

GVN 53

owner's manual



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 **Warning**

This manual uses the term **Warning** to indicate a potentially hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

Failure to avoid the following potentially hazardous situations could result in an accident or collision resulting in death or serious injury.

When navigating, carefully compare information displayed on the navigation system to all available navigation sources, including information from street signs, visual sightings, and maps. For safety, always resolve any discrepancies or questions before continuing navigation.

Always operate the vehicle in a safe manner. Do not become distracted by the navigation system while driving, and always be fully aware of all driving conditions.

Minimize the amount of time spent viewing the screen of the navigation system while driving and use voice prompts when possible.

Do not enter destinations, change settings, or access any functions requiring prolonged use of the navigation system's controls while driving. Pull over in a safe and legal manner before attempting such operations.

The **California Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003** requires the recycling of certain electronics. For more information on the applicability to this product, see www.erecycle.org.

 **Caution**

This manual uses the term **Caution** to indicate a potentially hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, may result in minor injury or property damage. It may also be used without the symbol to alert you to avoid unsafe practices.

Failure to avoid the following potentially hazardous situations may result in injury or property damage.

The navigation system is designed to provide you with route suggestions. It does not reflect road closures or road conditions, traffic congestion, weather conditions, or other factors that may affect safety or timing while driving.

Use the navigation system only as a navigational aid. Do not attempt to use the navigation system for any purpose requiring precise measurement of direction, distance, location, or topography.

The Global Positioning System (GPS) is operated by the United States government, which is solely responsible for its accuracy and maintenance. The government's system is subject to changes which could affect the accuracy and performance of all GPS equipment, including the navigation system. Although the navigation system is a precision navigation device, any navigation device can be misused or misinterpreted and, therefore, become unsafe.

Important Information

MAP DATA INFORMATION: One of the goals of Garmin is to provide customers with the most complete and accurate cartography that is available to us at a reasonable cost. We use a combination of governmental and private data sources, which we identify in product literature and copyright messages displayed to the consumer. Virtually all data sources contain inaccurate or incomplete data to some extent. In some countries, complete and accurate map information is either not available or is prohibitively expensive.

GETTING STARTED

Using the Remote Control

Your new navigation system comes with a remote control. To use the remote, insert two AAA batteries in the back. You do not have to aim the remote at a particular location; it should work from anywhere in your vehicle.

(Zoom) In—zooms into the map.

(Zoom) Out—zooms out of the map.

Menu—opens the Menu page. Press twice to open the Tools menu. Press three times to open the Settings menu.

Map—opens the Map page. Press repeatedly to scroll through the Map, Menu, and XM Music Player pages.

Back—returns to the previous page and cancels data entry.

Speak—announces the next turn or the GPS status.



Thumb Stick—highlights options and moves the map pointer. Press to select an item on the page.

Page ▲ and ▼—scrolls through lists and pages.

Vol + and -—increases and decreases the volume.

Alphanumeric Keys—enters numbers and letters. To enter letters, press the key repeatedly until the correct character appears.

◀◀ (7) and ▶▶ (9)—changes channels in the XM Music Player.

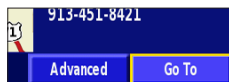
▶/|| (0)—plays or stops XM in the XM Music Player.

If your remote stops working, see page 42.

Manual Conventions

When you are instructed to “press” something, you should press that button on the remote control.

When you are instructed to “select” something, use the **Thumb Stick** on the remote control to move the highlight (yellow box) to that item on the screen. After you highlight the object, press the **Thumb Stick** in to select it.

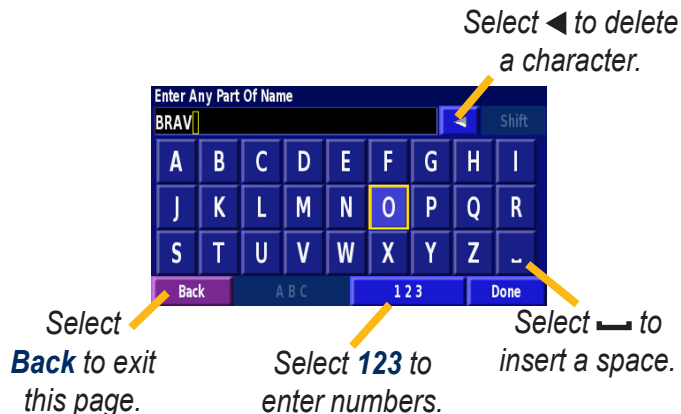


To select **Go To**, highlight it.
Then press the **Thumb Stick** in.

You will see small arrows (>) used in the text. They indicate that you should select a series of items. For example, if you see “select **Tools** > **GPS Info** > **GPS Settings**,” you should select the **Tools** button, then select **GPS Info**, and then select **GPS Settings**.

Entering Data

Sometimes, you may need to enter letters and numbers into the navigation system. For example, you may need to enter the name of a restaurant. To enter letters and numbers, you can use the on-screen keyboard to select each letter or number you want to enter. You can also use the alphanumeric keys on the remote control.

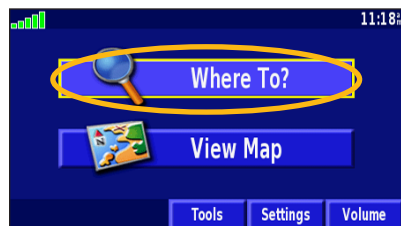


FIND IT AND GO!

Using the remote control, follow the instructions on the next two pages to find a place and go to it!

Finding a Restaurant

1 Select **Where To?**



2 Select **Food, Hotel...**



3 Select **Food & Drink.**



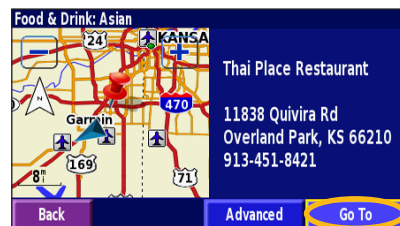
4 Select a food category.



5 Select a place.

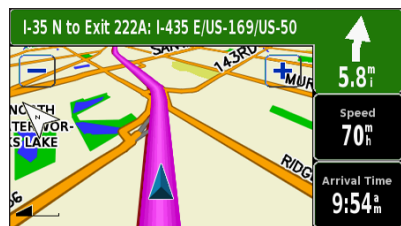


6 Select **Go To.**



Following Your Route

After you select **Go To** (see the previous page), the Map page opens to guide you to your destination. Follow the route, which is marked for you with a magenta line. As you travel, the navigation system guides you through each turn with voice prompts, arrows, and directions along the top of the map. If you depart from the original route, the navigation system recalculates the route and provides new route instructions.



Your route is marked with a magenta line.



Follow the arrows.



A checkered flag marks your destination.

For more information about the Map page, see [page 13](#).

WHERE TO?

Finding an Address

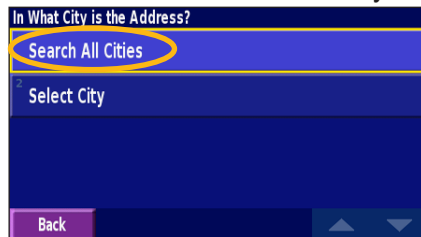
- 1 From the Menu page, select **Where To?** Select **Address**.



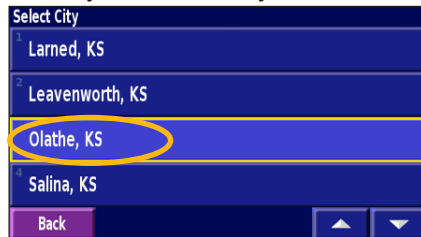
- 4 Enter the street name. Then select **Done**.



