



Using Earthcomber on Your Palm

This chapter shows you everything you need to know to use Earthcomber on your Palm device. You should already have followed the steps earlier in this manual to download to your Palm the Earthcomber software, Look Lists, maps and location data.

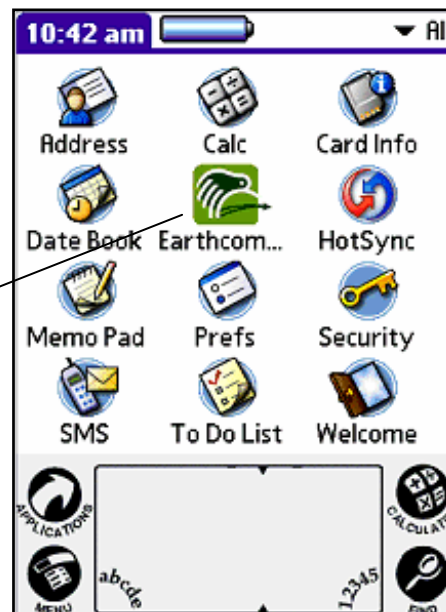
Basic Steps for Using Earthcomber

Earthcomber is a powerful application but extremely simple to use. You simply:

1. Select the favorites you want Earthcomber to comb for. See page 4.
2. View your results – the places that have your favorites. You can view results on a map or in a text list. See page 5 for the map or page 11 for the list.
3. Other functions of Earthcomber allow you to set preferences for how you want Earthcomber to behave. See page 13. You can also use utility functions to manage the data on your Palm. See page 17.

Starting Earthcomber on Your Palm

Find Earthcomber on your Palm menu and tap it.





The Earthcomber Main Menu

Tap here to select the favorites you want Earthcomber to comb for.

Tap here to comb for places that have your favorites. You see these places on a map.

Tap here to get help anywhere in Earthcomber.

Tap here to comb for places that have your favorites. You see these places in a text list.

Tap here to see a list of any spots that you have marked on the map.

Major Controls

Most Earthcomber screens contain a common set of controls across the top.

Return to home screen.

Every major screen has a common set of controls across the top.

Comb for favorites and see results in a list.

Select favorites you want to comb for.

Comb for favorites and see results on a map.

Display a list of any spots that you have marked on the map.

Look for a GPS signal. See the next page for details.

Get help for the current screen.



Global Positioning System (GPS)

Do you have a GPS signal on your Palm device? GPS is not required, but if you have it, Earthcomber will know exactly where you are. If you do not have GPS, there are other ways to tell Earthcomber where you are. See page 7 for details.

To tell Earthcomber to look for a GPS signal, press the GPS button on the top row.

Look for a GPS signal. The button color changes to tell you the GPS status.



Status Colors for GPS Signals

After you press the GPS button, the color of the button changes depending on the GPS signal.



(Green) Earthcomber is reading the GPS signal and is receiving a valid latitude/longitude. This is the desired status.



(Yellow) Earthcomber is reading the GPS signal but the latitude/longitude is not valid. You may need to wait until the GPS device can accurately find its location.



(Red) Earthcomber cannot read the GPS signal. You may need to turn on the GPS device, reset it, or tap on the GPS button again.

If you are new to the GPS world, here are a couple of points to keep in mind:

- Some GPS devices can take 1 to 2 minutes to warm up. Be patient when you first start the GPS device.
- Some GPS devices do not receive well in “urban valleys” with tall buildings all around you, or when the sky is heavily overcast. If the GPS button is yellow, Earthcomber cannot read your location. Be patient while you wait for a better GPS signal.

