

Getting Started with MapInfo Professional

How Do I Get MY Excel Data to Show Up on a Map?

The import process is simpler if your data starts on the first row with no column headings. We recommend you remove column headings and save your data to a temporary file.

To display your Excel data in MapInfo Professional:

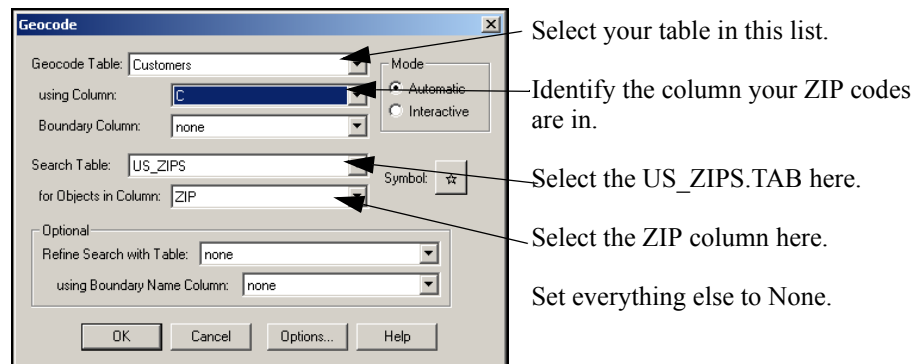
1. Choose File > Open to display the Open dialog.
2. In the Files of Type list, select the format (.XLS), navigate to your data, and click Open.
3. A dialog displays so you can choose the worksheet you want in your MapInfo data table. Make sure this data has either 5 digit ZIP codes or longitude/latitude coordinate values.

Note: If you use the top row for column headings, select the Use Row Above Selected Range for Column Titles check box. Then select Other from the Named Range drop-down and select the cell range of the data you want to include in the table.

4. To plot your data, use the method that reflects the data you have:
 - If your data contains 5 digit ZIP codes, use the Geocode method
 - If your data contains longitude/latitude coordinates, use the Create Points method
5. Lastly, follow the instructions in *Displaying Your Data* to see the results!

Using the Geocode Method to Plot Data

1. Choose File > Open and navigate to the US_ZIPS.TAB in Tut_Data\Tut_USA sample data. You can find it on the MapInfo Professional CD or in your MapInfo/Data directory.
2. Choose Table > Geocode and complete the dialog as follows:



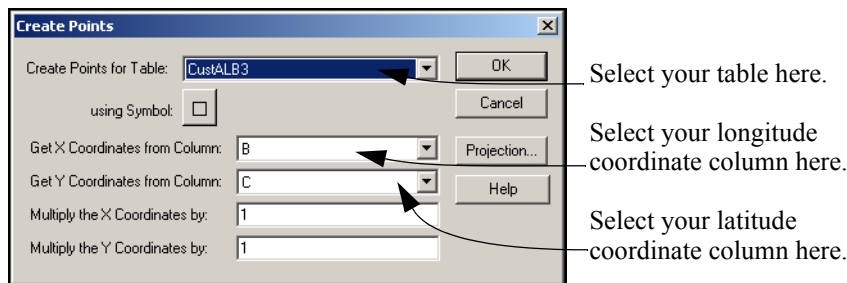
Note: If Geocode is not selectable or if you need to use the Converter Tool, choose File > Save Copy As to make an editable copy of your table. Then, close the open table file, open the copy you just made, and modify it by selecting Table > Maintenance > Table Structure to set the coordinate columns to Float or Decimal.

3. Click OK to plot the data. See *Displaying Your Data* to show the results!

Using Create Points to Plot Data

To plot longitude/latitude data, your coordinate data must be in decimal degrees and not degrees, minutes, seconds format. The Converter tool (Tools > Tool Manager > Converter > Convert Column to Decimal Degrees) can do this for you if you follow the directions in the Note above.

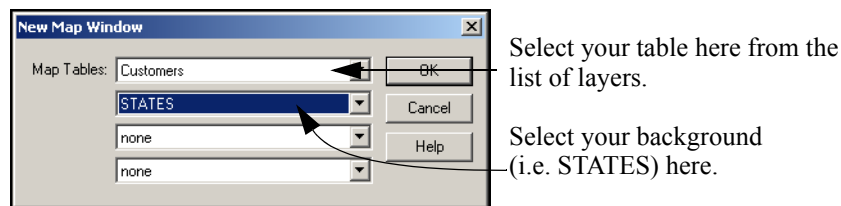
1. Choose Table > Create Points and complete the entries in the dialog as follows:




2. Choose File > Open and open a background table appropriate for your data such as US_CNTY or STATES in the Map_Data\Namerica\USA\USA_Maps sample data.
3. Click OK to plot these points. See *Displaying Your Data* to show the results!

Displaying Your Data

1. Choose Window > New Map Window and select the tables you want to display in your map. The order in which you select these tables determines the order they display.



2. Click OK to display your data on the map you selected.
3. To change the symbol used to display your data, click the Layer Control icon , select the row with your data in it, and click the Display button and select new display options.

Note: MapInfo Professional can also read your data if it is in: Microsoft Access (.MDB), dBase (.DBF), Delimited ASCII (*.TXT), or Lotus 1-2-3 (*.WKS, WK1...) format.