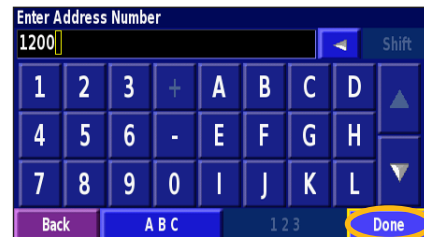
- 2 Select a state. Select **Search All Cities**, or select a city.



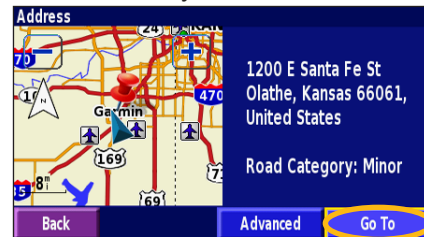
- 5 Select the street. Select the city, if necessary.



- 3 Enter the address number. Then select **Done**.

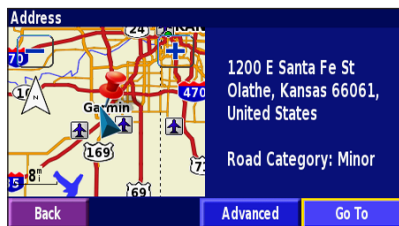


- 6 Select the address, if necessary. Select **Go To**.



Understanding the Information Page

When you find a place, select it in the search results list to open the item's Information page.



Information Page

Select **Go To** to create and follow a route to this place.

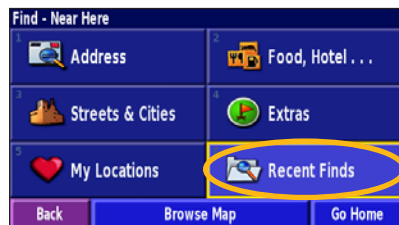
Select **Advanced** to view other options for this place:

- **Insert in Current Route**—add this place as the next stop in your route.
- **Add As Favorite**—add this place to your list of Favorites. For more information, see [page 8](#).
- **Find Near Point**—find another place near this place.
- **Browse Map**—view this place on the map.

Finding Recently Found Places

The last 50 places you have found are stored in Recent Finds. Press **Menu** to view the Menu page.

- 1 Select **Where To?** > **Recent Finds**.



- 2 Select an item from the search results list.

Select Recent Find	All Categories
Loch Lloyd Country C	11.4° E
Garmin	0.1° S
1200 E Santa Fe St	1.9° N
Thai Place Restaurant	5.7° NE

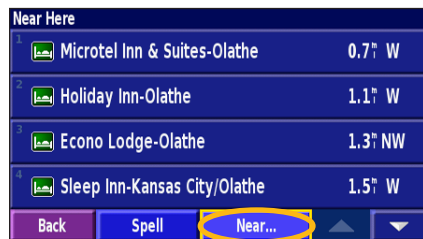
Buttons: Back, Category, [Up Arrow], [Down Arrow]

Select **Category** to display recent finds from a certain category, such as **Food, Hotel...**

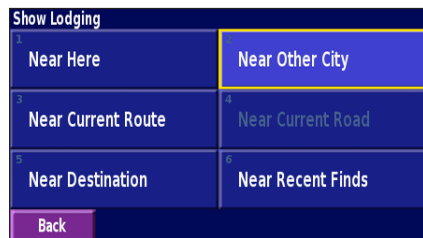
Finding Places in a Different Area

You can search for locations in a different area, such as a different city or near your destination.

- 1 From the search results list, select **Near...**



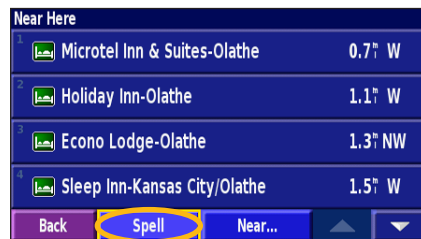
- 2 Select one of the search options.



Narrowing Your Search

To narrow your search, you can spell part or all of the name of the location you are searching for.

- 1 From the search results list, select **Spell**.



- 2 Enter part or all of the name. Then select **Done**.

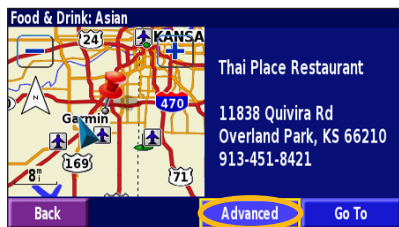


MY LOCATIONS

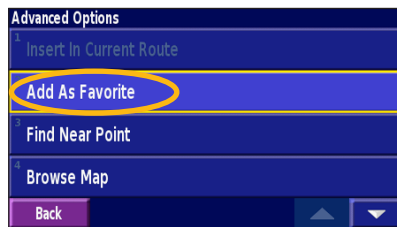
Saving Places from the Where To? Menu

You can save any place you find in the Where To? menu as a Favorite. Then, you can quickly find and go to these places in the future. After you have found a place you want to save, select it to open the Information page. Then follow the instructions below.

1 Select **Advanced**.



2 Select **Add As Favorite**.



This place is now saved as a Favorite in My Locations. It also appears on the map with a name and symbol. To view a list of saved places, or to go to a saved place, see [page 10](#).

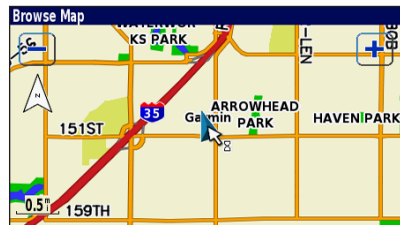
Saving Places from the Map

You can save any place as a Favorite directly from the Map page by browsing the map and selecting the place you want to save. For more information about browsing the map, see [page 13](#).

Saving Your Current Location

You can save your current location as a Favorite directly from the Map page.

1. Press the **Map** button to open the Map page.
2. Press the **Thumb Stick** up, down, right, or left to browse the map.
3. Press the **Thumb Stick** in to save your current location as a Favorite.



Press the **Thumb Stick** up and then in to save your current location as a Favorite.

Saving Other Places

1. Press the **Thumb Stick** up.
2. Use the **Thumb Stick** to browse the map and select the place you want to save.
 - If you select a labeled place on the map, such as a point of interest, a park, or an address, the Information page appears. Select **Advanced > Add as Favorite** to save this place.
 - If you select a place on the map with no label, the navigation system automatically saves this point in your Favorites and assigns it a name (“001”).

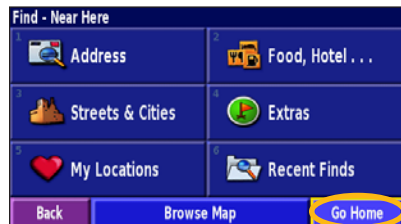


TIP: Check the upper-left corner of the screen. If the screen says “Favorites,” this place is saved as a Favorite.

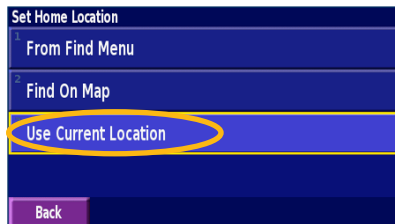
Setting a Home Location

You can set a Home Location for the place you return to most often. Press the **Menu** button, and select **Where To?**

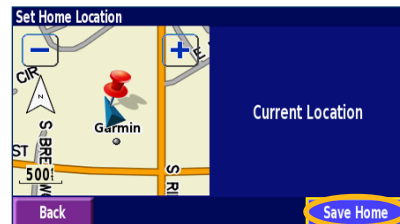
1 Select **Go Home**.



