



## Creating a Map



Create personalised, annotated, customised maps using Google Maps. Your maps can contain the following:

- Placemarks
- Lines
- Shapes

Once you have created a map, you can:

- Add descriptive text, including rich text and HTML
- Embed photos and videos in your map
- [Share your maps with others](#)

To create or edit maps, you must be signed in to your Google Account. If you do not have an account, [create one now](#).

## Creating a Map

Creating a map is easy. Here are the basic steps:

1. Click **My Maps**
2. Click **Create new map**.
3. Add a title and description for your map.
4. Decide whether the map should be **public** or **unlisted**. Public maps are automatically included in Google Maps search.
5. Use the icons in the top left corner of the map. These include:



Selection tool. Use this to drag the map and select placemarks, lines and shapes.



Placemark tool. Use this to add placemarks.



Line tool. Use this to draw lines.



Shape tool. Use this to draw shapes.

You can return to your map at any time. Just go to Google Maps and click **My Maps**. Sign in to your Google Account and select the map from your list of maps.

## Deleting Your Maps

To delete a map that you have created:

1. Click **My Maps**. A list of your maps appears in the **Created by me** section.
2. Click the **X** beside the map that you wish to delete.

## Sharing Your Maps

Once you have created a map, you can share it with others. To do this:

1. Click the title of the map that you want to share.
2. Click **Link to this page** above the map.
3. You can share this URL with your friends by sending it in an email or posting it on your blog or website.

## Adding Photos

You can add photos to your map, as long as they are hosted online. Please use a service such as [Google PicasaWeb](#) to put your photos online. To add photos:

1. Create or open a map.
2. Click the appropriate placemark, line, shape. The info window appears.
3. Click **Edit**.
4. Choose **Rich Text** or **Edit HTML**.
5. If you chose Rich Text mode, click the photo icon above the description field (the last one in the toolbar). Enter the URL of the photo you would like to add.
6. If you chose Edit HTML mode, use the `<img>` tag to add photos. For example, `` adds the Google Maps logo to your map with a width of 150 pixels and a height of 55 pixels.
7. Click **OK** to save your changes.

## Adding Videos

You can add [Google Video](#) and [YouTube](#) videos to your map. To do this:

1. Create or open a map.
2. Click the appropriate placemark, line or shape. The info window appears.
3. Click **Edit**.
4. Choose **Edit HTML**.
5. Find the video you want on YouTube or Google Video. Copy the snippet of code that lets you embed the video into a website or blog.

- **On Google Video, the snippet looks like this:**  

```
<embed style="width:400px; height:326px;"
id="VideoPlayback" type="application/x-shockwave-
flash" src="http://video.google.com/
googleplayer.swf?docId=-274981837129821058&hl=en"
flashvars=""> </embed>
```
- **On YouTube, the snippet looks like this:**  

```
<object width="425" height="350"><param
name="movie" value="http://www.youtube.com/v/
hKoB0MHVBvM"></param><param name="wmode"
value="transparent"></param><embed
src="http://www.youtube.com/v/hKoB0MHVBvM"
type="application/x-shockwave-flash"
wmode="transparent" width="425"
height="350"></embed></object>
```

6. Paste the snippet of code into the description field of your placemark, line or shape.
7. Click **OK** to save your changes.