

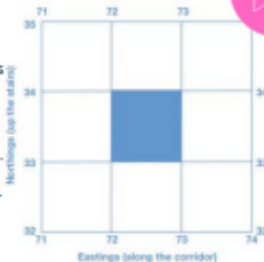
Geography - Upper KS2 Year A



Maps have a grid system to help locate places with accuracy. The horizontal lines that divide the map are known as eastings and the vertical lines are known as northings. All of the eastings and northings are labelled with numbers that can be seen on all four edges of the map. By combining the numbers of the eastings and northings a grid reference is formed. A four-digit grid reference corresponds to a specific square on the map, allowing you to accurately describe an area on the map.

To find a place using a four-figure grid reference

Remember the rule: always go 'along the corridor' before going 'up the stairs'. In this example, you are looking for the grid reference 7233. First use the eastings to go 'along the corridor' until you come to the first two-digit number in the reference (72). Then use the northing to go 'up the stairs' until you find the second two-digit number in the reference (33). The reference takes you to the bottom left-hand corner of the square you are looking for on the map.



Why do we have maps? How do they help us?

Maps of the World - Features and 4 and 6 figure grid references - Why are maps useful?



Map key: a little box of information found at the bottom of a map. It contains an explanation of what the different lines and symbols on the map mean

Map scale: A map is always smaller than the area it represents. Most maps include something called a scale to show how much smaller the map is. The scale shows how distances on the map are related to the actual distances.

Line of longitude and latitude: a system of lines used to describe the location of any place on Earth. Lines of latitude run in an east-west direction across Earth. Lines of longitude run in a north-south direction

Equator: an imaginary circle around Earth. It divides Earth into two equal parts: the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere.

Prime meridian: An imaginary line running from the north of the earth to the south

To describe a location using a six-figure grid reference

First find the four-figure grid reference for the square that the location is in and write it down with a space after each set of numbers: 72 33. Then imagine this square is divided up into 100 smaller squares with 10 squares along each side. Still remembering to go along the corridor and up the stairs, work out the numbers to indicate the bottom left-hand corner of the smaller square and put them into your four-figure grid reference: 725 333.



Maps contain several features that help us to better understand the information presented about a specific place. For instance, a map generally has a title, compass rose, map key and map scale. Some maps also have map insets to represent land that is too small or out of frame. Maps of the world usually show the lines of longitude and latitude.

