How To Geocache™ ▒▒ GEOCACHING

Geocaching™ is a fun treasure hunt game that gets you thinking, problem solving and having fun outside!

Q&A for new Geocachers:

Q: Is it cash or cache?

A: The name geocaching comes from a mix of the words of geography and cache.

Q: Where do I find the map to the geocache?

A: The map can be downloaded on a smartphone either on geocaching.com or on the geocaching app. Also a printout of the map to the geocache or a GPS receiver works fine too.
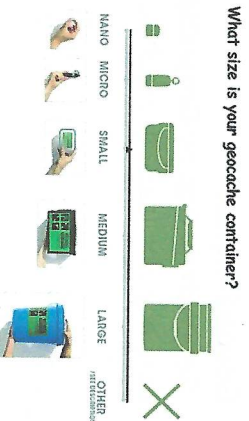
Q: Are all geocaches hidden in the woods?

A: No, caches are located everywhere probably in your own neighborhood!

Q: What do geocaches look like?

A: Geocaches vary in size! See image.

What size is your geocache container?

NANO   MICRO   SMALL   MEDIUM   LARGE   OTHER (NOT DESCRIBED)

First to get started using an easy four step process!

1. First get the geocaching app or sign up on geocaching.com.
2. Next create a user name (not your real name).
3. Find a geocache in your area, click on it and find it and sign the log book.
4. Press the LOG button and log your find.

CONGRATULATIONS YOU HAVE FOUND YOUR FIRST GEOCACHE!

Some geocaches have trinkets that you can exchange!(remember to take and replace)!

Trackables

Trackables are items from shop/geocaching.com that want to travel to other geocaches not to be kept as swag. The owner of the geocache has a special mission for the trackable that the owner wants to happen! When a geocache is located with a trackable inside, the trackable is supposed to get dropped off in another geocache!

Some cool facts to share:

Did you know that there are more than 3 million active **geocaches** worldwide. **Geocaches** are hidden in 191 different **countries** on all seven continents (even Antarctica)! More than 642 million "Found it" geocaches have been found!

According to legend, **letterboxing** ** began** in southwestern England in 1854 when a Victorian gentleman named James Perrott hid his calling card in a jar in a remote area by Cranmere Pool on the moors of Dartmoor (the setting of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes story The Hound of the Baskervilles). He also expected someone to post it so it became the first letterbox!

Also there are five hundred thousand geocachers in the U.S.A!

On May third 2000 the first geocache was planted.

** Letterboxing is the precursor of geocaching.

*** Not the first letterbox, the first geocache!

Geocaching Lingo:

These are some popular terms from geocaching.com that I have attached from their website. I chose this lingo because these are most commonly used in log entries.

Bug

Also known as a **Travel Bug®**. A **trackable** tag with a unique code that can be attached to an item. The trackable is then carried from **cache** to cache (or person to person) in the real world, and its progress can be followed on Geocaching.com. More about Travel Bugs and trackables.

BYOP

"Bring Your Own Pen/Pencil". An acronym often used by **geocache** owners to communicate to other **geocachers** that you will need to bring your writing utensil in order to sign the cache **logbook**.

CITO

"Cache In Trash Out" is an ongoing environmental initiative supported by the worldwide **geocaching** community. Since 2002, **geocachers** have been dedicated to cleaning up parks and other **cache**-friendly places around the world. Learn more at www.geocaching.com/cito.

Difficulty and Terrain or D/T

Geocaches are rated in two categories, each designated on a 5-point scale (in half-point increments). *Difficulty* relates to the mental challenge of finding a geocache, while *Terrain* describes the physical environment. Therefore, a D1/T1 rating would be the easiest geocache to find, while a D5/T5 difficulty/terrain rating would be the most difficult. Our Geocache Rating System can be used to help set the rating for your geocache.

DNF

"Did Not Find". An acronym used by **geocachers** to state that they did not find a **cache**.

FTF

"First to Find". An acronym written by **geocachers** in physical cache **logbooks** or online when **logging** cache finds to denote being the first to find a new **geocache**.

GC Code

A unique identifier associated with every **geocache** listing. The GC Code starts with the letters "GC" and is followed by other alphanumeric characters, such as GCK25B.

Muggle

A non **geocacher**. Based on "Muggle" from the Harry Potter series, which is a non-magical person.

TFTC

"Thanks For The Cache". An acronym written by **geocachers** in **logbooks** or online when **logging cache** finds. Occasionally written as T4TC. Side note: Please take time to write at least a few sentences when you **log** your find online. This how you say "thank you" to the cache owner for creating and placing the geocache.

References:

Geocaching.com

Geocaching app by Groundspeak™ (groundspeak™ is the company who made geocaching.com and the geocaching app)