2 Select an option.



3 Select **Save Home**.

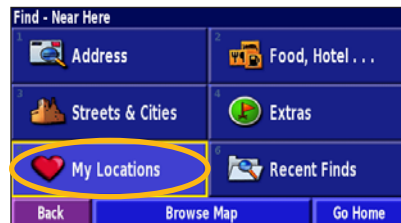


After you set your Home Location, select **Where To?** Then select **Go Home**.

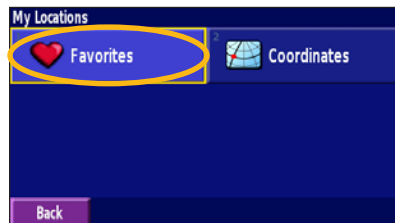
Finding Saved Places

Press the **Menu** button. Then select **Where To?**

1 Select **My Locations**.



2 Select **Favorites**.



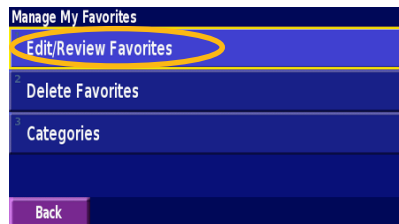
3 Select a saved place.



Editing Saved Places

Press the **Menu** button twice. Then select **My Data > Favorites**.

① Select **Edit/Review Favorites**.



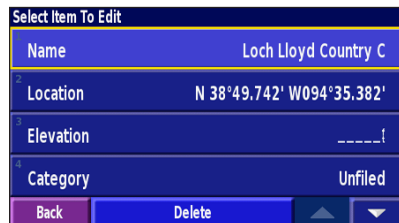
② Select the item you want to edit.



③ Select **Edit**.




④ Select the item you want to edit.



Name—enter a new name for the location using the on-screen keyboard.

Location—edit the location of the place; you can use the map or enter new coordinates using the keyboard.

Elevation—enter the elevation of the saved place.

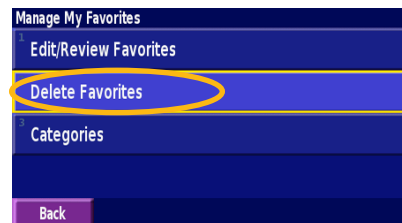
Category—assign this place to a category; select  to view more categories.

Symbol—select a symbol to be shown on the map for this location.

Deleting a Saved Place

Press the **Menu** button twice. Then select **My Data > Favorites**.

① Select **Delete Favorites**.



② Select **By Selection**.



③ Select a saved location.



④ Select **Delete**.




By Selection—select each location, and delete it individually.

By Category—select one category to delete all of the locations assigned to that category.

Delete All—remove all saved places from your Favorites.

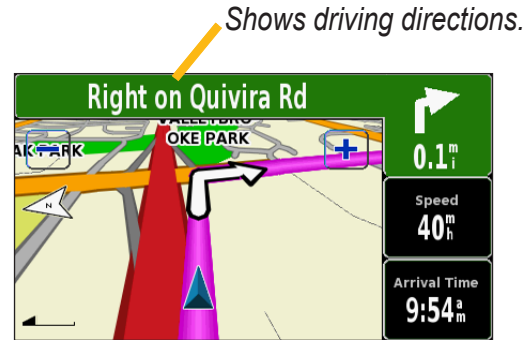
VIEWING THE MAP AND USING THE TOOLS

Viewing the Map Page

Press the **Map** button on the remote control to view the Map page. You can also select  **View Map** from the Menu page. The position icon ▲ shows your current location. To zoom in or out on the map, press the **In** or **Out** button. If you want to view another part of the map, use the **Thumb Stick**, as described below.

Tips for Browsing the Map

- Press the **Thumb Stick** left, right, up, or down to view other parts of the map.
- Press the **Thumb Stick** in to select an object on the map. The location's Information page appears; see [page 6](#) for more information. To go to this location, select **Go To**.
- On the Information page, select **Advanced** > **Add as Favorite** to save the location selected by the pointer to your Favorites. See [page 9](#) for more information.
- When you are finished browsing the map, press the **Back** button.

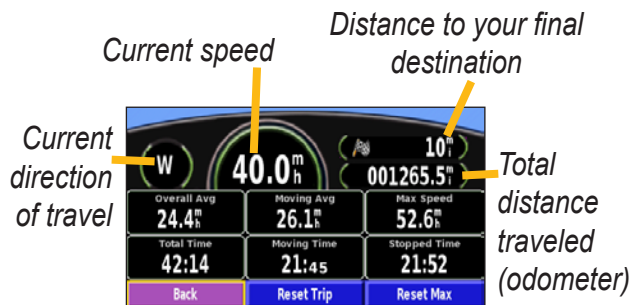


Map Page while Navigating a Route

Trip Computer

The Trip Computer indicates your current speed and records helpful statistics about your trip, including your maximum speed and distance traveled.

To view the Trip Computer, press the **Map** button repeatedly. You can also select **Tools > Navigation > Trip Computer** from the Menu page.



Select **Reset Trip** to reset all information on the Trip Computer. To reset the Maximum Speed, select **Reset Max**.

Turn List

The Turn List displays a list of turn-by-turn instructions for your entire route, as well as arrival information.

To display the Turn List, while navigating a route, press the **Map** button twice, or select **Tools > Navigation > Turn List** from the Menu page.

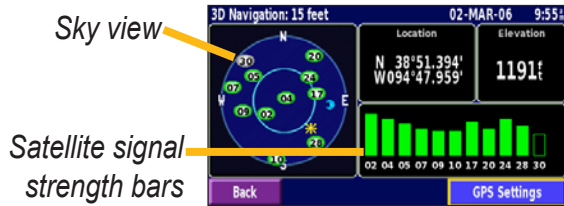


Select **View All** to see all the turns in the route. Select **▼** and **▲** to scroll through the list.

Select a turn to see the turn on a map (the Next Turn page). Select **▼** and **▲** to scroll through all the turns in the route. Press the **In** or **Out** button to zoom in or out of the turn on the map.

GPS Info Page

Press the **Menu** button twice and select **Navigation** > **GPS Info** to view GPS satellite information.



The sky view shows the satellites you are receiving. The satellite signal strength bars indicate the strength of each satellite you are receiving. A solid bar indicates the GPS satellite is ready for use.

GPS Settings

Press **Menu** three times to open the Settings menu. Select **General** > **GPS**. You can also access the GPS Settings by selecting the **GPS Settings** button on the GPS Info page.

Use Indoors—select **Yes** to turn the GPS receiver off.

Set Position—set your position, if Use Indoors is enabled. Select your location on the map and then select **OK**.

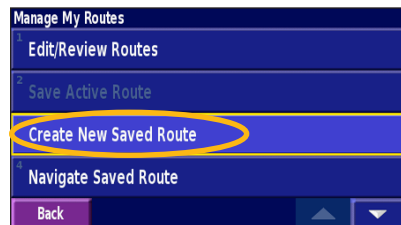
WAAS/EGNOS—disable and enable WAAS/EGNOS. WAAS and EGNOS are systems of satellites and ground stations that provide GPS signal corrections, giving you even better position accuracy. To learn about WAAS and EGNOS, visit www.garmin.com/aboutGPS/waas.html.

CREATING AND EDITING ROUTES

Creating a New Saved Route

Press the **Menu** button twice to open the Tools menu. Select **My Data > Routes**.

- 1** Select **Create New Saved Route**.



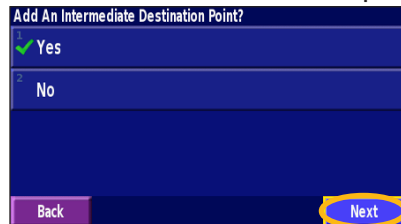
- 2** Select an option, and select **Next**. Select the starting point.