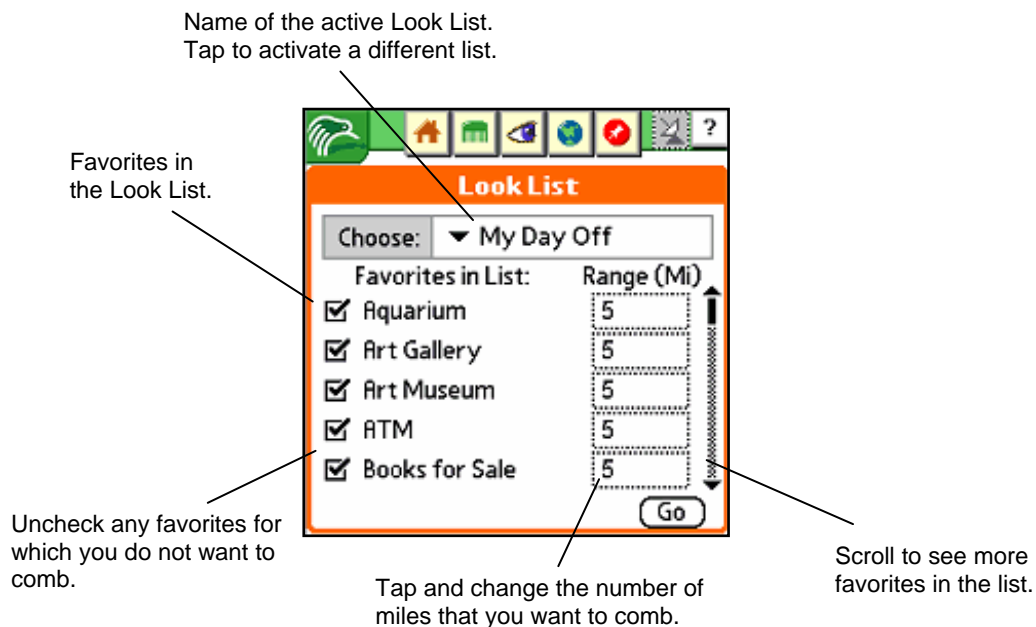


Selecting Favorites You Want to Comb For

Earthcomber combs for the favorites you have selected in a Look List. You can have one Look List active at a time. Within a Look List, you can turn individual favorites off and on, and change the range of miles that you want to comb for each favorite.

Note: To create or modify a Look List, use the Earthcomber website: www.earthcomber.com

1. Follow these steps to select the active Look List:
2. On your Palm, choose **Select Favorites** from the Earthcomber home screen.
3. On the **Look List** screen:



4. Press **Go** to see any places in range that match your favorites.

Earthcomber shows these places either in a list or on the map. Use the **preferences** option on the main Earthcomber screen to change where Earthcomber takes you after you press **Go**.

Note: If you have not identified your current location, Earthcomber selects a map and location for you.



