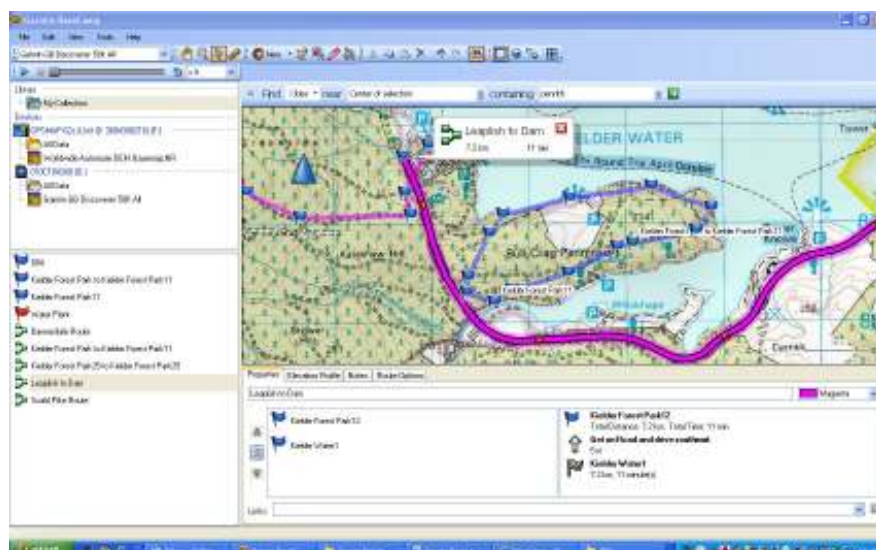


Working with your Data in BaseCamp

In Garmin speak your data refers to any Waypoints, Routes or Tracks you may be working on held in the **My Collection** folder in BaseCamp, in the **All Data** folder in the Internal memory in your device (F:) Drive or the **All Data** folder on the MicroSD card (G :) Drive. (see image above)

When working with your data in BaseCamp it is displayed in one of three locations:

- **Library** – stores any data you may have created into your **My Collection** folder; any data you add to this folder continues to held in the folder until it is deleted either by design or accident, if you wish to save any work visible in your **My Collection** folder then you will need to learn how to save the whole folder or individual lists or files within the folder (This will be covered in Online GPS resource)
- **Devices Internal Memory** – in our case the device we are using is a GPSMap62s. BaseCamp is programmed to identify the Unit ID; in many cases this is to enable mapping which is linked to the Unit ID of your device. The **All Data** folder within the device is the destination by default for all data sent to GPS or recorded within the device. Any maps held on the internal memory of the device will be visible in our case we have a Worldwide Basemap.
- **Devices SD card** – almost all mapping GPS these days come with an SD card slot allowing you to insert pre-programmed maps on plug & play cards in our case we have Garmin GB Discoverer 50k All; generally speaking there is usually some spare space on these cards hence the All Data folder, however this is not the default destination for user data you would have to choose to save data in this folder.



If your GPS is connected to your PC you can see the contents of your memory by going to **My Computer**

The internal memory drive of a Garmin GPS is usually highlighted by the use of a Blue Triangle

The external memory (SD card) will display a series of numbers and the drive ID

To find out how much memory you have left in either drive **Right Click** on the drive icon and look for properties.

In our case the total capacity is 1.8GB and we've only used 82.8MB so we've masses of space to download Custom Maps or Satellite Imagery & images (if you have a built in Camera).

Custom Maps, Satellite Imagery and in future 25K OS Discoverer mapping will be copied to the **Custom Maps** folder in the internal memory



Download Satellite Imagery

Access to this new feature is by download from a Garmin server; for an annual subscription of £21.99 you can download unlimited amounts of worldwide satellite imagery. We believe that this could be the blueprint for future mapping downloads both at home and abroad.

There are two ways to purchase Satellite Imagery direct from the [Garmin Website](#) or from your Garmin retailer, either way once you have licensed the product you can get started and download as much imagery as you want in the 12 month period.

There are two ways to select the area of imagery you require

- By using the selection tool on the map
- By selecting any item in your library and asking BaseCamp to create imagery based on your selection

At this point the BirdsEye download Wizard takes over; recognises your device, checks that your subscription is active and advises you how much free space is available for any downloads.

GPST Tip - on the final page of the download procedure remember to check the **Copy Imagery to Device** box to ensure the map is sent to your device



Manage your work in BaseCamp

One of the key features any user requires of their mapping software application is the ability to manage their work; in other words save their work to their PC/Laptop and import/export files from the PC and the Internet and importantly send files to GPS.

Basecamp allows you to

- Copy user data from device to Library (Import)
- Send user data from Library to device (Export)
- Save user data direct from device to PC (when PC & device are connected)
- Save user data from BaseCamp to PC

