

Re: Beginner Needs Mapping Help

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"Guinness Mann" <gmann@dublin.com> wrote in message
news:ci7fsr011ug@news1.newsguy.com...

> *Greetings,*

>

> *I am a beginner in the GPS/mapping world, although I've long been
> looking forward to the day when a useful mapping/routing device was
> affordable enough, small enough, and had a long enough battery life to
> be carried in a pocket. I'm still eagerly awaiting the day when gps
> features are built into every cell-phone, pda, laptop, walkman and
> automobile.*

>

> *I've solved the first problem with a Garmin GPSmap 76CS. I love it to
> death, but since I purchased it I find that there is a whole world of
> knowledge and applications just waiting to make it even more useful.*

>

> *For instance I found GARtrip, loaded a few tracks into it, generated an
> elevation plot at the bottom, discovered that I could do screen captures
> of my Mapsource maps and (after calibration) display the maps behind my
> track files. Cool.*

>

> *The problem is that I am overwhelmed with all the learning that I must
> do to become facile at the format-conversions, tool-chaining,
> data-sourcing and general duct-taping necessary to get the most out of
> this hobby.*

>

> *So I was wondering if there is some commercial product that would
> encapsulate a large portion of this. I am well-aware that there is a
> large body of free data and utilities, but for right now I need
> something really easy that will support my habit while I learn enough to
> be effective with the free stuff.*

>

> *For instance, how about Maptech Terrain Navigator? Would that simplify
> the process of generating an annotated map showing where I've been? How
> about a 3D flyover? Is it ap*