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www.tritonforum.com/forum**

Here is how you can use Google Earth and also use the produce of the PVT files from the Continuous Storage of Tracks on Your SD Card.

Whether is be a draft of a trail, contour, waypoint or any other feature you'd like to see on your Triton, from Google Earth and transfer to the Triton.

Some ideas for the process:

Geocaching Trails, back roads, lake/river contours, airport grounds (in case you get bored on the Tarmac, try to guess your gate before the flight attendant announces it), plan your next weekend getaway agenda on a trail, plan that commute shortcut no one else has noticed, or.... whatever other material you can think of.

How do it:

- **Download a very nifty freeware utility called KML2GPX <http://bbs.keyhole.com/ubb/showthreaded.php/Cat/0/Number/101188/page/0> and click on the "View in Google Earth" icon.). Place in any folder you like, it doesn't need to be installed, just double-click on it to use.**
- **Draw a "path" in google earth. I've drafted whole lake contours, as well as complete roads without a problem.**
- **Save the path in "My Places" within Goggle Earth.**
- **Right-click on the created path in google earth and select save-as... And choose KML as the File Format. Save it on any folder you choose.**
- **Execute KML2GPX and open the KML file you just saved, containing the path you created in GE's format.**
- **Convert the path to GPX format (it takes half a second)**
- **Open VantagePoint, and go to the Library section, and select Import from the top icons.**
- **Find your GPX file containing the converted path.**
- **Sync your vantagepoint to your Triton.**

There are no Limits:

I have created paths containing over 22,000 breadcrumbs (dots joined by a straight line), and that doesn't seem to interfere with the Triton's performance on the newer firmwares. Don't try paths too large because the Triton stores them on main memory, not on an SD card, so it does have a limit depending on your model and available memory.

NOTE: This limit does not apply if you are saving the breadcrumbs to the SD Card. Please see the menu for "How to Store Continuous Tracks on my SD Card".

Results:

The Triton should now have the path, in the exact shape you created it.

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I should tell you, the accuracy of GE is incredible. For instance, if you draw a box where you park

When you're downloading from the Keyhole website, do not open it to google earth. The file is a zip of the application, and it should run independently of Google Earth. Even though it seems it's supposed it is a Google Earth link, it is just a ZIP file with the program KML2GPX.exe.

Open the original link in Internet Explorer, and save it directly to disk. Unzip it and save the exe file on your hard drive.

Hope this helps.

Surrounding my community there are many hills with trails and fire-breaks that NG Topo does not show, however they are very visible on Google Earth. Even some of the more heavily traveled deer paths show! I often preview my planned hikes in GoogleEarth with a 'fly over'. It gives me a very good concept of the terrain and where to expect to find forks or intersections of these small trails.

How do you draw the path on the GE map?:

I can place waypoints with the pushpin icon but the "Add Path" icon only brings up a text entry box. I tried filling in some dummy info into the box just to get started but after closing the box with the OK button, the mouse cursor just reverts to the hand that moves the map around. I assume it should become a pencil-like pointer with which I can draw a path.

In GE, right-click over the map or within your "my places" list, and select "Add Path" (or "Add new path" option. There is also a little icon on the top of the map area that looks like three little square boxes joined by a line, in a connect-the-dots fashion...

Once you've found it, you can draw directly over the map in two ways: click-by-click forming a polygon, or continuous click, where you drag the mouse and form smoother curves and lines.

This is a great tool!

Quick Question: Can I go the other way? Can I create a trail on my Triton and then convert the file from VP format into GE format? I'd love to be able to go into GE after a trip and see exactly where I was.

I believe this is the site <http://www.gpsvisualizer.com/gpsbabel/>

Basically a cut and paste of the file you want to convert from one format to another.

There are 2 ways to do this. Create trails on your gps which you can turn on or off as you need them.

1. Search for directions to where you want to go in google earth

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- 2. When the directions come up, at the bottom of the directions right click on the route (the one that tells you how far and how much time it will take)**
- 3. Click "save as" and save it as a .kml file onto your computer**
- 4. Download that program that was listed in the above message (a very nifty freeware utility called KML2GPX and run it**
- 6. Convert your saved .kml file to .gpx with that program**
- 7. Import it into your vantagepoint (under library button) then sync with your gps.**

The other way is to plot out your own path and when you are done, right click on the icon for it on the left panel screen and follow the above directions.

This is what we recommend. I prefer the tracks rather than routes because it allows me to follow the roads exactly instead of from point to point.

And while you are in Google Earth, after planning your route, zoom in to some points (like geocache locations for example). Stick a pushpin icon at the coords if you did not already import a gpx for the location. Zoom to an appropriate level of clarity, then do a File, Email, Image and send it to yourself.

Open your email and save the attached .jpg file in your MyGPS folder with a filename to match the point of interest.

Then open VantagePoint to the library of geocaches and double click on the cache or waypoint of interest. Then Add, Media of the .jpg file to be associated with this location, and Save.

Finally, Sync it to your Triton.

When you are out on the trail and open the info page for the cache or point, you can then go to the .jpg media photo for a paperless aerial view of the spot. It is a superbly detailed map! (Way better than TopoExplorer.) The only shortcoming is that it does not have a cursor over your exact position, but you should be able to identify enough nearby features to locate yourself and the cache. This worked really great for me when satellite reception was messed up by overhead power lines.

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