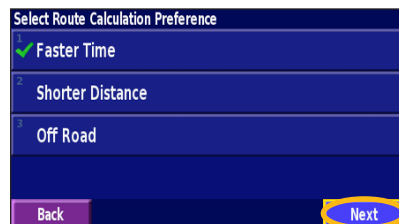
- 3** Select an option, and select **Next**. Select the ending point.



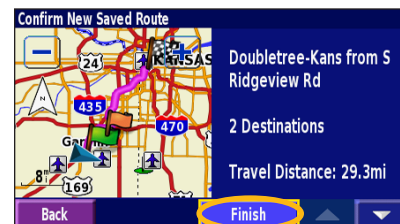
- 4** To add a stop, select **Yes**, then select **Next**. Select the point.



- 5** Select your preference. Then select **Next**.



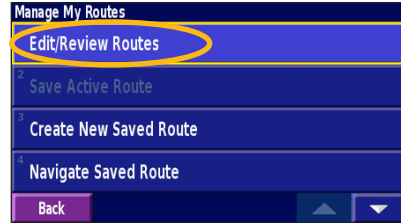
- 6** Select **Finish**.



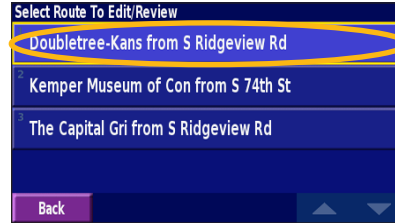
Editing a Saved Route

Press the **Menu** button twice. Then select **My Data > Routes**.

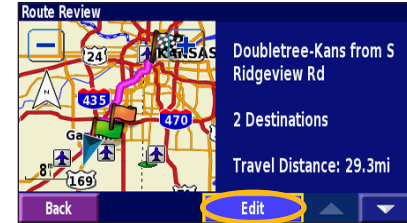
1 Select **Edit/Review Routes**.



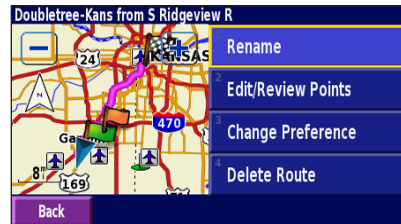
2 Select the route to edit.



3 Select **Edit**.



4 Select the item to edit.



Rename—enter a new name for the route using the on-screen keyboard.

Edit/Review Points—add, arrange, remove, re-order, and review points in the route. For more info, see the next page.

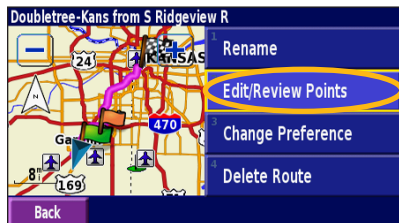
Change Preference—change calculation preference to Faster Time, Shorter Distance, or Off Road.

Delete Route—delete this route.

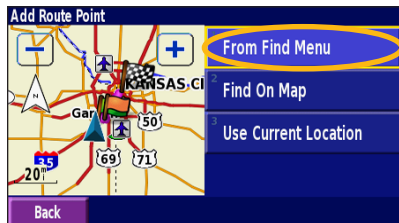
Adding Stops to Your Route

You can add stops (also called via points or midpoints) to your route as you create it, as described on [page 16](#). You can also add points to your route when you edit the route, as described below. Follow the steps on the previous page to begin editing the route.

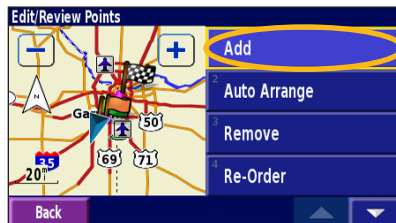
1 Select **Edit/Review Points**.



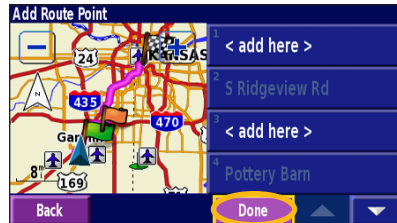
4 Search for the point you want to add.



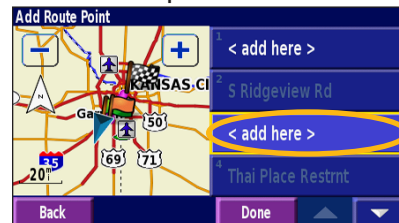
2 Select **Add**.



5 Add points as necessary. Select **Done** when finished.



3 Select where you want to add the point.



Auto Arrange—arranges the points to provide the shortest route.

Remove—select the point you want to remove. Then select **Remove**.

Re-Order—select the point to move, and select **Move Up** or **Move Down**. Select **Done** when finished.

Saving the Active Route

Press the **Menu** button twice and select **My Data > Routes > Save Active Route**.

Navigating a Saved Route

Press the **Menu** button twice and select **My Data > Routes > Navigate Saved Route**. Select the route you want to navigate.

Recalculating the Route

Press the **Menu** button twice and select **My Data > Routes > Recalculate Route**.

Deleting All Saved Routes

Press the **Menu** button twice and select **My Data > Routes >  > Delete All Saved Routes**.

Stopping Your Route

Press the **Menu** button and select **Stop**. Then select **Yes**.

Adding a Detour to a Route

If you need to take a detour from your current route, press the **Menu** button, and then select **Detour**.

1/2 mile, 2 miles, or 5 miles—select the distance of the detour. For example if a road sign indicates that the street is closed for the next 2 miles, select **2 miles** in the list. The navigation system recalculates your route for the next 2 miles, if possible.

Detour by Road(s) In Route—select roads in your route to avoid. For example, if the highway ramp is closed, select the ramp in the list of roads. The navigation system recalculates your route to avoid that ramp, if possible.


Detour by Traffic Event on Route—if you are using an FM traffic receiver or XM NavTraffic, you can detour around traffic events.

Remove All Detours—remove any detours you have entered for the route.

Adding Avoidances

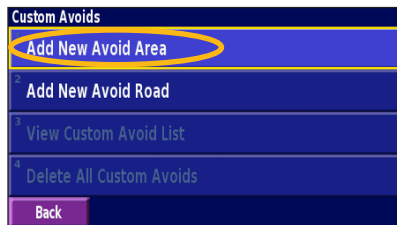
Press the **Menu** button three times to open the Settings menu. Select **Navigation** >  > **Avoidance Setup**. Select the road type you want to avoid. Select  to view more road types.

Creating Custom Avoids

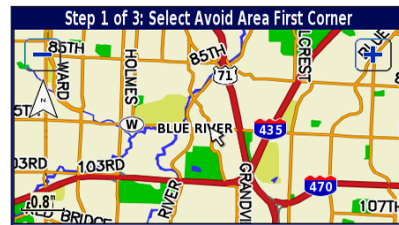
You can enter specific areas and roads to avoid in your routes. From the Avoidance Setup menu, select  two times, and then select **Custom Avoids**.

The procedure to the right tells you how to avoid an area. Avoiding a road is very similar. When selecting a road or area to avoid, use the **Thumb Stick** to pan the map and select the road or area to avoid. Use the **In** and **Out** buttons to zoom in and out on the map.

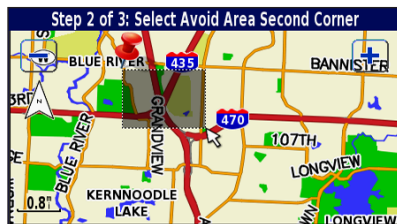
① Select **Add New Avoid Area**.



