Product Information Sheet

GBR - Geopoint

1. INTRODUCTION

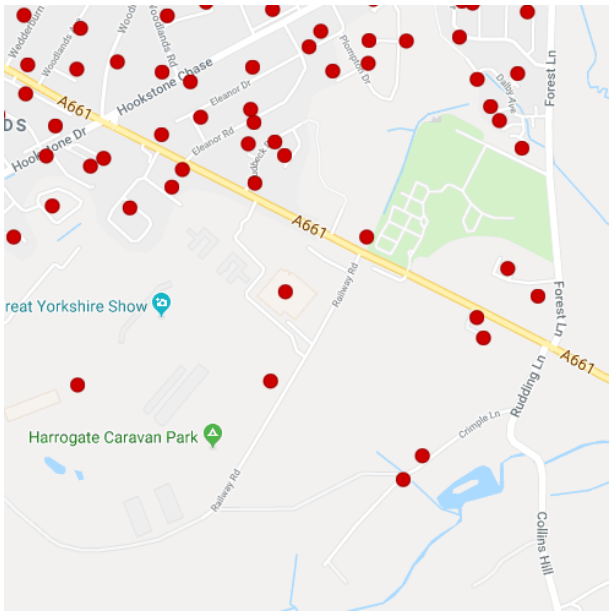
The Geopoint product is a Unit Postcode Point file which provides the geographic position of each of the 1.7 million Postcodes (e.g. HG3 1GP) in the UK. The data has been sourced from the OS Codepoint (Open) and Geoplan to provide one of the most complete Postcode datasets on the market in terms of coverage and geo-referenced postcodes.

Geoplan have undertaken cleansing and validation processes to ensure that each of the 1.7 million Postcodes now has a non-zero grid reference, resulting in one of the most popular full Postcode point files available in the UK.

This dataset is the ideal product for analysing customer distribution, proximity analysis, locating retail outlets, accurate map navigation and the display and analysis of geo-demographic classification systems at Full Postcode level.

If you have any questions relating to the information in this document, please contact Geoplan Support on +44 (0)1423 722719, or email support@geoplan.com. The Support Team is available Monday – Friday, 9.00am – 5.00pm GMT, excluding UK public holidays.

2. IMAGES



3. DATA

Layer Name	Total Records
Geopoint	Approx. 1,760,000

Source - Geoplan
Recency – Updated quarterly
Geographical Coverage and Accuracy – UK, including Jersey, Guernsey and Isle of Man.
Projection – OSGB. WGS84 and other projections available on request.
Available Formats – SHP, TAB, MIF, CSV, TXT and other formats available on request.
Layer Type – Point layer
Attributes –

Column Name	Description	Column Format	Example
GEO_UNIT	Geoplan Postcode Unit	char(7),Indexed	AB101AF
COM_UNIT	Commercial Postcode Unit	char(8),Indexed	AB10 1AF
GEO_SUB	Geoplan Postcode Sub Sector	char(6)	AB101A
COM_SUB	Commercial Postcode Sub Sector	char(7)	AB10 1A

GEO_SECT	Geoplan Postcode Sector	char(5)	AB101
COM_SECT	Commercial Postcode Sector	char(6)	AB10 1
GEO_DIST	Geoplan Postcode District	char(4)	AB10
COM_DIST	Commercial Postcode District	char(4)	AB10
POSTAREA	Commercial Postcode Area	char(2)	AB
POS_QUAL	The position quality of the postcode	char(3)	10
X_COORD	British National Grid X coordinate	integer	394181
Y_COORD	British National Grid Y coordinate	integer	806429
LONGITUDE	WGS84 longitude	decimal(20,6)	1.5468
LATITUDE	WGS84 Latitude format	decimal(20,6)	54.584
NHS*	NHS Health Authority Code	char(9)	S08000020
NHS_R*	NHS Regional Health Authority Code	char(9)	E19000003
COUNTRY*	Country code	char(9)	S92000003
COUNTY*	County code	char(9)	E19000003
DISTRICT*	District code	char(9)	S12000033
WARD*	Ward code	char(9)	S13002842
HEIGHT*	Height in metres	integer	20
OUTWARD	The postcode outward code	char(4)	AB10
INWARD	The postcode inward code	char(3)	1AF
GEOGRAPHIC	Geographic indicator	char(1)	N

* Not available for BT, GY, JE and IM Postcode Areas.

