FAQ: What is the correct way to cite an ArcGIS Online basemap?

Question

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Answer

There are several ways to cite or attribute the ArcGIS Online basemaps that are used for publication, depending on the medium of publication. For each ArcGIS Online basemap, the proper attributions for the basemaps are as follows:

Map	Attribution
World Imagery	Sources: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA FSA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community
World Street Map	Sources: Esri, DeLorme, HERE, USGS, Intermap, iPC, NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, TomTom
World Topo Map	Sources: Esri, DeLorme, HERE, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, and the GIS User Community
National Geographic	Sources: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, iPC
Light Gray Canvas Map	Sources: Esri, DeLorme, HERE, MapmyIndia
USA Topo Maps	Copyright: © 2014 National Geographic Society, i-cubed
Ocean Basemap	Sources: Esri, GEBCO, NOAA, National Geographic, DeLorme, HERE, Geonames.org, and other contributors

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The following are the correct ways to cite an ArcGIS Online basemap used for publication.

• ArcGIS Online basemaps used on ArcGIS Online content

When an ArcGIS Online basemap is used in ArcGIS Online content that is published, the acceptable method of attribution is by crediting the sources found in the Credits field of the item details for each ArcGIS Online map, task, or application being used. Credits should also be displayed in the lower right corner of the map or image.

Figure 1: Example of the Credit field

Access and Use Constraints

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Map Contents

Topographic:
http://services.arcgisonline.com/ArcGIS/rest/services/World_Topo_Map/MapServer

Properties

Tags	world, topo maps, topographic, topography, maps, topo, community, shaded relief, land cover, administrative boundaries, cities, water, parks, landmarks, transportation, roads, highways, airports, railroads, buildings, community map, content sharing program, basemap, current, elevation
Credits	Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp, GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, and the GIS User Community
Size	1 KB
Extent	Left:-180 Right: 180 Top: 90 Bottom:-90

• ArcGIS Online basemaps used in printed material

When using an ArcGIS Online basemap in printed materials, reference the use of the basemap with a statement such as:

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• ArcGIS Online basemaps used at public exhibitions

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In some instances, users place all attributions in an exhibit on a single 'credit panel' at the end of each gallery or exhibition, instead of placing attributions on each map used. As long as this credit panel is located near the maps being used, there is no need to individually attribute each map. Nevertheless, to properly cite a publication, the copyright attribution must be on or near the map or image being used.

Related Information

- ArcGIS Online Content Help: Displaying copyrights on ArcGIS Online content
- ArcGIS Online Content Help: Using static maps in reports
- ArcGIS Online Basemaps Information Guide
- ArcGIS Blog: Using and citing Esri data

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