

**GEOCACHING** is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game. Players try to locate hidden containers, called geocaches, using GPS-enabled devices and then share their experiences online.



### A Reason to Get Outdoors

Geocaching combines technology with outdoor adventure and is a great way to explore locations near and far. Pair geocaching with camping, hiking, biking, boating or any number of activities for an even more enjoyable experience.

### The "Treasure"

In its simplest form, a geocache contains a logbook or logsheet for you to sign. Caches may also contain items for trade, but the journey in discovering a geocache is often the greatest reward.

### Location, Location, Location

There are geocaches on every continent, from Antarctica to North America. They may be at your local park, the end of a long hike, underwater, or on the side of a city street.

### A Global Community

People from all age groups can participate in geocaching, including families with children, students, adults and retirees. Geocaching is a great way to bring friends and family together while having fun outdoors.

## GEOCACHING BASICS

### Before You Go

- Learn how to operate your GPS device and bring extra batteries.
- Select a geocache with terrain and difficulty ratings that will meet your goals. A (1/1) is easiest, a (5/5) the most difficult.
- Read the geocache description and don't forget the hints. It is also a good idea to bring a map.
- Remember that a geocache can take longer to find depending on environmental obstacles.
- Pack any needed supplies such as water, food and extra clothing.
- Invite friends and family with you; sharing the experience can be very rewarding.
- Let someone else know where you are going.

### On Your Way

- Mark your car or a trailhead as a waypoint to ensure your safe return.
- Rely on your eyes rather than your GPS device within 50 feet of the geocache location.
- Remember, geocaches are hidden in plain sight and never buried, but they are often very cleverly camouflaged.
- Be mindful of the environment; practice Cache In Trash Out.

### After the Find

- Sign the cache logbook.
- Leave the cache as you found it (hidden, of course).
- Share your geocaching stories and photos online at Geocaching.com.

## GEOCACHING IN 8 EASY STEPS

- 1 Go to [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com) and register for a free account.
- 2 Visit the Geocaching.com homepage
- 3 Enter a location and click the magnifying glass to search.
- 4 Choose any geocache on the results page and click on its name.
- 5 Enter the coordinates of the geocache into your GPS device.
- 6 Use your GPS device to help you find the hidden geocache.
- 7 Sign the logbook and return the geocache to its original location.
- 8 Share your geocaching stories and photos online.

### Rules of Geocaching

- If you take something from the cache, leave something of equal or greater value.
- Write about your find in the cache logbook.
- Log your experience at [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com).

### Basic Guidelines

- Geocaches should never be buried or placed in a location that might cause unnecessary concern.
- Don't place items such as food, explosives, knives, drugs or alcohol in a geocache.
- Geocache contents should be family friendly.
- Respect local laws and obey posted signs.





## TYPES OF GEOCACHES



### Traditional

The original geocache type consisting of, at minimum, a container and a logbook. Coordinates listed on a traditional cache page give the cache's exact location.



### Multi-Cache

A Multi-Cache involves two or more locations. Hints found at the initial location(s) lead to the final geocache, which is a physical container.



### Mystery or Puzzle Caches

Mystery or Puzzle Caches can involve complicated puzzles you will first need to solve to determine the coordinates of the cache.



### Event Cache

A geocaching event organized by local geocachers or geocaching organizations in the interest of discussing geocaching. Coordinates on the cache page indicate event location.

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### Geocaching Live



Geocaching Live-enabled products work on your smartphone to bring geocaching to you, wherever you are. Visit [www.geocaching.com/live](http://www.geocaching.com/live) to find an application that transforms your smartphone into a geocaching-friendly GPS device.



W58°22'

N50°42'

## CACHE IN TRASH OUT



Cache In Trash Out is a worldwide environmental clean-up effort supported by the geocaching community. Since 2002, geocachers have been dedicated to cleaning up parks and other cache-friendly places around the world.

Check the online event calendar to participate in organized clean-ups in your area.

For more information visit [www.geocaching.com/cito](http://www.geocaching.com/cito)



Geocaching.com is owned and operated by Groundspeak, Inc. of Seattle, Washington. Groundspeak's mission is to inspire outdoor play using location-based technology.

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# A GUIDE TO GEOCACHING