Setting up an older eTrex for use with new Topo50 map series

Newer GPS's will have direct support for NZTM as a Coordinate System, but many older units will not have this, and will not be upgraded by Garmin, but do have the capability to still be used.

These instructions are based on the basic yellow eTrex model, but very similar steps should work for all of the eTrex range and most other Garmin models.

First you need to set the Datum

The new Datum that the new Topo50 map grid system (NZTM) is based on is NZ Geodetic 2000, which also won't be in older GPS units, however for all practical purposes WGS84 which is standard in all GPS's can be used.

Setting the Datum to WGS84 on eTrex GPS

- Use the Page button to scroll to the Menu Page
- Use the up button to scroll to the Setup page and press the Enter button
- Use the down button to scroll to the Units page and press the Enter button
- Use the down button to scroll to the Map Datum setting and press the Enter button
- Use the up/down buttons to scroll to WGS 84 and press the Enter button

Next you need to set the Position Format

- Use the up button to scroll to the Position Format setting and press the Enter button
- Use the up/down buttons to scroll to User Grid (on some models this may be User UTM Grid) and press the Enter button
- Select Longitude Origin and enter E173°00.000' select Ok and press the Enter button
- Use the down button to select Scale and press the Enter button
- Enter 0.9996000, select Ok and press the Enter button
- Use the down button to select False E and press the Enter button
- Enter 01600000.0, select Ok and press the Enter button
- Use the down button to select False N and press the Enter button
- Enter 10000000.0, select Ok and press the Enter button (on some models you may not be able to enter this so you will have to use 9999999.9 instead)
- Use the down button to select SAVE and press the Enter button

You should only need to enter this information once and it should be remembered if you change between other Position Formats (such as changing back to New Zealand to use an old map) and back again, unless the GPS has a complete loss of power (including internal backup battery).