② Use the **Thumb Stick** to select one corner of the area you want to avoid.



③ Select the second corner of the area you want to avoid.



④ Press the **Thumb Stick** in to save and exit.



USING THE LOGS

Adjusting the Track Log

As you travel, the navigator creates a bread crumb trail (track log) of your movement. Press the **Menu** button twice, and then select **My Data > Track Log**.

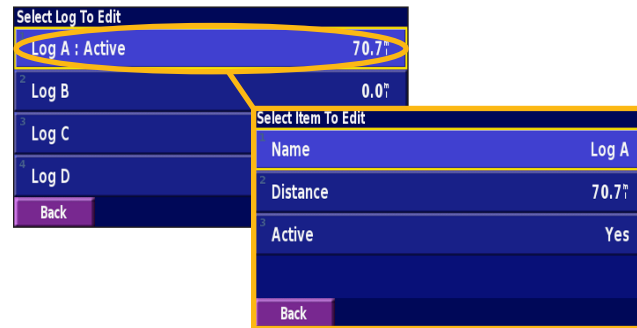
Recording—turns off and on the track log recorder.

Percentage Full—displays the current percentage capacity of the track log. To clear the track log, select **Percentage Full > Yes > OK**.

Map Display—displays the current track log on the map. Select a zoom setting at which the track log is visible. Select **OK**. Your track log is displayed as a fine dotted line on the map.

Using the Mileage Logs

You can keep four different mileage logs of your travels. From the Menu page, select **Tools > My Data > Mileage Log**. Select a log to edit it.



Name—enter a new name.

Distance—reset the mileage log.

Active—make this log active or inactive.

XM RADIO, WEATHER, AND STOCKS

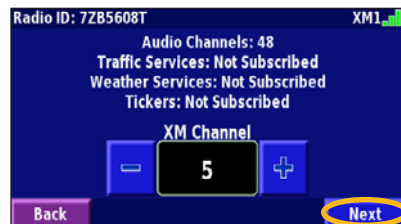
Activating Your Subscription

If you purchased an optional XM antenna, you must purchase and activate your XM subscription before you can use the XM features. Make sure your XM antenna is connected. Press the **Menu** button three times and select **About**.

1 Select **XM**.



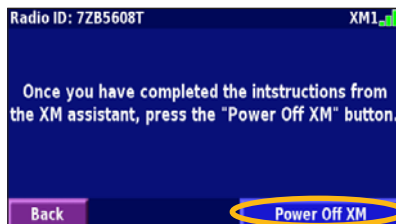
4 Select **+** and **-** to change the channel. Select **Next**.



2 Select **Subscribe**.



5 Select **Power Off XM**.



3 Call XM. Then select **Next**.



If your XM service is not activated within an hour, you can refresh the activation signal. Call XM customer care at **1-800-985-9200**; or go to www.xmradio.com/refresh, enter your radio ID where requested, and refresh the activation signal.

Listening to XM Radio

 **NOTE:** You must have an XM antenna and a subscription to XM Radio to listen to XM radio. XM Radio is available only on the U.S. version.

1 Select **Tools**.



2 Select **XM Music Player**.




3 Select **Play**.



Select  to adjust the volume.

Select  and  to change Categories. The Category name is listed above the buttons.

Select  and  to change the Channel within the Category, or press **◀◀ (7)** and **▶▶ (9)**.

Select **My XM** to save or view favorite channels and artists.

Select **Browse** to select a Category and then a Channel.

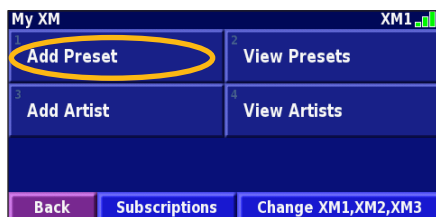
Select **Play/Stop** to turn the XM radio on or off.

Saving Your Favorite Channels as Presets

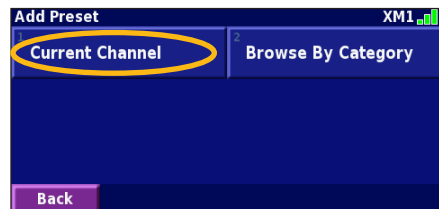
① Select **My XM**.



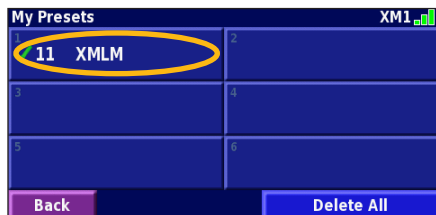
② Select **Add Preset**.



③ Select **Current Channel** to add the channel you are listening to.



④ Select the preset you want to assign to this channel.



Select **Browse by Category** to select a different channel.

Saving a Preset

Select a preset button (1–6), and press and hold the **Thumb Stick** in. Keep pressing and holding until you see a number appear on the preset button. The channel you are listening to is now saved as a preset.

Playing a Preset

To play a preset channel, select a preset button along the bottom of the XM Radio page. You can also select **Browse > Presets**.

XM1, 2, and 3

Three sets of presets, XM1, XM2, and XM3, are provided for you. Within each set of presets, you can save six favorite channels and as many artists as you want. For example, Mom can save her favorite channels and artists using XM1. Then Dad can switch to XM2 and save his own favorite channels and artists.

To switch between XM1, XM2, and XM3, select **My XM > Change XM Mode**. Then select the preset you want to switch to. The set of presets you are currently using appears in the top right corner of the screen.

Saving Your Favorite Artists

1. From the XM Radio page, select **My XM**.
2. Select **Add Artist**.
3. Select the **Current Artist** to save the artist you are listening to. You can also select **Browse by Category** to select a different artist.

Scanning for Artists


After you have saved several artists, you can select **Scan** to scan the XM Radio for those artists. The navigation system automatically plays a song by an artist in your list. When that song is over, it searches for another saved artist.



2 Select Artists.



Viewing XM Weather

Press the **Menu** button twice. Then select  **Weather**.



NOTE: You must have an XM antenna and a subscription to NavTraffic to get traffic and weather reports.



NOTE: You might have to wait up to 12 minutes or longer (if receiving a weak XM signal) to receive the broadcast of weather information.

Getting Current Conditions

Press the **Menu** button twice and select **Weather** > **Current Conditions**. XM Weather defaults to your current location.

To select a different city:


1. Select **Near** > **Near Other City**.
2. Type the name of the city and select **Done**.

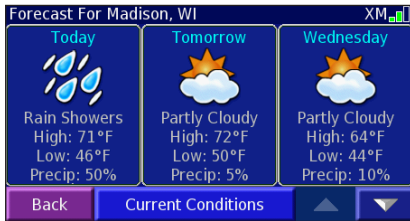
3. Select the **City**. A list of the nearest XM Weather sources appears. Select any item for more detailed weather conditions.



4. Select **Forecast** to jump to the nearest city forecast page.

Viewing Your Forecast

Press the **Menu** button twice. Then select **Weather** > **Forecast**. XM Weather defaults to your current location. Select  to view more forecast information. To select a different city, select **Near...** and follow the steps in the previous section.



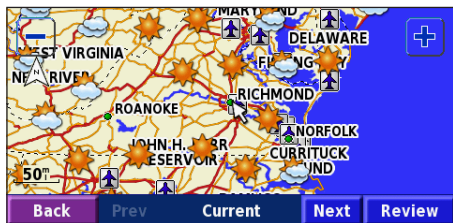
Checking for County Warnings


Press the **Menu** button twice. Then select **Weather** > **County Warnings**. This page shows a list of county warnings in effect, such as storms, tornados, and floods. Select a warning to view the details. To select a different city, select **Near...** and follow the steps in the previous section.




