

GARMIN 'C' SERIES MENU STRUCTURE

A map of the menu options in the Garmin handheld colour GPS units.

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The following is specifically for **Garmin Etrex Legend Cx** and **Venture Cx** models, and is a good guide for similar units (**Etrex C, 60C, 76C**) as well. It may in future be annotated for other similar models. My comments on various settings are added **in red – they aren't gospel of course**.

Other Garmin handheld leisure 'C' GPS units (ie colour screen) particularly the 60 and 76 series, have a very similar menu structure and options.

The 'C' (not 'x') models have slightly fewer options (very little difference really).

The 'H' models have slightly more options – again very little difference.

The barometric models (eg, **Etrex Vista, 60CSx, 76CSx**) have all this plus extra pages, menus and options, not documented here (as yet).

The Colorado, Oregon and Edge models are only loosely similar, many of the pages and menus are quite different and the terminology is altered.

Page 2.

Satellite Page

Map Page (excluding **Setup Map** see page 8)

Highway Page

Page 3.

Trip Computer Page

Compass Page (Altimeter Page)

Find Page

Routes Page (including **Active Route Page**)

Page 4.

Tracks Page

Turn Preview Page

Mark Page

Waypoint Page

Page 5

Main Menu Page (excluding **Setup Page** see page 6-7)

Page 6-7

Setup Page (excluding **Setup Map** see page 8)

Page 8

Setup Map

Page 9

Diagnostic Keypresses (undocumented stuff)

On **Etrex C** models, '**Menu**' refers to a press of the lowest L-H key – on non-Etrex models this key is situated differently but is still the '**Menu**' key.

In any given page, a single press of the Menu key brings up the **options marked in green** below – a double press brings up the **Main Menu Page**.

- **Satellite Page** [on startup, in page sequence or **Menu, Menu, Satellites**]
 - **Use with GPS on/off**
 - **North Up / Track Up**
 - **Single colour / Multicolour** multicolour is nice
 - **New Location**
 - Automatic
 - Use Map

- **Map Page** [in page sequence or **Menu, Menu, Map**]
 - **Stop/Resume Navigation** use Stop to turn a Route 'off'
 - **Recalculate** using recalculate just to switch between follow and off road doesn't work very well
 - Follow Road follow road == autorouting
 - Off Road off road == direct routing

tip – you may have to set this choice up in Main / Setup / Routing
 - **Data Fields**
 - Map Only
 - 2 Data Fields 2 is good.
 - 3 Data Fields
 - 4 Data Fields
 - **Change Data Fields**
 - (up to 4) (36 options for each ** in Legend – more in Vista)

tip - you can set up 3 different 'banks' of options by setting up 2, 3 and 4 in turn

tip – if you use named waypoints, set 2 fields to 'Waypoint Next' and 'Distance Next'
 - **Guidance Text**
 - Always Show guidance text is good but it does use a lot of space on the Map page especially in conjunction with Data Fields
 - Never Show
 - Show When Navigating
 - **Setup Map**
 - General (See **Setup Map** below for more details) check this out page 8
 - Tracks (See Setup Map)
 - Points (See Setup Map)
 - Text (See Setup Map)
 - Information (See Setup Map)
 - Marine (not relevant for landlubbers)
 - **Measure Distance**
 - **Turn Declutter On/Off** Off is better
 - **Restore Defaults**

- **Highway Page** [in page sequence or **Menu, Menu, Highway**]
 - **Stop/Resume Navigation**
 - **Recalculate**
 - Follow Road follow road == autorouting
 - Off Road off road == direct routing
 - **Data Fields**
 - 3 Data Fields 4 is good, though this page is generally one I don't use
 - 4 Data Fields
 - **Change Data Fields**
 - (up to 4) (36 options for each)
 - **Restore Defaults**

- **Trip Computer Page** [in page sequence or **Menu, Menu, Trip Computer**]
 - **Reset**
 - Trip Data;; Odometer;; Max Speed;; Track Log;; useful default set of options
 - Delete Saved Tracks
 - Delete All Waypoints
 - Delete All Routes
 - **Big/Small Numbers** small unless you're half blind
 - **Change Data Fields** set up both sets (small and big)
 - (Small – 8 fields;; Big – 3 fields) (36 options for each ** in Legend – more in Vista)
 - **Restore Defaults**