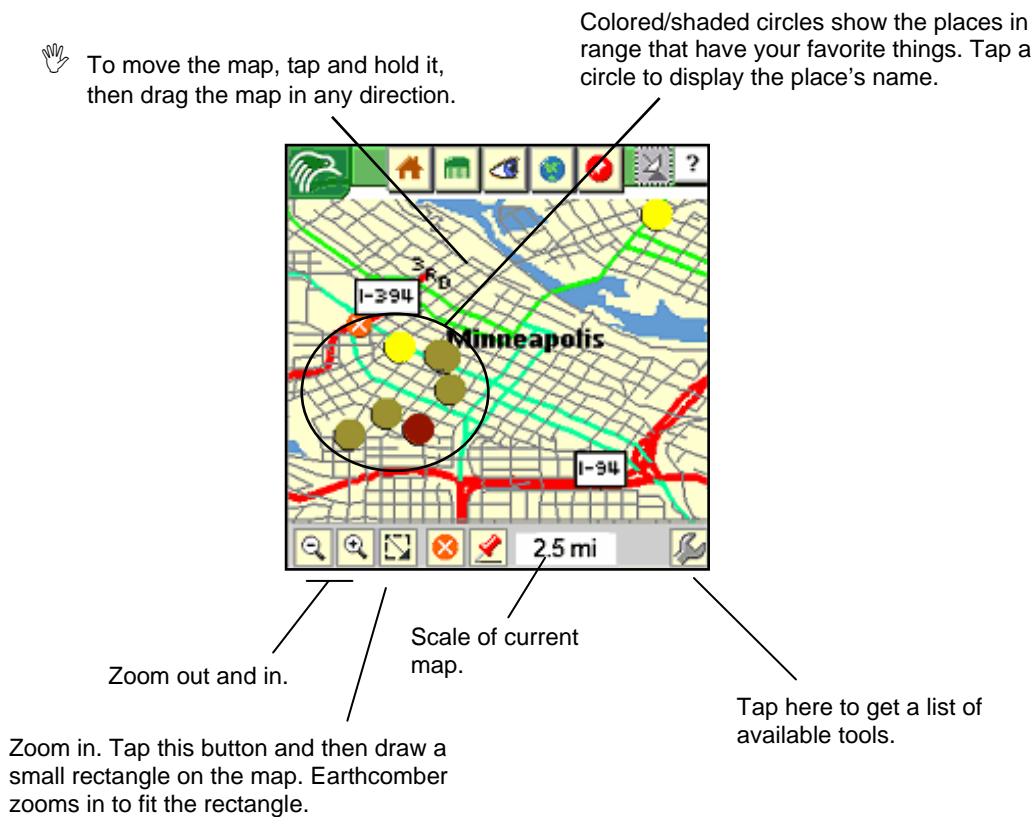
Viewing Results on a Map

After selecting the favorites you want to comb for, you can find places in two ways: on a map or in a list. Use the steps below to display favorites on a map.

1. On your Palm, choose **View Map** from the Earthcomber home screen.












On the **map** screen, Earthcomber uses colored/shaded circles to show places in range that have your favorite things. See the next page for more details.

2. Use Earthcomber's controls to navigate the map:





Summary of Map Controls



To achieve this result	Do this
Zoom in or out	Press  or 
Zoom in to a specific area	Press  and then draw a rectangle on the map where you want to zoom in.
Move the map	Tap and hold the map, then drag it in any direction.
Search for an address	Press  and then select Find Address . See page 10.
Mark your location	On the map, drag the  marker to your new location, or press the  button at the bottom of the map screen and then tap the map where you want to mark your location.
Display a street name	Tap the street to display the street's name. Tap the name again to remove it.
Display more information about a place	Tap the colored circle  that shows the place's location Tap  for more information (address, description, close-up map location)
Remove location, places and labels	Press  and then Clear Screen . Caution: If you do not mark your location again, Earthcomber will not be able to comb for your favorites.
Select a different map	Press  and then Select Map .
Show or hide your own spots (to reduce clutter on the screen)	Press  and then Hide/Show Spots .



Where Are You on The Map?


Earthcomber needs to know your current location on the map so that it can find your favorite things. If you have not told Earthcomber where you are, it will set your location marker in the middle of the most populated area of the map you are viewing.

Since you are probably not exactly in this spot, you should use one of the following methods to set your location:

- **Method 1** - If you have GPS (global positioning system), Earthcomber will use the GPS signal to set your location. See page 3.
- **Method 2** - Tap and hold the location marker on the map, and then drag it to your new location. See the picture below.
- **Method 3** - Press  and then tap your location on the map. See the picture below.
- **Method 4** - Press  and then search for an address. See page 10.

This is the location marker. Earthcomber combs for places within range of this location. You can drag the marker to a different location.

Colored/shaded circles show the places in range that have your favorite things. Tap a circle to display the place's name.



Tap a street to display its name. Tap the name to remove it.

Mark your location. After tapping this button, tap the map where you want to mark your location.

Tools are available here to search for an address, load a new map, or clear labels and spots.

Caution: Remember that if you do not mark your location again, Earthcomber will not be able to comb for your favorites because it will not know where you are.



Don't See Any Places That Have Your Favorites?


Your current location may be too far away from any places that match your favorites. Try one of the following:

- Go to the **Select Favorites** screen to select a different Look List, or to expand the range of miles you are combing. See page 4.
- Make sure your location marker is in the right place. See page 7.



