

Year 5 Geography: Map skills



Vocabulary

Digital Map	A map that uses technology such as a satnav or Digimaps.
Ordnance Survey Map	Detailed maps of Great Britain where each square represents 1km squared.
Legend	A key on an ordnance survey map.
Grid Reference	The number of squares on a map used to locate a place.
Northing	The numbers used in a grid reference that run north to south.
Easting	The numbers used in a grid reference that run east to west.
Scale	This shows how much you need to enlarge the map to get the actual size.

Making links to previous learning: Golden Vocabulary

Physical features	These are natural features which exist around us, e.g. seas, mountains, rivers.
Human features	These are features which are man-made, e.g. houses, road, bridges.
Atlas	A collection of maps of different countries and continents around the world.
Compass	A tool used for showing direction.
Symbols	Small pictures, letters or lines that represent a feature.

Ordnance Survey maps

These maps are produced by the national mapping agency of Great Britain, the Ordnance Survey. OS maps are widely used for a variety of purposes, including: outdoor recreations, planning and navigation. They use symbols (as shown below) to represent physical and human features which are recorded in a key called a 'legend'.

	Nature Reserve		Cycle Trail		Footpath
	Motorway		Train Station		Place of Worship



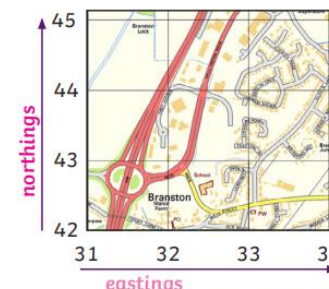
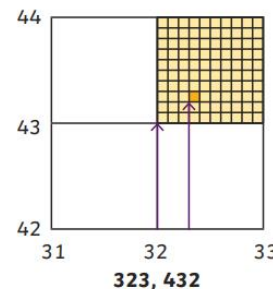
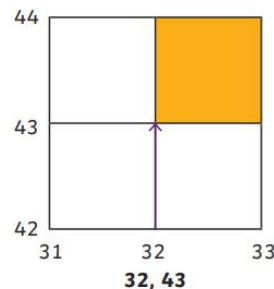
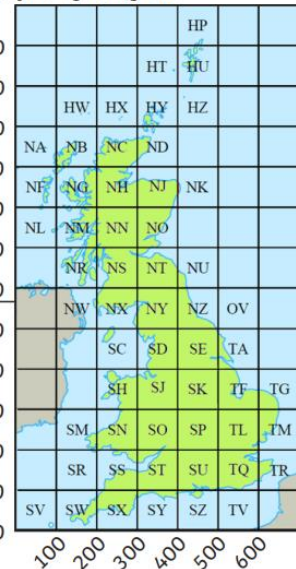
This is an Ordnance Survey map of Braintree shown on Digimaps.

Grid References

- A map is criss-crossed with horizontal and vertical lines that create a grid.
- The grid and squares help to narrow a search area so you can locate features on a map.
- Usually, the lines are numbered with two digits.
- Easting**s are the numbers that run from west to east.
- Northing**s are the numbers that run from south to north.
- The **easting** and **northing** numbers are put together to create a four-digit **grid reference**, e.g. (32,43), which refers to the bottom left corner of a square on the map.
- Grid references** can be even more specific by adding an extra digit to both the **easting** and **northing** numbers.
- These six-digit **grid references**, e.g. (323,432), tell us more precisely whereabouts in the square something is.

The National Grid

- The **National Grid** is a **grid reference** system for the whole of Great Britain.
- It splits Great Britain into squares - each is 100km.
- The spaces can be identified by using two letters e.g. SK
- Easting** and **northing** numbers can be used to split the squares into smaller sections making them easier to use.



Four-figure and six-figure **grid references**.