- **Compass Page** [in page sequence or **Menu, Menu, Compass**]
 - **Stop/Resume Navigation**
 - **Recalculate**
 - Follow Road follow road == autorouting
 - Off Road off road == direct routing
 - **Course/Bearing Pointer**
 - **Data Fields**
 - 3 Data Fields
 - 4 Data Fields
 - **Change Data Fields**
 - (up to 4) (36 options for each) **tip – as above – you can set up 2 'banks'**
 - **Restore Defaults**
- NB Barometric models have more options on the Compass Page

Altimeter Page (barometric models only, not documented here)

- **Find** [in page sequence or **Menu, Menu, Find**]
 - **Use Auto Ordering / Default Order**
 - Waypoints;; Geocache;; Cities;; found places are listed in order of **proximity**
 - Exits;; Recent Find;; All Points Of Interest;;
 - Addresses;; Intersections;; Food;;
 - Fuel Services;; Lodging;; Shopping;; lodging aka hotels
 - Bank/ATM;; Entertainment;; Recreation;;
 - Attractions;; Community;; Hospitals;;
 - Transportation;; Auto Services;; Others;; transportation aka stations, airports
 - Custom Points Of Interest;; Marine;; Geographic custom POIs can be uploaded
 - **Delete**
 - **Map**
 - Setup Map
 - Turn Declutter On/Off
 - **Go To**
 - Follow Road follow road == autorouting – good choice here!
 - Off Road off road == direct routing

- **Routes** [in page sequence or **Menu, Menu, Routes**]
 - **New**
 - **Active**
 - **Route (Active Route Page)** [in page sequence or **Menu, Menu, Routes, pick Route**] **tip - consider adding this page to Page Sequence**
 - **Navigate/Stop**
 - **Map**
 - **Waypoint**
 - Review
 - Insert
 - Remove
 - Change
 - Move
 - **Remove All**
 - **Reverse Route** useful but hard-to-find option!
 - **Copy Route**
 - **Delete Route**
 - **Change Data Fields**
 - (2 fields) (36 options for each) Pointer and Distance Next
 - **Restore Defaults**
 - **Delete All Routes**
 - **Off Road Transition**
 - Auto auto seems best
 - Manual
 - Distance
 - Radius

- **Tracks** [in page sequence or **Menu, Menu, Tracks**]
 - **Track Log On / Off**
 - **Setup**
 - **Wrap When Full**
 - On / Off
 - **Record Method**
 - Distance;; Time;; Auto Auto works well
 - **Interval**
 - Most often;; More Often;; Normal;; Less Often;; Least Often
nb tracks when saved are downsampled anyway – so Normal is OK
Normal equates to approximately 1000 points == 50km
 - **Colour** blue or green is good (no roads are green)
 - **Data Card Setup**
 - Log Track to Data Card good option, **best** way to save tracks
 - Delete All does not delete basemap !! – just any tracks
 - Data Card Tracks filename shows date track was saved
 - **Clear**
 - **Save** saves a downsampled track, unfortunately
 - **Trackback**
 - **Track**
 - Delete
 - Map
 - Trackback
 - Colour green is good for pre-loaded tracks
 - Name
 - **Area Calculation**
 - **Delete All Saved**
- **Turn Preview** [from Active Route, pick direction]
 - Previous
 - Next
 - **Stop Navigation**
- **Mark** [reached by a single long press of the front button, or **Menu, Menu, Mark**]
 - Average increases accuracy of a waypoint marked from the GPS
 - Map
 - **Project Waypoint**
 - **Find Near Here**
 - **Change Reference**
 - **Set Proximity**
 - **Add to Route**
 - **View Sun and Moon**
 - **View Hunt and Fish**
- **Waypoint** [from Find or Route pages – eg **Menu, Menu, Find, Waypoints, pick Waypoint**]
 - **Average Location**
 - **Project Waypoint**
 - **Find Near Here**
 - **Change Reference**
 - **Set Proximity**
 - **Add to Route**
 - **View Sun and Moon**
 - **View Hunt and Fish**
 - **Reposition Here**

- **Main Menu** [reached using two presses of the Menu button or in page sequence]
 [excluding pages detailed above, which may also appear as a Main Menu option]
tip – take Main Menu out of the Page Sequence – you can always get it by double-clicking the Menu key
tip – take other pages you don't use much – eg, 'Satellite' - out of the Page Sequence – access them here in Main Menu instead. De-clutter your Page Sequence!