Displaying More Information About a Place

If you want to get more information about any place shown on a map, follow these steps:

1. Tap a colored/shaded circle to display the place's name. Then tap  to see a basic description.



2. Tap **Desc.** to see a longer description.



3. Tap **Map** to see the place on a close-up map.



4. The close-up map shows only the place you are viewing. Tap **Map Controls** to return to the normal map.

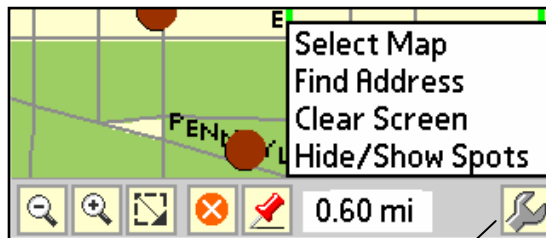




Locating Yourself on the Map: Address Search

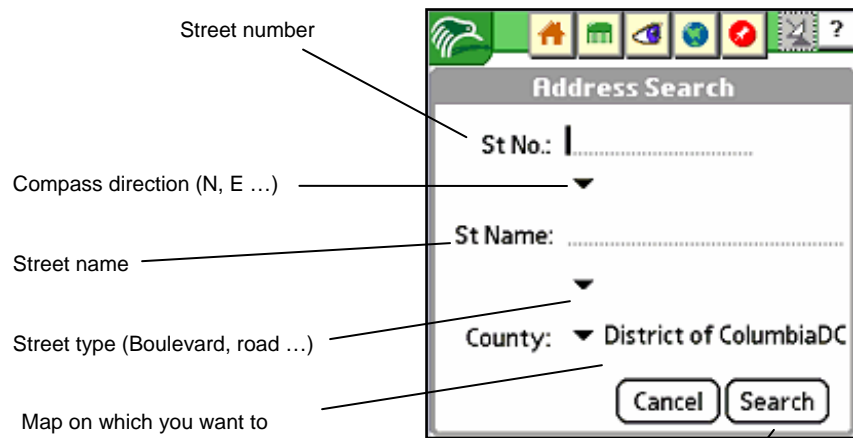
If you know the address of your current location, you can quickly locate yourself on an Earthcomber map. Follow these steps:

1. On the **map** screen, tap the tools button and then select **Address Search**.



Tap the tools button, and then select **Find Address**

2. On the **Address Search** screen, enter as much information as you can about the address.
 - You do not have to complete all entries. However, you must enter a street number and at least part of the street name.
 - Make sure that you have selected the correct map next to **County**



Press Search to begin the search

3. Press **Search** to begin the search. If Earthcomber finds multiple addresses that match, you will be asked to select which address you want.
4. When Earthcomber finds the address, it positions you there on the map.



Viewing Results in a List

After selecting the favorites you want to comb for, you can find places in two ways: on a map or in a list. Use the steps below to display the list.

1. On your Palm, choose **Comb for Favorites** from the Earthcomber home screen.

The **Hit List** screen shows any places in range that match your favorites. The closest favorites are listed first.

2. On the **Hit List** screen:

These are the favorites that Earthcomber found within range of your location.

Name of the active Look List.

Favorites Found:	Distance (mi):
Museum	0.1
Art Museum	0.1
ATM	0.2
Movie Theater	0.4
Shopping Center	0.5

Tap a favorite to display a list of places that match this favorite.

Scroll to see more places.

Don't See Any Places That Have Your Favorites?

Your current location may be too far away from any places that match your favorites. Try one of the following:

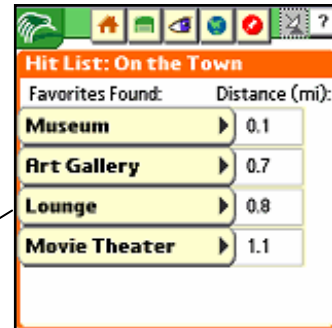
- Go to the **Select Favorites** screen to select a different Look List, or to expand the range of miles you are combing. See page 4.
- Make sure your location marker is in the right place. See page 7.



Showing Places that Have a Favorite

The **Hit List** screen shows all the favorites in range of your location. You can drill down to see the places that have each favorite. Follow these steps:

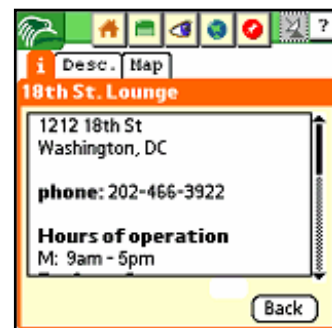
1. Tap a favorite to see the places that have that favorite (in this example, *Lounge*).