4. DATA HEALTH

Data Health	Green

- Up to 1 metre resolution (refer to Positional Quality Indicator for more information)
- Updated quarterly
- One of the most complete Postcode datasets on the market, in terms of coverage and geo-reference Postcodes.

5. LICENSE INFORMATION

License type- Perpetual
Update cycle – Updated quarterly

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

POS_QUAL

The positional quality indicator (PQI) is a flag to indicate the positional accuracy of the coordinates allocated to each postcode record.

There are potentially 10 PQI values for the positional quality in this product. The order shown indicates the level of quality associated with the PQI, PQ10 is the most accurate and PQ90 the least. PQI values 90A, 90D, and 90S may be more accurate than some of the other flags that are available in some instances, but due to its validation process for these Postcodes it is simply matched by the Postcode geography (90A = Postcode Area, 90D = Postcode District, and 90S = Postcode Sector) it has been matched to.

All postcodes have a 1m resolution, but the data at source will seek to provide the most accurate coordinates according to the hierarchy detailed in the following table:

Layer Name	Total Records
10	Automatically calculated to be within the building of the matched address closest to the postcode mean.
20	As for status value 1, except by visual inspection of Land-Line maps.
30	Approximate to within 50 m of true position.
40	Postcode unit mean – (mean of matched addresses with the same postcode, but not snapped to a building).
50	Postcode imputed by ONS by reference to surrounding known postcodes.
60	Postcode sector mean – mainly PO boxes.
80	Postcode terminated. No postcodes of this type will be provided by Gridlink, nor should they be provided to Gridlink. Consortium members may wish to hold this information for historical purposes. The accuracy of the data is as indicated by its status value immediately prior to its termination.
90A	Postcode has been located within the appropriate Postcode Area Boundary
90D	Postcode has been located within the appropriate Postcode District Boundary
90S	Postcode has been located within the appropriate Postcode Sector Boundary
90	No coordinates available. (This flag is available if ever circumstances arises for its use) Currently Geopoint always provides a Grid Reference in conjunction with the other PQIs.

Geopoint provides a grid reference, to a resolution of 1 metre, for each postcode unit in the UK, and at source (for some Postcodes) is known as the CPLC (Code-Point location coordinate). A CPLC is normally allocated to a point that falls within the extent of the postcode unit. The point is given the ADDRESS-POINT coordinates of the nearest delivery point to the calculated mean position of the delivery points in the unit. A lower positional quality CPLC will be allocated to postcode units awaiting a surveyed position, or which relate to addresses that will not have a surveyed position.

Where several postcode units apply to one surveyed position, for example, a block of flats or offices, there is an identical CPLC for each. However, there may be instances where the CPLC position is imprecise or approximate due to the manual allocation by Royal Mail of a postcode outside the recognised geographical extent of that postcode. When discovered or notified to Ordnance Survey these will be referred to Royal Mail for possible improvement.

NHS_R

This is the National Health Service Regional Authority Geopoint falls within.

COUNTRY, COUNTY, DISTRICT & WARD

The code used by Office of National Statistics to indicate the country in which the Geopoint geo-reference lies.

POSTCODE

The Postcode is part of a coding system created and used by the Royal Mail across the United Kingdom for sorting mail. In other words, Postcodes are an abbreviated form of address, and enable a group of Delivery Points to be specifically identified. When originally created, the Postcode was 'designed' around the capability of Royal Mail sorting equipment to read and interpret typed or handwritten text on mail. This is why Royal Mail prefers the Postcode to be separate and on the last line of an address. The format and rules concerning Postcode layout, in particular which letters can or cannot be used, stem from the fact that certain letters or combinations of letters could be confused (e.g. 'O' and 'Q', or 'V' next to 'V' being misread as 'W').

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