

Re: Do any GPS units let you upload your own maps?

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.geo.satellite-nav/2007-04/msg00275.html>

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- *From:* nemo <[gnuarm@xxxxxxxx](mailto:gnuarm@xxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 16 Apr 2007 17:56:09 -0700
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On Apr 15, 11:07 pm, "Bruce W.1" <[s...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:s...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

Happy Trails wrote:

Um, that's a little PC running a sw pkg that is known to let you load raster maps. I think the OP was asking about standalone gps receivers that might do this.

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I'm talking about handheld consumer GPS. I've used OziExplorer to make track maps before. And one new model pulls maps from Google Maps. But I want one that lets me load my own map (image file). Of course they'd rather sell you the maps. But I find no point in buying a new GPS receiver until this feature is available. We have the technology. Is anyone making one yet?

I made a post a little while ago. It seems Google ate it up.

I have been thinking about a way to provide a more flexible GPS receiver solution. There are a number of issues I don't like about my current GPSr and one of them is that it can't do what my Palm can. I think it is inconvenient to use two devices when they are so much alike. The high end GPS receivers use perhaps 90% the same parts that go into a PDA.

It has occured to me that it is a lot easier to convert a PDA into a GPS receiver than it is to convert a GPS receiver into a PDA. Using one of the bluetooth receivers, a PDA can do the entire job. The only limitation is that it is not rugged/waterproof. But a PDA with GPSr front end would allow you to run \*any\* software you want including your own...

I currently use a program on the PC called USAPhotoMaps to manage my waypoints and get a visual idea of where I will be caching. It would

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be really super if I could use that on my GPSr! Then there is one other thing that I would like, a larger screen. That is just me maybe. I have trouble seeing my GPS when it is in the car. It would be nice to either have a larger screen on the GPS, maybe a 5" diagonal, or perhaps plug it into a larger screen in the car, like maybe a 10" diagonal in the dash.

It is not hard to build the electronics of a PDA-like device that would do everything listed above. The rugged case is the harder part. Then the software would be a significant effort. But I am thinking that this is the way I want to go.

Would anyone else be interested in something like this? Does this make any sense at all or am I pretty crazy?

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