2. Tap any place for which you want more information (in this example, *18th St. Lounge*).



3. Tap the **Desc.** and **Map** tabs to see more detailed information. See page for 9 details.






Marking Your Own Spots on the Map

Anytime you are looking at a map, you can mark spots that are significant to you. Once you mark a spot, you can keep it as a private spot – available only on your Palm. Or you can choose to copy it to the Earthcomber website. Once on the website, you can keep the spots in your own private area, or you can copy/move the spots to other groups. Any spots contributed to a public group become part of Earthcomber, and will show up on the maps of all members of that group.

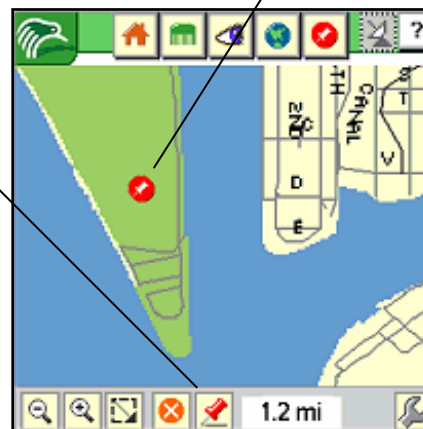
For more information about sharing spots with other people, see the full Earthcomber user's guide or the Community chapter. The sections below describe only how to mark and manage spots on the Palm.

Marking Spots on the Palm

1. On the **map** screen, tap 
2. Tap the map where you want to mark a spot. A small red icon appears.

Tap the spot-marker button ...

... and then tap the spot
you want to mark

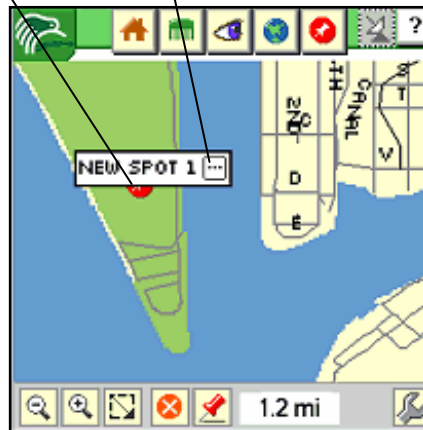




- To name and describe the spot, tap it to display its label. Then tap

Tap the spot you marked ...

... and then tap



- Use the next screen to enter more information about the spot. You can also use the **Desc** tab to enter additional notes.

You can provide a name, address and phone number for the spot.

Tap here if you want to enter more information about the spot.

Desc. | Map

Name: Picnic Spot

Address: Ohio Drive, Washington DC

Phone:

Geocode: 38.8639,-77.0241

Time: 2/23/05 9:48

Save Cancel Copy to Web

Be sure to click the Save button to save any changes.

Check this box if you want to copy this spot to your Inbox on the Earthcomber website. The spot will be copied when you synchronize and use the Earthcomber Windows application.



Managing Your Marked Spots on the Palm

At any time, you can see a list of the spots you have marked on the Palm. From this list, you can edit the spots, delete them, or display them on the map.

1. Choose **View My Spots** from the Earthcomber home screen.
2. On the **Spot Manager** screen:

Tap a spot to see details for it.



Tap the globe to display the spot on the map.

Tap here to delete a spot.

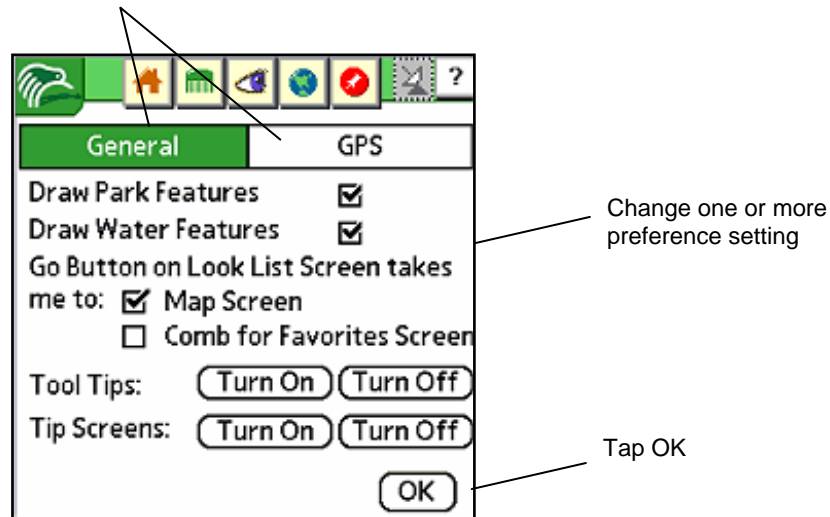


Preference Settings

You can use preference settings to change key operating features of Earthcomber.

