

# Re: Garmin GPSMAP 76CX PC Connectivity

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- *From:* [dold@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:dold@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)
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Arizona Traveler <Arizona.Traveler@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

1) Are there external card readers (with or without adapters) that can read/write to the microSD card?

Don't know the answer to that, but TVNav.com is downright chatty.

2) Can you use it with a laptop for real-time positioning with 3rd party software (like DeLorme Topo USA, Nat. Geographic Backroads Explorer or MS Streets & Trips)? Can this be done with the serial or USB connection (or both)?

Almost any of the "tracking" programs will accept NMEA. NMEA is output on the serial port. Delorme Street Atlas 2005 will communicate with the 76 on the USB cable, but I don't know if real time tracking works with NMEA. There is also a GpsGate that allows NMEA via the USB port, but it costs \$19, more than the price of a serial cable.

The Garmin nRoute program will do real time tracking via USB.

3) Do uploaded/downloaded waypoints, routes and tracks need to be converted to a format that can be used with the software mentioned in #2 above? If so, what software is needed?

Upload/Download is always done via some program. The Garmin Mapsource normally saves in .edb format. Others tend to save in proprietary formats, or .gpx. I use ExpertGPS which saves in .gpx, an open spec interchange format that is also supported by Google Earth, and Mapsource.

The free gpsbabel translates to/from gpx, edb, and many others, and might also work directly with the 76, although I never use it directly.

4) Does anyone know of on-line stores that have accept opened returns

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without a restocking fee (with all the original contents, of course).  
With this kind of investment, I want to be able to get a full return if  
it doesn't do what I need it to do.

TVNav charges 10%, but 5% can be applied toward another unit.  
After a long chat with Darrel, you should know if the unit is right for you  
before it arrives.

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Clarence A Dold – Hidden Valley Lake, CA, USA GPS: 38.8,-122.5

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