Viewing Weather on the Map

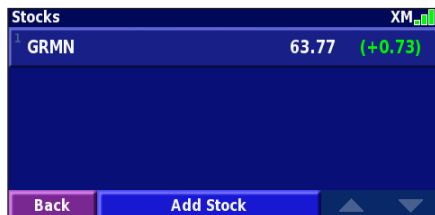
Press the **Menu** button twice. Then select **Weather** > **View On Map**. The current weather conditions for your present location appear on the map. If necessary, select \ominus to zoom out. Select and drag the map to view a different location.



Select **Next** to see the forecast for the next day on the map. For more weather information, position the map pointer  over a weather icon, and then select **Review**.

Viewing Stocks

Press the **Menu** button twice and select  **Stocks** to view current stock prices.



To add a stock, select **Add Stock**, enter the stock symbol (abbreviation), and select **Done**. The stock you added is now listed.

To delete a stock, select the stock in the list. Then select **Yes**.

TRAFFIC INFORMATION

Using an optional FM traffic receiver or XM smart antenna, the navigation system can receive and use traffic information. When a traffic message is received, you can see the event on the map and change your route to avoid the traffic incident.

For more information about the FM traffic receiver or XM smart antenna, visit the Garmin Web site (www.garmin.com). For participating FM subscription providers and covered cities, refer to www.garmin.com/fmtraffic. For coverage cities for XM NavTraffic, see www.xmnavtraffic.com.

This section uses “traffic module” to describe the external device that receives traffic information. You can use either an FM traffic receiver (such as the GTM 10) or an XM smart antenna (such as the GXM 30) to receive traffic information.

Connecting the Traffic Module

Make sure the traffic module is connected to the navigation system. Refer to the *GVN 53 Installation Instructions* for more information.

Viewing Traffic Events

Press the **Menu** button twice and select **Traffic Info**. Select an item in the Traffic Events list to view the details. Select **Near...** to view traffic at a different location.

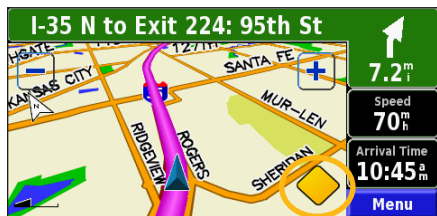


Traffic Events List

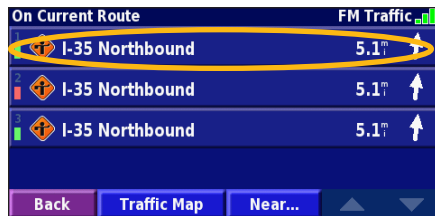
Avoiding Traffic

The Map page displays a  when there is a traffic event on your current route or on the road where you are driving. When you are following a route, press the **Thumb Stick** in on the Map page to select the  and avoid traffic.

① Press the **Thumb Stick** in.



② Select an item to avoid.






③ Select **Detour Around**.















Severity Color Code

The bars to the left of the traffic symbols indicate the severity of the traffic incident:

-  (Green) = Low severity; traffic is still flowing.
-  (Yellow) = Medium severity; traffic is a bit congested.
-  (Red) = High severity; traffic is heavily congested or stopped.

Traffic Symbols

North American Symbols	Meaning	International Symbols
	Road Condition	
	Road Construction	
	Congestion	
	Accident	
	Incident	
	Information	

Changing the Traffic Settings

From the Menu page, select **Settings** > **Traffic**.

Subscriptions—view your traffic subscriptions. If you have an FM traffic receiver connected, select **FM Traffic Subscriptions** to view your subscriptions. Select the

subscription to display the expiration date. To add a subscription, select **Add Subscription**. See the next page for information about adding an FM traffic subscription.

If you have an XM smart antenna connected, select **XM Subscriptions** to view the software version, your XM subscriptions, and the antenna's radio ID. Select **Subscribe** to add an XM subscription.

Symbols on Map—change the symbols used to indicate the type of traffic event. Select **Style** to use **American** or **International** symbols. Select each symbol to set the zoom scale at which each symbol appears on the map.

Severity on the Map—select the scale at which the severity is displayed on the map.

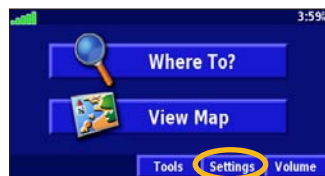
Audio Notification—turn on or off the audio notification when a traffic incident occurs on the road you are traveling on or the route you are navigating.

Avoid Traffic—select **Yes** to avoid a traffic incident when generating a route.

Adding an FM Traffic Receiver Subscription

To add a traffic subscription, press the **Menu** button three times to open the Settings menu. Select **About > FM Traffic Receiver**. Then write down your FM traffic receiver's unit ID. Go to www.garmin.com/fmtraffic to purchase a traffic subscription and get a 25-character traffic subscription code.

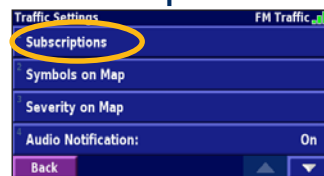
1 Select **Settings**.



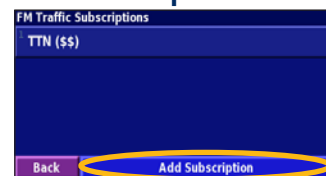
2 Select **Traffic**.



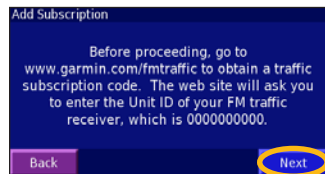
3 Select **Subscriptions**.



4 Select **Add Subscription**.



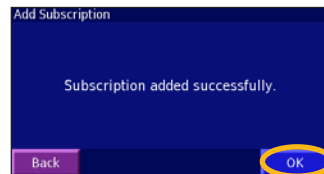
5 Select **Next**.



6 Enter the code and select **Next**.



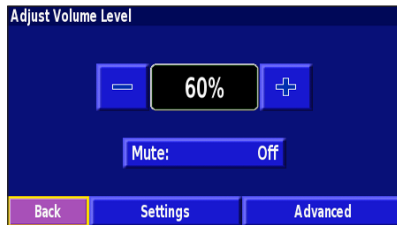
7 Select **OK**.



CHANGING THE SETTINGS

Adjusting the Volume


Press **Menu** to open the Menu page. Then select **Volume**. Select the **+** and **-** to adjust the volume. Select **Mute** to silence the audio output.



Select **Settings** to open the Audio Settings page. See [page 35](#) for more information.

Select **Advanced** to adjust the volume levels of the navigation prompts and XM radio separately.

Changing the General Settings

Press **Menu** three times to open the Settings menu. Then select  **General**.



GPS

Press **Menu** three times. Then select **General** > **GPS**. See [page 15](#).

Changing the Language

Press **Menu** three times. Then select **General** > **Language**.

Voice Language—change the language for all voice prompts and messages. Select the voice you want to use and select **OK**.

Two different types of voice languages are available: text-to-speech and prerecorded.

Languages noted with a person's name and (TTS) are text-to-speech (TTS) voices: for example, American English-Jill (TTS) is a text-to-speech voice. The text-to-speech voices “read” and “speak” the same words that are displayed on the screen. The voices have an extensive vocabulary, and they pronounce the street names as you approach turns.

Languages without a person's name are prerecorded voices, which have a limited vocabulary and do not speak names of locations or streets.



NOTE: If you change the Voice Language, you must restart to complete this change.