- **Setup**
 - [see separate section below]
- **Proximity**
 - Proximity Alarms On/Off
- **Calendar**
 - [several menu options]
- **Alarm Clock**
 - [usual options]
- **Calculator**
 - Standard / Scientific
 - Degrees / Radians
- **Stopwatch**
 - [usual options]
- **Sun and Moon**
 - Use current Date
 - Set Date / Time
 - Set Location
 - Current Location
 - Use Map
 - Use Find Menu
- **Hunt and Fish**
 - Use Current Date
 - Set Date
 - Set Location
 - Current Location
 - Use Map
 - Use Find Menu
- **Games**
 - [choice of 6 loaded as standard]

useful travel alarm,
not included in some models (eg HCx)

- **Setup** [reached from within the Main Menu, **Menu, Menu, Setup**]
 - **System**
 - **Restore Defaults** these three reached via Menu key -
 - **Card Info** ie, **Menu, Menu, Setup, System, Menu**
 - **Software Version** NB regular software updates available free from Garmin
 - **GPS**
 - Normal;; Battery Saver;; GPS On/Off;; Demo Mode
 - **WAAS** (or WAAS / EGNOS) disabled, cyclists don't need this much accuracy and it shortens battery runtime (10-15%)
 - Enabled;; Disabled;;
 - **Battery Type**
 - Alkaline;; NiMH;; Lithium Ion;; li-ion not in older models
 - **Text Language**
 - [usual choices]
 - **External Power Lost**
 - Turn Off;; Stay On;; stay on
 - **Proximity Alarms**
 - On;; Off;; they don't work very well – so 'Off'
 - **Display**
 - **Display Mode**
 - Daytime;; Nighttime;; Auto;;
 - **Display Colour Scheme**
 - [choice of 10]
 - **Nighttime Colour Scheme**
 - [same choice of 10]
 - **Backlight Timeout**
 - 15sec;; 30sec;; 1min;; 2min;; Stays On;; 30sec is enough
 - **Backlight Level**
 - 0%-100% in 20 steps 40-50% is enough

nb backlight level always reverts to '0%' when unit is switched off/on – very annoying - but the level is stored and retrievable from the power/backlight button.
Backlight at 50% uses about 30% more power for as long as its lit – at 100% uses about 90% more
 - **Interface**
 - [only applicable when connected via USB]
 - enables microSD card to be seen by PC as removable disk drive
the only way to retrieve saved tracks (as .gpx files) from the microSD card
 - **Tones**
 - Message Beep;; Key;; Power;; Turn Warning (Early);; Turn Warning (Final)
 - Choice of 19 beep tones plus 'Off', for each of the above
 - Mute On / Off
 - **Page Sequence**
 - Move;; Insert;; Remove;; tip – remove the pages you don't use!
 - Add Page
 - [choice of 19]

tip – put Trip Computer as first page in order – to remind you to Trip Reset at switch-on.
 - **Map**
 - [see Setup Map below]

continued ...

- **Routing**
 - **Guidance Method** IMPORTANT!
 - Prompted;; Follow Road;; Off Road;;

If you have autorouting mapping on board, choose **Prompted**
If not, choose **Off Road**. Do NOT opt for Follow Road without autorouting maps installed!
 - **Follow Road Method**
 - Prompted;; Faster Time;; Shorter Distance;; Shorter
 - **Next Turn Popup**
 - On;; Off;;
 - **Routing Colour Setup** (only on newest models, set Day and Night colour options)
 - **Follow Road Options**
 - Off Route Recalculation
 - Prompted;; Automatic;; Off;; Prompted
 - Calculation Method
 - Quickest Calculation;; Quick Calc;; Better Route;; Best Route;;

