

**--- DATA SHEET ---**

**Field Acreage Calculation Method for GPS76/72, MAP76 and MAP76S**

First of all, in general, you drive or walk around the field perimeter, as your gps records a trail of points (a 'tracklog'). You then take this trail (the 'active tracklog') and save it as a 'saved tracklog'. Area and perimeter length are displayed on the GPS screen as attributes of each saved track.

**Exact steps:**

- drive to field and stop somewhere along the outside of the field
- turn on gps, wait for it to get initialized, press menu key twice
- highlight tracks (using up or down rocker key) and hit enter
- clear any leftover active tracklog by doing the following:
  - highlight clear and hit enter; highlight yes and press enter
- while still at the 'tracks' page press menu and highlight 'setup track log'
- make sure 'recording' is set to wrap when full; 'record method' set to auto and interval to most often (use rocker up/down and enter key to do this)
- you can also set 'record method' to 'time' and enter 1 sec or 2 seconds as the logging interval
- finish off the track setup by highlighting 'OK' and pressing enter
- press the page key until you get to the gps 'map' page
- press zoom in or zoom out until the scalebar reads about 120 ft (not 120 miles)
- you will see the field boundary being created as you drive; zoom in/out as needed
- drive around the field perimeter until you get back to your approximate starting point, turn track log recording off (at tracks page, press "menu" highlight "setup tracklog" and turn "recording" to off).
- hold the GPS unit in a vertical position, or use an external gps antenna, for best satellite reception
- the tracklog/field boundary will be created no matter what screen you are on, so you can use different screens such as the gps information page to check gps accuracy, etc.
- press menu twice; highlight tracks, press enter; highlight save; select entire log
- you will then see area in acres; highlight OK and press enter to save this tracklog
- you could also change the 'name' from the date to something like 'field-3'
- repeat above for each interior exclusion area like a bluff or slough
- add up the exclusion area(s) with pencil and paper and subtract from the main field area to get the correct area for the field; you can't do this inside the gps unit

**Notes:**

- the GPS manuals cover tracks and track information BUT area is a new feature of the 'track information page' and is not in the manual
- If you have a Map76/Map76S disable the lock to road feature: On Map page press menu, select mapsetup, tab along the options on the top of the GPS screen (the lock to roads feature is under the OTHER option)
- you need software version 2.04 or higher (GPS76/MAP76) or 2.00 or higher (MAP76S) to get the area feature (check your unit by pressing menu twice, highlighting 'system Info' and pressing enter)
- if your unit has an earlier version you can upgrade by downloading the free upgrade from [www.garmin.com](http://www.garmin.com)
- track record method could also be set to 'time' or 'distance', rather than 'auto' (we have done hundreds of fields and generally use 2 second logging)
- taking an 'active tracklog' and saving it as a 'saved tracklog' reduces the number of tracklog points in the field boundary and generalizes the shape somewhat; if you want a 'full resolution' field boundary, then copy the active tracklog to your computer using GPS Trackmaker, OZI Explorer, Fugawi or Garmin's MapSource program which comes with every MapSource CD-ROM