Text Language—select a language for the on-screen text. Changing the text language does not change the language of map data or user-entered data.

Speech Rate—select the rate at which prompts are spoken.

Customizing the Keyboard Settings

Press **Menu** three times. Then select **General > Keyboard**.

Input Type—select **English Only** keyboard, or select **Western European** to use diacritical characters.

Entry Type—select **ABCDEF** keyboard, or select **QWERTY**.

Customizing the Audio Settings

Press **Menu** three times. Then select **General** > **Audio**.

Guidance—turn on the vocal guidance prompts. Select **Speak Key Only** to hear the voice prompts only when you press the **SPEAK** key on the remote control.

Attention Tone—turn the attention tone on or off that sounds before voice prompts.

Touch Screen Tone—turn on or off the tone that sounds each time you select something on the screen.

Keypress Tone—turn on or off the tone that sounds each time you press a button on the remote.

Speed Adjusted Volume—select how much the volume increases as your speed increases. Low increases your volume slightly; High increases your volume the most.

Customizing Proximity Alerts

Press **Menu** three times. Then select **General** > **Proximity Alerts** to adjust the notifications for custom POIs you have loaded. See [pages 43–44](#).

Changing Your Time Settings

Press **Menu** three times. Then select **General** > **Time**.

Time Zone—select your time zone.

Time Format—select 12- or 24-hour time format.

Daylight Saving—select Auto, Yes, or No. The Auto setting automatically adjusts the time for daylight saving, based on your time zone.

Selecting Units

Press **Menu** three times. Then select **General** > **Units**. Change units of measure to Statute, Metric, or Custom.

Turning Safe Mode Off and On

Press **Menu** three times. Then select **General** > **Safe Mode**. When Safe Mode is turned on and the vehicle is moving, Safe Mode disables all navigation system functions that require significant operator attention and could become a distraction while driving.

Changing the Coordinates Settings

Press **Menu** three times. Then select **General** > **Coordinates**.

Position Format—change the appearance of your coordinates. Your current position is viewed on the GPS in the form of coordinates. Because different maps and charts use different position formats, you can choose the correct coordinate system for the type of map you are using.

Map Datum—select the map datum to be used by your GVN 53. If you are navigating and comparing the GPS coordinates to a map, chart, or other reference, set the map datum in your GVN 53 to the same datum as the map to ensure the most accurate navigation.

Setting Audio Mute Polarity

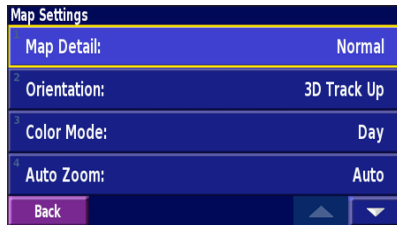
Press **Menu** three times. Then select **General** > **Audio Mute Polarity**. This is used for muting your radio when your GVN 53 plays navigation prompts. Select **Low** or **High**, depending on your radio configuration. See your radio's instruction manual for more information.



NOTE: This setting is used only on radios that can switch to Aux audio based on an external signal.

Changing the Map Settings

Press **Menu** three times. Then select  **Map**.



Map Detail—adjust the amount of detail shown on the map. Displaying more detail causes the map to redraw slowly.

Orientation—change the perspective of the map.

- **2D North Up**—display the map in 2 dimensions (2-D) with North at the top.
- **2D Track Up**—display the map in 2 dimensions (2-D) with your direction of travel at the top of the screen.

- **3D Track Up**—display the map in 3 dimensions (3-D), with your direction of travel at the top of the screen. This is the default map view.

Color Mode—select Day for a bright background. Select Night for a black background. Select Auto to automatically switch between the two.

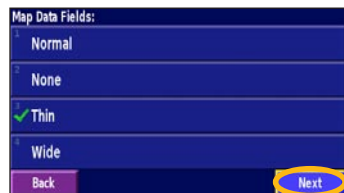
Auto Zoom—disable or enable automatic zooming on the map for optimal viewing. You can also specify a maximum Auto Zoom distance, from 120 feet to 300 miles.

Route Color—select the color of the route line.

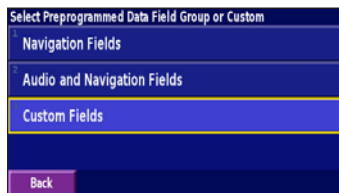
Dim Roads—dim roads that are not on your route. You can customize this setting to Never or While Routing.

Map Data Fields—customize the width and contents of the data fields displayed on the map page. Normal is the default setting. Press **Menu** three times. Then select  **Map** >  > **Map Data Fields**.

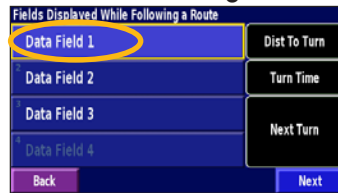
1 Select **Thin** or **Wide**.
Select **Next**.



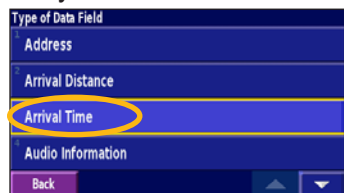
2 Select the type of data fields to customize.



3 Select a data field you want to change.



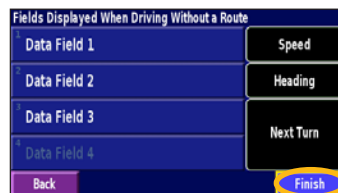
4 Select the type of data you want to see.



5 Select the data field layout. Select **OK**.



6 Repeat for each field. Then select **Finish**.



1/2, 2/2, 1/3?

1/2 indicates this is your first choice out of two choices for the layout of the data field. 2/2 means this is your second choice. Some types of data fields allow you three choices, but some only provide one.

Text Size—adjust the display size of text on the map.

Zoom Level Detail—customize which map items appear at various zoom levels. For each map item, you can select Off, Auto, or a maximum zoom distance, from 120 feet to 800 miles.



NOTE: More detail increases the time it takes the map to refresh.

Detail Maps—enable and disable the detailed maps.

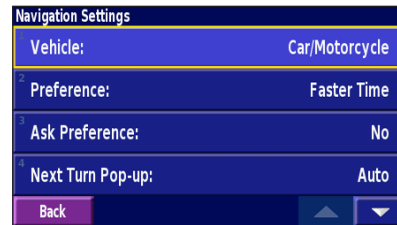
Changing the Navigation Settings

Press **Menu** three times. Then select  **Navigation**.

Vehicle—specify your vehicle type.



Preference—select a preference for route calculations.

Ask Preference—select whether the navigation system asks for your preference each time it calculates a route.



Next Turn Pop-up—select when the Next Turn pop-up window appears.

Off-Route Recalculation—set the way the navigation system responds when off the route. You can silence the “off-route, recalculating” message here.

Continuous Auto Routing—enable or disable the Continuous Auto Routing feature. This feature allows the navigation system to continually search for a better route to your destination. Continuous Auto Routing may be useful if a traffic accident occurs or there are time-restricted turns on the current route. A  is displayed on the map when a better route than the one you are currently taking is available. Press the **Thumb Stick** in on the Map page to select the  and take the better route.

Avoidance Setup—see [page 20](#).

Adjusting the Traffic Settings

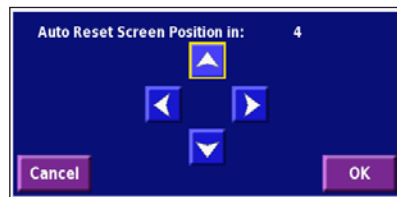
See [page 31](#).



Adjusting the Screen Settings

Press **Menu** three times. Then select  **Screen**.