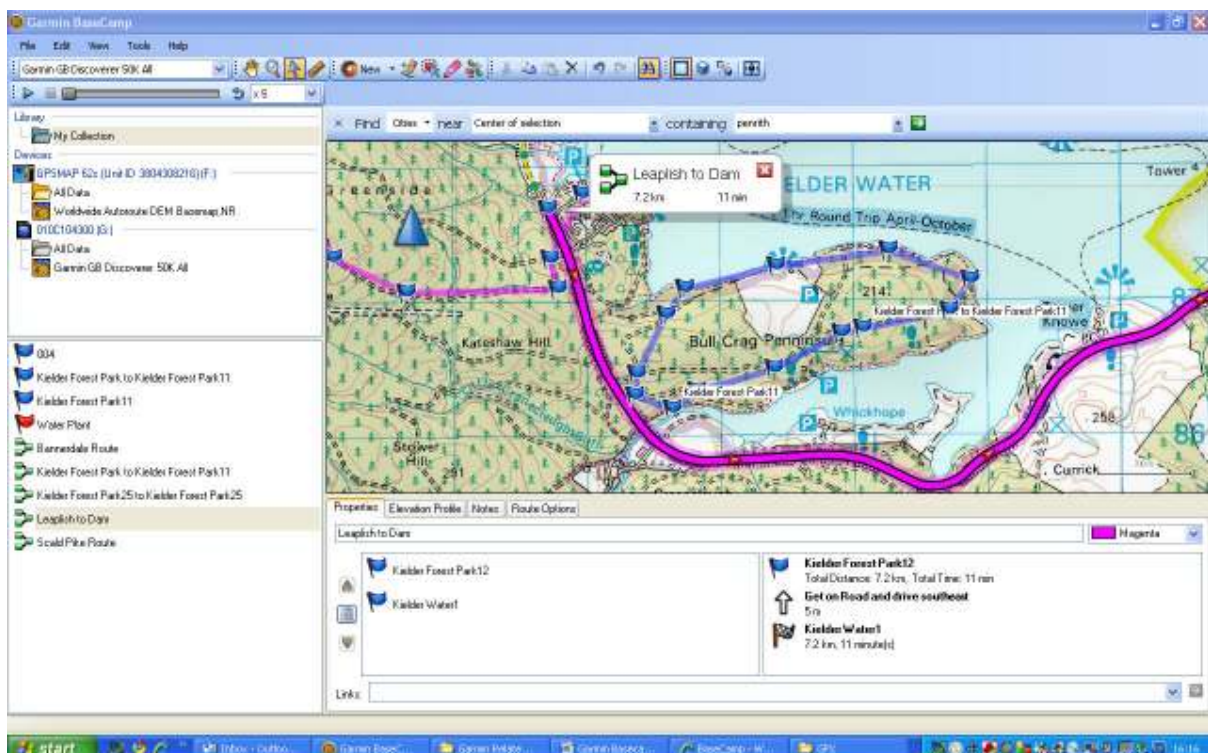
Why is it so important that you save individual pieces of work or data to your PC as you go?

One of the quirks of BaseCamp is that when you close/exit the application your work is retained for future use but not saved; it allows you to keep adding new work and seeing that most of these user data files are small potentially you could end up with multiple routes & trails all over the country. If you were then to send the contents of your Library to GPS you could end up with a load of clutter in your device making it difficult to search for the data you require.

Far better to save each piece of work to your PC when complete; then when you send to GPS you are only sending your current work not everything you have on view in BaseCamp.

GPSTip - Like most mapping software BaseCamp has its own file format; files saved in BaseCamp will be saved by default as .gdb.files which may not open into your favourite mapping software. We recommend that you save files as GPS eXchange files (gpx.files) which is a universal file format compatible with all good mapping software applications including BaseCamp.

Route Planning in BaseCamp



BaseCamp will allow you to create Waypoints, Routes and Tracks; in this piece we have no intention of going through each feature and explaining how to use them as in all fairness they are easy to use; for those who do want more guidance this will be covered in our Online Resource [“Getting Started with your Garmin GPS”](#) when it gets its next update (autumn each year)

However if you are route planning its worth pointing out that there are two Route Options in Basecamp:

- **Direct Routes** – use the new route tool to place waypoints on the map at your chosen locations. BaseCamp will calculate the total distance of your route. When sent to GPS the route will be seen overlaid on the OS map in the GPS and can be followed on either the map or compass pages.
- **Auto-Routing** – use the new route tool to select a start and finish to your route and leave the rest to BaseCamp as it calculates the on road route for you. You can select options for the mode of travel Car/Bike/Pedestrian or choose Faster Time or Shorter Distance. The route can be seen in the GPS overlaid in the OS map and followed on the map, compass or highway pages.



BaseCamp opens the doors to the creation of all forms of user data like waypoints, routes & tracks; but most importantly it actively supports in full the type of features that are only available in the latest generation of Garmin handheld GPS devices for the outdoors user. No other OS PC based software package allows you to route plan for the hills & the road.

As we've already hinted BaseCamp is suitable for route planning at a basic level and the support for Garmin OS Discoverer mapping isn't enabled for printing, but for many users it will be all they ever need, although we believe that many will still want to go on and access other OS PC based software.

We do recommend however before you spend a fortune on PC based software remember that many companies now offer the actual software free you just pay for the maps you require.

We understand that Garmin are working on their planning options which will include BaseCamp and that there will be a re-launch in October 2010. They plan to widen the ability to offer the BirdsEye concept for raster maps like OS Discoverer of various origins at various scales; so I think we can look forward to a growing portfolio of worldwide mapping available either by download or on MicroSD card.

We believe that Garmin have realised that there is a growing demand for international mapping. Until recently Garmin Europe was split into various distributorships like Garmin Iberia & France each company was independent and produced mapping just for their region: all of which made it difficult if you wished to purchase Topo Spain for instance.

All of this is now changing and there is a growing list of international mapping available; GPST can supply you with any [maps on this list](#) but you should be aware that delivery may be 10 days or so as these maps will be produced on demand.



For more information this subject or about GPS Training visit our website www.gpstraining.co.uk or call us on 01768 885855