Best, but this would be too slow on a complex route with recalculation set to automatic
In that case you might have to settle for Better, which recalculates faster.
 - Calculate Routes For
 - Car;; Truck;; Bus;;
 - Emergency;; Taxi;; Delivery;; Delivery works well for bikes
 - Pedestrian;; Bicycle;; Bicycle is VERY 'laney'
 - Avoid
 - U-turns;; Toll Roads;; Highways;; Unpaved Roads;; Carpool Lanes
- **Geocache**
 - Calendar Entry When Found Yes / No
- **Marine**
 - Anchor Drag Alarm
 - Off Course Alarm
 - Speed Filter
 - Off / Auto / User
- **Time**
 - **Time Format**
 - 12-hour;; 24-hour;;
 - **Time Zone**
 - [Many options by named location including 'London' and 'Paris' and 'Other']
comment: why ever can't the GPS work this out for itself ???
 - UTC Offset
 - [Settable if 'other' above]
 - **Daylight Saving Time**
 - Yes;; No;; Auto;; Auto
- **Units**
 - **Position Format**
 - [Many Options inc 'British Grid' and 'hddd.mm.mmm' (lat/long)]
 - **Map Datum**
 - [Many options inc 'Ord Survey GB and 'WGS 84']
 - **Distance/Speed**
 - Nautical;; Statute;; Metric;; Yards;;
 - **Elevation**
 - Feet;; Metres;;
 - **Depth**
 - Feet;; Fathoms;; Metres;;
- **Heading**
 - **Display**
 - Cardinal Letters;; Degrees;; Mils;;
 - **North Reference**
 - True;; Magnetic;; Grid;; User;;
 - Magnetic Variation
 - [settable if 'User' above]

NB Barometric models have more compass-related options here

Calibration Setup (only on barometric models, not documented here)

Altimeter Setup (only on barometric models, not documented here)

- **Welcome Message**
 - Setup the message on startup here ICE number maybe

- **Setup Map** (from Map Menu or Main Menu / Setup)
 - **General**
 - **Orientation**
 - North up;; Track up;; I like track up ...
 - **Below**
 - Distances from 8m to 800km, and 'Off'. ... up to a point. 300m maybe
 - **Auto Zoom**
 - Off;; On;; OFF. On drives you mad
 - **Detail**
 - Most;; More;; Normal;; Less;; Least;; More
 - **Lock on Road**
 - Off;; On;; Off
 - **Tracks**
 - **Saved Tracks Max Zoom**
 - Distances from 5m to 800km and 'Auto' about 5km ??
 - **Track Log Max Zoom**
 - Distances from 5m to 800km and 'Auto' about 5km??
 - **Track Points**
 - [set a number, up to 5 digits] lots – 9000 or more
 - **Go to Line**
 - Course;; Bearing;; I prefer Bearing
 - **Points**
 - **Map Points Max Zoom**
 - Distances from 5m to 800km and 'Off' and 'Auto'
 - **User Waypoints Max Zoom**
 - Distances from 5m to 800km and 'Off' and 'Auto' 120m
 - **Street Label Max Zoom**
 - Distances from 5m to 800km and 'Off' and 'Auto' 200m
 - **Land Cover Max Zoom**
 - Distances from 5m to 800km and 'Off' and 'Auto' Auto
 - **Text**
 - **Map Points Text Size**
 - None;; Small;; Medium;; Large;; Small
 - **User Waypoints Text Size**
 - None;; Small;; Medium;; Large;; Small
 - **Street Label Text Size**
 - None;; Small;; Medium;; Large;; Small
 - **Land Cover Text Size**
 - None;; Small;; Medium;; Large;; Medium
 - **Information**
 - **Show / Hide Map 'panes'** (listed by name – London, Nottingham, etc)
 - Restore Defaults
 - Restore all map defaults
 - Show all
 - Show none
 - Show/Hide basemap
 - [ie, default garmin basic]
 - Show/Hide specific map sets (Metroguide, Topo, etc etc)
 - **Marine**
 - **Marine Colours**
 - On/Off
 - **Spot Soundings**
 - On/Off
 - **Light Sectors**
 - On/Auto/Off
 - **Symbol Set**
 - Auto;; Garmin;; NOAA;; International;;

Some little-documented diagnostic keypresses:

by Dale DePriest, from www.gpsinformation.org/dale/secret.htm

Test Mode

This test screen is used at Garmin in final testing and calibration of the unit.