1. On your Palm, choose **preferences** from the Earthcomber home screen.
2. On the next screen, select **General** or **GPS** settings.

Select the type of settings you want to change



Preference Setting	Purpose
General Preferences	
Draw Park Features / Draw Water Features	Turn off drawing to speed up map display; leave on for a more accurate display
Go Button on Look List Screen takes me to:	Choose whether you see results on the map or in a list after you work with Look Lists and press Go
Tool Tips / Tip Screens	Turn tips off or on everywhere
GPS Preferences	
GPS Connection	Identify how your GPS device is connected to your handheld
Comb Frequency	Control how often Earthcomber combs for favorites. Increase the frequency if you are in motion and want to see frequent updates of the places around you.

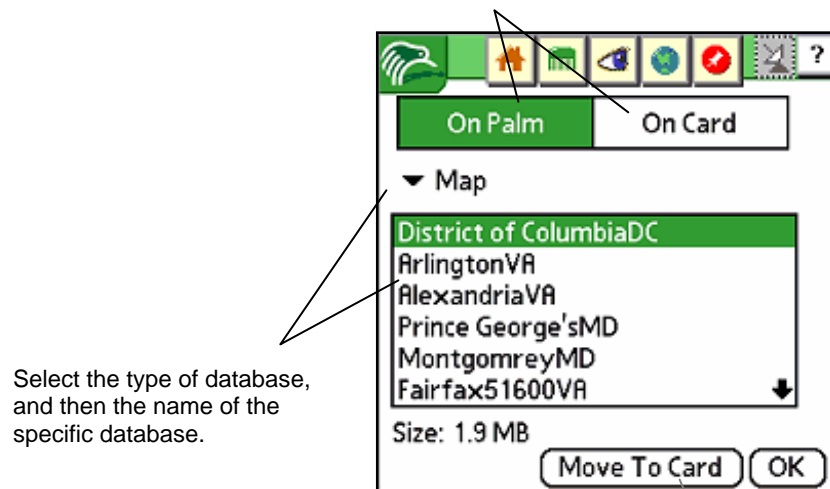


Palm Utilities

You can beam data to another Earthcomber, move data between your device and a memory card, or delete data.

1. On your Palm, choose **utilities** from the Earthcomber home screen.
2. On the **Utilities** screen, select the function you want to use.
3. On the next screen:
 - Select whether you want to work with the memory card or device. This option appears only if you are moving data.
 - Select the type of database and the name of the specific database you want to work with.
 - Press an action button (beam, delete, move).

If you are moving data, select the location of the data.



Select the type of database, and then the name of the specific database.

Press the action button (beam, delete, move).

For Earthcomber to Work Properly, You Need...

- Earthcomber application
- At least one map
- The "comb database" that matches the map
- At least one Look List



Tips and Tricks

Here are some miscellaneous tips and tricks that will help you get more out of Earthcomber on your Palm:

Keeping your orientation when you zoom in and out

When you zoom in and out, it's easy to lose track of where you are on the map. To help you keep your place, display the label for a street or place of interest before you zoom. The label remains even as you zoom in or out, helping you keep your orientation on the map.

Combining results from Look Lists

It is currently not possible to display locations from multiple Look Lists. However, you can achieve the same effect by taking advantage of the fact that location labels remain visible when you switch Look Lists. Follow these steps:

1. Using the first Look List, find places of interest on a map.
2. Display the labels for these places by tapping on them.
3. Switch Look Lists and return to the map. You can now see the labels from the first Look List and the places that match your second Look List.

Speeding up the Display of Maps

If a map contains large areas of water or parks, the display speed can suffer. To speed up display, use the **Preferences** settings to turn off the display of these areas.