

Creating a Custom Map with Google Maps

1. Log into your Google account. If you don't have one, go here:
<https://accounts.google.com/NewAccount>
2. Click on the, "My Places", link near the top left.
3. Click on the red, "Create Map" link near the top left.
4. Now you can see the new Untitled map you've started as well as the map Editing and Zoom tools you'll use to create your map.
5. Enter a Title for your map and a Description if you choose.
6. Tic the circle next to "Public" or "Private" according to your preference.
7. In the upper-right corner, you may want to click, "Satellite" for a view of the terrain, roads, houses, etc. for better navigation and locating points of interest.
8. Zoom in by using the, "+", sign on the Zoom Tool to precisely locate where you want to put a Placemark. Click-hold and drag on the map to re-position it after zooming.
9. Click on the blue Placemark peg in your tools area, and then click the physical map to place your marker on the map.
10. Other editing tools allow you to draw lines & shapes, add traffic, photos, weather, etc. to your map.
11. Your map saves automatically signified by the, "Saved" button. When you're finished editing, click the, "Done" button. You also have a "Print" icon and "Link" icon which allows you to copy a link to your map to send to someone or copy the HTML code to embed your map into a web page or blog.
12. When you go back to your map, you can click the red "Edit" button to add to, move a Placemark, or change anything.
13. One last thing, when adding a Google map to a web page or blog, you will need a key from Google Maps API, <http://tinyurl.com/42fhz15>. The key is for a particular URL, just follow the instructions at the URL above for plugging in your map.