Warning! Do not use this screen if your unit can get a lock onto satellites. It is possible that a real satellite may spoof the test mode into recalibrating the unit with the wrong data. No permanent damage will be done but you may experience a little longer lockup times or may even have to do a total cold start to get it running again. You may also experience continued longer lockup times for a while while the unit re-calibrates itself under use. If your unit has a removeable antenna then unplugging the antenna is a good way to ensure that no lock can be obtained.

The test mode screen can appear automatically if the unit detects a failure during power up.

You can use this mode to verify certain operations of the unit.

For example hitting each key will cause the corresponding key in the display to darken.

Hitting the enter key twice in a row (on some units it is the page key) will cause a graphic pixel test which could highlight any bad pixels in your display. Hitting the same key again will further test the display. Hitting the key one more time will return to the main test screen. On units that use the page key to perform this test you can use the quit key to perform the graphic test backwards.

The power/lamp key will show both an indication and actually light the lamp.

After a reset

If you have to perform a full reset using one of the sequences shown below you will need to allow the unit to collect a full almanac before normal can be resumed. First a fix will need to be obtained which can take from 5 to 10 minutes of leaving your unit outdoors, stationary, with a good sky view. After the first lock you will need another 12.5 to 15 minutes to get the almanac reloaded. Check the date to insure that the information was reloaded properly. Time will be shown as UTC time since your local time offset was lost in the reset.

Re-establish all of your preferences such as time zone, daylight savings flag, etc. Reload all your waypoints and saved routes from your backup. I do hope you have a backup. WAAS capable receivers will have to re-establish the WAAS almanac as well.

Etrex

Hold the "up" and "page" keys and then press the "on/off" button to enter the **test screen**.

It behaves similar to the test mode described above and shows some information that is useful to the user. Note that it has been reported that the ROM test may show a false failure on this screen since a factory tester is not attached. You can run the key tests by pressing each of the keys. You can use the page key to cycle through all of the display tests. The screen shows the status of the power on diagnostics plus internal battery voltage and external if present. A clock display shows seconds, the revision level of the software is shown, and a thermometer reading shows the internal temperature in degrees Celsius.

Hold the "up" and "enter" keys and then press the "on/off" button to **reset the entire machine**.

You will receive a warning prompt. You can avoid this message using the sequence "Page" plus "Enter" plus "Up" and then press the "on/off" button. Hold the keys down for 5 seconds to perform the reset.

The newer Etrex units (Venture, Legend, and Vista) with the "Click Stick" use different keys to accomplish these tasks but the idea is the same. Holding the click stick down and then powering up will enter the **test screen** while holding the "page" key down and the "click stick" down and then powering up will **reset the unit**. You will be prompted with an "are you sure?" message. On these units holding down the "find" button in addition to the others will avoid the "are you sure" message. Hold the buttons for 5 seconds to clear the unit.

A master reset may be needed to clear the unit if you have left the batteries out for a long period of time and the unit comes up with the wrong year. Later versions of the firmware have supposedly addressed this problem

The **Legend Cx** can be forced to **Auto Locate** by holding down the upper zoom key while powering up.

I suspect this feature is common to several unit.

Newer Units

A newer units come out Garmin seems to continue to find new sequences to try and fool the user. In some cases they have removed the reset features completely claiming that they can cause problems and mask problems that need to be fixed. As always use these at you own risk.

On units without a reset sequence Garmin provides a way to set every setting back to factory defaults.

GPS 60/60CS

Hold enter while powering up to enter **test mode**. Hold enter and page while powering up to master **reset** the unit. The **76C** and **76CS** should use the same key strokes as they use the same firmware.

76/Map 76/Map 76S

The reported method to completely **reset** on of these units hold the "menu" key and the "quit" key down and then press the "power on" key. Hold for a full 7 seconds and then release.

For the **76S** try this sequence to master **reset** it. Press and hold quit, Menu, and the rocker down key. Then press and release the power on key. release the rocker down and wait for the welcome display. Now release the quit and menu keys.

Otherwise the standard secret keys apply, including the 72 model.

Geko

The Geko uses the OK key instead of an enter key. It enters **test mode** by holding OK and pressing power on. The master **reset** can be accomplished by pressing all the keys except the down key for 5 seconds.