Adjust Screen Position—use the arrows to select the direction in which to adjust the screen.



Adjust Screen Flicker Filter—select  and  to adjust the screen “flicker” filter. The lines on the screen appear more or less focused as you adjust these settings.

Advanced Screen Settings—these settings are intended for installers only. If you inadvertently change these settings, select **Restore Defaults > Yes**. You can also press and hold the **Thumb Stick** and the **8** key for 20 seconds. This will restore the default settings.

Serial Communication

This is intended for developers only. When communicating serially with the unit, the gray (RX In), purple (TX Out), and orange (Digital Gnd) wires will be used. For more information about the serial communication protocol, go to www.garmin.com/products/GVN53.

Viewing Information (About)

Press **Menu** three times. Then select  **About**.

Software—the unit's software version, audio version, and unit ID are listed.

Detail Maps—view information about the preloaded

detailed maps.

FM Traffic Receiver—if you have a FM traffic receiver, you can view the FM traffic receiver's unit ID.

XM—if you have an XM smart antenna, you can view the XM antenna's radio ID.

Restoring the Settings

To restore the navigation system to its original settings, press **Menu** three times. Then select **Restore Defaults > Yes**.

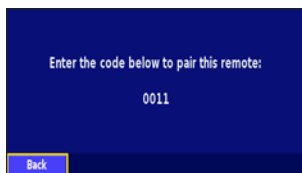
APPENDIX

Using the Remote Control

The remote control uses two AAA batteries. Do not mix old and new batteries together. If the remote does not work, install fresh batteries. If this does not correct the problem, you can re-pair the remote control with the GVN 53. You must also follow this procedure to use a replacement remote control.

To pair your remote with the GVN 53:

1. Press and hold the **Thumb Stick** and the **0** key on the remote for 10 seconds.
2. Follow the instructions on the screen; enter the correct numbers. The remote control pairs with the GVN 53.



Updating the Software and Map Data

To update the navigation system software, you must have an SD card, an SD card reader, and an Internet connection.

To update the navigation software:

1. Go to www.garmin.com/support/download.jsp.
2. Click **Additional Software**.
3. Select **GVN 53** from the list of products.
4. Click **Download** next to the navigation system software.
5. Read and agree to the terms. Click **Download**.
6. Select **Save**. Then save the update onto an SD card.
7. Insert the SD card into the side of the GVN 53. Make sure the system is powered on. Your software is updated automatically.

You can purchase map data updates from Garmin. Check www.garmin.com/unlock/update.jsp to see if an update for your map software is available.

Clearing All User Data

You can clear all user data, including all Favorites, routes, custom POIs, tracks, mileage logs, and your home location, at one time.



CAUTION: You cannot recover your user data after it is deleted.

To clear all user data:

1. Select **Tools** > **My Data** > **Clear All**.
2. Select **Yes**. The navigation system restarts.

Custom POIs (Points of Interest)

You can manually load custom points of interest (POI) databases, available from various companies on the Internet. Some custom POI databases contain alert information for points such as safety cameras and school zones. The navigation system can notify you when you approach one of these points.



CAUTION: Garmin is not responsible for the consequences of using a custom POI database or the accuracy of the safety camera or other custom POI database.

After downloading your POI database, use the Garmin POI Loader to install the POIs onto an SD card. Then, you can use the SD card to load the POIs into the navigation system. The POI Loader is available at www.garmin.com/products/poiloader. Refer to the POI Loader Help file for more information; press F1 to open the Help file.

When you insert the SD card into the navigation system, a message appears on the screen, prompting you to save the custom POIs to your navigation system. Select **Yes**. If you select **No**, custom POIs do not work.



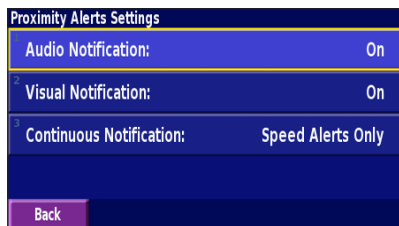
NOTE: Each time you load custom POIs to the navigation system, any other custom POIs already saved in the system are overwritten.

Finding Custom POIs

To view a list of the custom POIs loaded in your navigation system, select **Tools > My Data > Custom POIs**.

Adjusting the Proximity Alerts

To turn on or off the proximity alerts for custom POIs, press the **Menu** button three times and select **General > Proximity Alerts**.



Audio Notification—turn off or on the alerts that sound as you approach a custom POI.

Visual Notification—turn off or on the pop-up alerts that appear as you approach a custom POI.

Continuous Notification—select which alerts (which types of POIs) you want to be continually notified of.

Deleting All Custom POIs

To delete all custom POIs from your navigation system, press the **Menu** button twice and select **My Data > Custom POIs > Delete All**. Select **Yes** to confirm.

Configuring Video Output

On some versions of the GVN 53, you can switch the composite video output mode from NTSC (National Television System Committee) to PAL (Phase Alternate Line, available in Europe only) by using the switch beside the SD card slot. Push the switch all the way to the right to change the composite video mode to PAL.



NOTE: NTSC is the default setting. Use NTSC unless your system works exclusively with PAL.

After you change the composite video mode, you must turn off your vehicle and turn it back on again to reboot

the system before the changes take effect.

Weather Data Warranty

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Software License Agreement

BY USING THE GVN 53, YOU AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE FOLLOWING SOFTWARE LICENSE AGREEMENT. PLEASE READ THIS AGREEMENT CAREFULLY.

Garmin grants you a limited license to use the software embedded in this device (the “Software”) in binary executable form in the normal operation

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FCC Compliance

This product has been tested and found to comply with Part 15 of the FCC interference limits for Class B digital devices FOR HOME OR OFFICE USE. These limits are designed to provide more reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation, and are more stringent than “outdoor” requirements.

Operation of this device is subject to the following conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and may cause harmful interference to radio communications if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions. However, there is

no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet that is on a different circuit from the GPS unit.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

This product does not contain any user-serviceable parts. Repairs should only be made by an authorized Garmin service center. Unauthorized repairs or modifications could result in permanent damage to the equipment, and void your warranty and your authority to operate this device under Part 15 regulations.

Industry Canada Compliance

Category I radiocommunication devices comply with Industry Canada Standard RSS-210. Category II radiocommunication devices comply with Industry Canada Standard RSS-310.



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Limited Warranty

This Garmin product is warranted to be free from defects in materials or workmanship for one year from the date of purchase. Within this period, Garmin will at its sole option repair or replace any components that fail in normal use. Such repairs or replacement will be made at no charge to the customer for parts or labor, provided that the customer shall be responsible for any transportation cost. This warranty does not cover failures due to abuse, misuse, accident or unauthorized alteration or repairs.

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Garmin retains the exclusive right to repair or replace the unit or software or offer a full refund of the purchase price at its sole discretion. SUCH REMEDY SHALL BE YOUR SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY FOR ANY BREACH OF WARRANTY.

To obtain warranty service, contact your local Garmin authorized dealer or call Garmin Product Support for shipping instructions and an RMA tracking number.

GVN 53 Owner's Manual

The unit should be securely packed with the tracking number clearly written on the outside of the package. The unit should then be sent, freight charges prepaid, to any Garmin warranty service station. A copy of the original sales receipt is required as the proof of purchase for warranty repairs.

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Garmin (Europe) Ltd.
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The GVN 53 has no user-serviceable parts. Should you ever encounter a problem with your unit, please take it to an authorized Garmin dealer for repairs.

The GVN 53 is fastened shut with screws. Any attempt to open the case to change or modify the unit in any way will void your warranty and may result in permanent damage to the equipment.

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